

# Explore ASHEVILLE

Buncombe County Tourism Development Authority

## Buncombe County Tourism Development Authority A Joint Meeting of the Public Authority and Nonprofit Corporation

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Via Zoom Webinar due to the COVID-19 Pandemic/State of Emergency

### Excerpts from the Virtual Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

- Present (Voting):** Himanshu Karvir, Chair; Gary Froeba, Vice Chair; Leah Ashburn, Andrew Celwyn, Brenda Durden, John Luckett, John McKibbon, Kathleen Mosher, James Poole
- Absent (Voting):** None
- Present (Ex-Officio):** Asheville City Councilmember Sandra Kilgore  
Buncombe County Commissioner Robert Pressley
- Absent (Ex-Officio):** None
- CVB Staff:** Victoria Isley, Marla Tambellini, Dianna Pierce, Pat Kappes, Jonna Sampson, Daniel Bradley
- BC Finance:** Don Warn, Buncombe County/BCTDA Fiscal Agent
- Legal Counsel:** Sabrina Rockoff, McGuire, Wood & Bisette
- Agency:** Ashley Keetle, 360i
- Online Attendees:** Glenn Cox, Kathryn Dewey, Hannah Dosa, Connie Holliday, Josh Jones, Jennifer Kass-Green, Sarah Lowery, Kathi Petersen, Tina Porter, Glenn Ramey, Charlie Reed, Whitney Smith, Jason Tarr, Landis Taylor, Nicole Will; Explore Asheville Staff  
Kelsey Ann Bassel, Meghan Jackson, Emery Morris, Susan Neikirk, Nick Smart; 360i  
Kit Cramer, Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce  
Jane Anderson, Asheville Independent Restaurant Association  
Bob Michel, Asheville Homestay Network  
Tina Kinsey, Asheville Regional Airport  
Chip Craig, John Ellis, Jim Muth; Past BCTDA Board Members  
Timothy Love, Buncombe County  
Rick Bell, Engadine Inn & Cabins/Asheville B&B Association  
Chris Corl, Harrah's Cherokee Center Asheville  
Katie Cornell, Asheville Area Arts Council  
Leah Rainis, Asheville Brewers Alliance  
Ed Manning, Leadership Asheville  
Anthony Bennett, RedSky Strategy  
Jason Sandford, Ashvegas  
Daniel Walton, Mountain Xpress  
WLOS News  
Sunshine Request

Additional tourism industry partners and members of the public registered in advance and viewed the online meeting.

### **Financial Reports**

#### **Penalty Waiver Update for The Lion & The Rose**

Ms. Isley said a penalty waiver request, in the amount of \$157.46, was received from Mr. & Mrs. Steve Wilson, owners of The Lion & The Rose Bed and Breakfast/Carolina Dreamin' Inc. She noted the payment for December occupancy taxes was one day late due to the owners being out of town with no internet access and the Buncombe County Tax Department has verified that this was the property's first late offense.

Ms. Isley said the BCTDA previously gave authority to Explore Asheville's President & CEO to approve penalty waiver requests if the amount was \$500 or less and it was property's first late offense without bringing before the board. She noted this request met that criteria and she has approved the penalty to be passed on to the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners in the second of the two-step process. The request will be considered by the Commissioners on April 6, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,



Jonna Sampson, Executive Operations Manager