**Stanton Tourism & Convention Commission**

Special Meeting

Stanton City Hall

April 9, 2018

6:30pm

**In Attendance**

Mayor, Dale Allen          LeAndre Knox

Joey Casey                    Ethan Moore

Annie Kinser

**Call to Order**

Ethan Moore calls meeting to order as Chairman, Kim Tharpe was unable to attend.

**Approval of Minutes**

Annie Kinser makes a motion to approve February and March minutes submitted by Kinser and Moore. Joey Casey seconds approval. All in favor; minutes approved. The commission is still attempting to collect minutes for the January meeting at this time. Plan to have submitted by next regular meeting.

**Second Reading of Secretary Vacancy**

As discussed at the last meeting, the secretary position for the STCC is currently vacant with the absence of Chelsea Nolan. Mayor Dale Allen communicates that Billy Abner has been contacted to submit names for appointment as a representative of Hotels & Lodging. Annie Kinser will fill position and take on the duty of check signing and minute taking until new member appointment is made.

**Music In the Park**

Ethan Moore informs the committee that Jessica Begley Hall will be at the next regular meeting on April 17th at 6:30pm. Hall has agreed to continue with the organization of Music in the Park for 2018 season. Hall will also be joined by Shefton Cash who will supply sound equipment. STCC may look into purchasing permanent equipment for next season.

After some discussion over signage concerns from last summer, Mayor Allen recommends assembling a more permanent sign fixture to be placed at the park. Apart from showcasing the sponsorship of event by the STCC, the sign will guide patrons to [www.explorestanton.com](http://www.explorestanton.com) where they can find an updated entertainment calendar. The website will also allow artists to apply to be a featured performer for Music in the Park which should eliminate issues with Open Mic. This will also open up the event to various genres and new entertainment. Ethan Moore will discuss signage and possibly hanging lights through park with Parks and Recreation. Hanging lights have also been a request from the Powell Action Committee (Corn Festival) and would benefit across organizations.

The commission requests that Jessica Begley Hall create a Facebook page for Music in the Park where she will provide a weekly update and announcement of event happenings. An announcement advertising the featured entertainment for the week will be posted so that patrons can plan to attend in advance. Pictures from the event and interactive posts are encouraged. STCC will allocate minimal funding (estimated $10 weekly) for Facebook promotions to boost advertisement.

Joey Casey presents concern about issues with electric in the pavilion. To remedy the situation, Mayor Allen offers that keys can be made to the electric box so that Hall and Cash can have access to the lights at all times.

Budget for Music in the Park is addressed. During the 2017 season, $8,000 was allocated for the summer, May through October. $3,300 was paid to both Hall and Cash, with the remaining ($1400.00) funding going toward the payment of performers. In a previous conversation, Hall had stated that she did not use entire budget in 2017. Stephanie Faulkner, City Clerk will be contacted to see final totals for the season. Budget will remain the same at this time.

Commission will provide a clear job description and expectations for the summer session with Hall at next meeting.

Jirl Food Truck has previously been permitted to set up during Music in the Park. The commission discusses an opportunity to open up the schedule to allow other food trucks to attend if interested. LeAndre Knox will contact Vera Patterson with “Shut Up,Larry!”

Mayor Allen informs the board that the City of Stanton will now be opening and operating a fully functional concession stand in the old Senior Citizens building. Concession stand will be open every Thursday during Music InThe Park.

At first thought, the commission discussed charging a fee to food vendors as to not compete with local Little Leagues. However, the Mayor explains that the teams will not be working the concession stand; all proceeds go back to the City of Stanton. With this information, the commission agrees that no fee will be required from food vendors. May possibly look into enforcing the 3% restaurant tax on food truck sales as an alternative.

In attempts to create a more inviting space at the park, discussions are had regarding having local artist paint a mural on the back of pavilion. STCC would also like to work with the green house class at PCHS to purchase hanging plants or pots to add color and make the area more appealing. This could also be an opportunity to include the FFA or Farmers Market. Ethan Moore to compose list of ideas in addition to hanging Edison lights to add to discussions with Parks and Recreation.

**Review of Applications**

Eight applications were submitted for the position of Stanton Tourism Director. The listing was promoted on Facebook and led applicants to the website where the form could be downloaded and submitted or brought in to City Office. Applications were also available for pick up inside the office.

After thorough review, the STCC narrowed their selection and Mayor Allen will contact Vickie Charles, Miranda Fallen, Jennifer Drake and Erica Anderson for an interview to be held on Monday April 23rd. Interviews will be scheduled for thirty minute windows from 5:00pm to 7:00pm.

**Adjournment**

Ethan Moore made a motion to adjourn, seconded by LeAndre Knox. All in favor; meeting adjourned.

**Stanton Tourism & Convention Commission**

BY: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

      Secretary

**Approval of Minutes**

I certify that the foregoing minutes were duly approved by the Stanton Tourism & Convention Commission at a meeting held on the date stated below:

BY: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

     Chairman, Kim Tharpe

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_