

MINUTES

TOURISM, HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(THRAC)

September 8, 2020

The September 8, 2020 meeting of the Tourism, Historic Preservation and Recreation Advisory Committee (THRAC) was held via “Zoom” video conference call. The meeting was made public through advertisement on the BGADD Facebook pages and website.

In attendance were:

Kendall Clinton, Anderson County	Bailey Gilkerson, Scott County
Martha Caywood, Boyle County	Kim Rice, Scott County
Betty Ann Allen, Bourbon County	Maria Bohanon, Woodford County
Leanna Comer, Clark County	Mayor Bruce Fraley, Chair, City of Berea
Nancy Turner, Clark County	Shane New, BGADD
Robin Antenucci, Franklin County	Robert E. Casher, BGADD
Paul Bradford, Jessamine County	Greyson Evans, BGADD
Jane Vanhook, Lincoln County	Logan Hart, BGADD
Philip Seyfrit, Madison County	William Henderson, BGADD
Pam Randolph, Nicholas County	
Gladys Shrout, Nicholas County	

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by Chairman Fraley, who introduced himself and welcomed the Committee members. Time was also spent introducing William Henderson and Logan Hart. William will now oversee the THRAC committee on behalf of BGADD and Logan will be helping out as well. Both are new hires in Community Planning for the ADD.

The business portion of the meeting was called to order at 10:10 am. The Mayor requested a motion to approve the July meeting minutes. The motion was made by Martha Caywood and was seconded by Kendall Clinton and was carried by a unanimous show of hands.

Old Business: The Following was Discussed Related to Recent Regional Press Articles:

- Mayor Fraley asked the committee members to bring up any recent press attention that tourism and recreation might have received in their communities.
 - Betty Ann Allen (Bourbon County) mentioned that the county had media coverage on two local TV stations on August 21st that spotlighted the 10 ribbon cuttings that took place in the community during the pandemic. She also

mentioned that Hill 'n' Dale Farms was shouted out during The Derby, spotlighting the beauty of the farm.

- Gladys Shrout (Nicholas County) shared with us that two TV stations came to the community interested in an old hospital that they're wanting to use for a scary movie, and also showed interest in a small cabin for a movie as well.
- Maria Bohanon (Woodford County) mentioned that the county was covered on Spectrum News regarding the Bluegrass Railroad Museum. The past Tourism Chair is no longer on the board anymore which also received media coverage. Midway to Love (Hallmark Movie) was mentioned as well.
- Nancy Turner (Clark County) shared with us that the state released their Economic Impact Figures, and that this information would be important data to share with THRAC. There was a focus on *day trips* versus *overnight trips* that will be shared at a later committee meeting.
- Jane Vanhook (Lincoln County) mentioned that the community had a Kayak and Canoe Scavenger Hunt event hosted by United Way that had a great turnout on Cedar Creek lake. This event attracted much media coverage.
- Paul Bradford (Jessamine County) shared with the group that Bluegrass Orthopedics sponsored the Top Seed Open at Top Seed Tennis Club in Brannon Crossing where professional tennis players came to play. Will take place again next year.

It was announced that the following are upcoming events in our local communities:

Mayor Fraley requested that he be allowed to ask for updates from each committee member via roll-call.

- Nicholas County:

- Pam Randolph mentioned that luncheons in the community have been cancelled.
- Continuous work and traffic on and around Boone's Cabin. This work includes new signs for routes to cabin, new rock wall, adding preserved logs around cabin, and making area "rough it" ready for visitors to camp out.

- Bourbon County:

- Betty Ann Allen mentioned that the Chamber Gala and Annual Awards Dinner will take place this Friday night.
- The Hometown Hero's event, which honors service members and veterans, will be taking place as well downtown.
- Tourism Office is working on the Great Bourbon Barn Quilt experience that will bring people to the county where people can drive by and not leave their car for safety reasons.

- Tourism Commissioners have commissioned artist to sculpt a 20 ft Eiffel Tower that will be placed downtown.
- Many events have been cancelled, but the community is looking to host a drive thru trunk or treat event for the community.
- Scott County:
 - Bailey Gilkerson shared that farms in the area will be having farm festivals, including High Water Farms who will have a corn maze which is inspired by Joe B. Hall.
 - Equitana event at Kentucky Horse Park has been switched to a virtual celebration that will take place all of September.
 - Tourism Office has just opened a new satellite site called the Royal Spring Welcome Center in the downtown area which is open a couple days a week for limited hours.
 - Kim Rice mentioned that events have begun in the parks by independent organizations. These range from Sheep Shows to state based tournaments. All events have safety plans to protect the community from COVID.
- Franklin County:
 - Robin Antenucci shared with us that the community has been closing down a downtown street on Friday night to encourage restaurants to increase outside seating in hope of attracting business.
 - The Grand Theater in Downtown Frankfort has reopened and launched a Fall Film Festival Series that begins in September.
 - Tours taking place on Kentucky River. These include the Frankfort History Tour and the Rock 'n' Thunder Jet Boat tour.
 - Working on events in November, focusing on art downtown and celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Candlelight Festival to encourage shopping for the holidays.
 - Bourbon Stroll and Auction taking place the 3rd weekend of November with a Shop Small Saturday event the last weekend of the month.
- Anderson County:
 - Kendall Clinton mentioned that Lawrenceburg's 2020 Bicentennial Event weekend has been moved to 2021.
 - Tourism Office commissioned an artist to paint a mural which would be installed this upcoming Thursday with a ribbon cutting ceremony this Friday.
 - Wheels of Time Car Club has first cruise of 2020 in the downtown area this weekend. Up to 250 cars. Social distancing and mask are required with an additional car show on October 9th.
 - State Fest downtown this weekend featuring live music, food trucks, and art vendors.

- Wreaths Across America Exhibit taking place in town this week for the first time ever in KY, partnering with the 9/11 Ceremony taking place in town this upcoming Friday as well.
- Lawrenceburg's Buck Metal Farms is having a Farm Fest/Pumpkin Patch starting September 26th through November 1st.
- Lawrenceburg Ghost Walk taking place through October.
- Clark County:
 - Nancy Turner shared with us that a new old restaurant called Engine House Deli (has been in the community since 80's and changed hands over the years) will be reopening the Engine House Pizza Parlor.
 - On October 3rd there will be a variety of events including the opening of the Daniel Boone Heritage Trail, which will be kicked off with a Vintage Car Parade.
 - Later that morning there will be the Art on Main Street Fair in Downtown Winchester. There will be a Night Market that night featuring vendors and live music in front of the Engine House Pizza Parlor.
 - The Bluegrass Tourism Region will be hosted September 29th in Clark County as well.
 - Leanna Comer mentioned the Rock the Block street event featuring live music that takes place once a month over the summer. This event is still up in the air due to COVID.
- Lincoln County:
 - Jane Vanhook shared with us that the community has a Main Street Clean Sweep taking place this weekend to help clean up trash around the city.
 - Paint the Town Purple Relay for Life event taking place September 19th. This event will feature a parade for the community.
 - Relay for Life will have a Tractor Ride on September 26th. Last year there were over 100 trackers.
 - Jane mentioned the tragic loss of Mayor Scottie Ernst and shared that Daffodils will be planted throughout the community in honor of him. Hoping to get a Daffodil Day for the community.
 - November 1st, there will be a Veteran Suicide Walk to bring awareness to the rising number of suicides among veterans.
- Madison County:
 - Phil Seyfirt mentioned that there will be the US 25 Yard Sale from October 2nd through the 4th.
 - There was also mention of the Eastern Kentucky University Homecoming Weekend, which will be October 9th and 10th. There will be no community parade for safety reasons.

- Annual Halloween Hoedown Drive Thru Candy Giveaway on October 22nd at Lake Reba Park.
- Berea is having a Halloween Balloon Glow Drive Thru on October 31st, which ties in the Spoon Bread Festival that was cancelled. Balloons are in different locations of town encouraging community members to drive and not walk for safety reasons.
- Worked with Health Department and Berea College to make decision on cancelling the Kentucky Guild of Artists and Craftsmen's Fall Craft Fair.
- Woodford County:
 - Maria Bohanon mentioned that the Mayor and Councilmembers of Midway have decided to cancel the Midway Fall Festival and Twilight Festival in Versailles.
 - Unreserved Woodford Tour, which is a sold out walking tour downtown that shares the history of Versailles, will take place throughout the month every weekend.
 - Harvest Market is taking place at Wild Side Winery. Wild Side Winery has also hosted drive-in concerts every Friday with food trucks and live music.
 - Eckert's Bakery is also now open selling their Apple Cider Donuts.

New Business:

- KIRP's: n/a

Special Called Meeting:

- Mayor Fraley and Greyson mentioned that this meeting regarding way finding signs with Transportation District 7 and the ADD will continue to be postponed until meeting can take place in person.

Next Meeting:

- The Committee agreed for the next meeting to be via zoom on Tuesday, November 10th at 10am. Invite to follow.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Fraley

THRAC Chair