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CITY OF Vancouver WASHINGTON

Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: November 6, 2024
Time: 12 – 3 p.m.
Location
City Hall – Aspen Room, Fl 1
415 W 6th Street
Vancouver, WA

Special Meeting (Convened in-person and via video conference)
The meeting agenda materials referenced in these minutes can be found online. Link to Microsoft Teams meeting video: 24 11 06 LTAC Meeting Video.

Item 1: Call to Order and Roll Call
The meeting of the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee was called to order at 12:03 pm by Kim Harless, Committee Chair.

Board Members Present: Kim Harless, Jennifer Kenney (remote), Carla Rise, Temple Lentz, Terry Goldman, Ryan Hart, Christie Rust, Steve Bowers

Board Members Absent: Janet Kenefsky

Staff Present: Chris Harder, Kimberly Kerlee, Taylor Hallvik, Andrew Westlund, Stacey Donavan

Item 2: Approval of Minutes
Motion by Goldman, seconded by Lentz, and carried unanimously to approve the October 25, 2024, minutes.

Item 3: Administrative Cost Proposal
Chris Harder, Deputy Director, provided a quick overview of the Administrative Cost Proposal Memo that was provided to the committee at the last meeting. Committee members were asked to provide any comments or questions they have regarding the proposal and to vote on moving it forward to City Council for approval, or not moving it forward.

Item 4: 2025 Lodging Tax Grant Recommendations
Chris Harder and the committee discussed options for making the reward recommendations and recognized the committee members who will need to excuse themselves during discussions regarding items that are a conflict of interest. Taylor Hallvik, Assistant City Attorney, also stated that committee members with a conflict of interest can remain in the room during voting and abstain when a motion is made for those events.

Members

Kim Harless
Chair

Steve Bowers
Temple Lentz
Janet Kenefsky
Jennifer Kenney
Christie Rust
Terry Goldman
Ryan Hart
Carla Rise

Economic Prosperity & Housing

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The LTAC reviewed and discussed the following grant applications:

Committee member Rust recused themself due to a conflict of interest with the City of Vancouver's Expansion of the Convention Center.

1. City of Vancouver – Expansion of the Convention Center

Committee member Rust rejoined the meeting.

2. City of Vancouver – Waterfront Gateway

Committee members Hart, Bowers, Goldman, and Rise recused themselves due to a conflict of interest with Visit Vancouver.

3. Visit Vancouver – 2025 Sales & Marketing Programs

Committee members Bowers, Goldman, Hart, and Rise rejoined the meeting.

Committee members Rust recused themself due to a conflict of interest with Vancouver's Downtown Association Trip the Light Vantastic and Downtown Ambassador Program and the Queer Community Network Pride Block Party. Committee member Hart recused themself due to a conflict of interest with Vancouver's Downtown Association Trip the Light Vantastic.

4. Vancouver's Downtown Association – Trip the Light Vantastic

Committee member Hart rejoined the meeting.

5. Vancouver's Downtown Association – Downtown Ambassador Program
6. Queer Community Network – Pride Block Party

Committee member Rust rejoined the meeting.

7. Camas Lions Club - Lions District 19 Annual Convention
8. Vancouver Ballet Folklorico – Day of the Dead Luminarias
9. WA Timbers Football Club – NW Dream Cup
10. Ke Kukui Foundation – 4 Days of Aloha
11. Farmers Market – Vancouver Holiday Market
12. Vancouver Arena – Vancouver Go Fest Celebration
13. NW Association for Blind Athletes – Columbia River and Girlfriend's Triathlon
14. Bravo! – 25th Annual Vancouver Wine & Jazz Festival
15. Vancouver Symphony Orchestra – Vancouver USA Arts & Music Festival
16. Police Activities League of SW WA – Appletree Marathon, Half Marathon, and Relay
17. WHY Community – Couve Clover Run
18. LLaughlin LLC – The Craig Stein Oktoberfest

The committee made motions to recommend funds to the following events.

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Motion by Rust and seconded by Kenney to approve and recommend the full Lodging Tax Grant funding request for Visit Vancouver as shown on the spreadsheet. Abstain: Bowers, Hart, Goldman, and Rise. Yay: Kenney, Lentz, Rust, Harless. Motion passes.

Motion by Lentz and seconded by Goldman to not recommend funding the Lodging Tax Grant request from City of Vancouver for the Expansion of the Convention Center. Abstain: Rust. Yay: Hart, Bowers, Kenney, Rise, Goldman, Lentz, Harless. Motion passes.

Motion by Goldman and seconded by Rise to approve and recommend the Lodging Tax Grant funding request for Vancouver's Downtown Association, Trip the Light Vantastic as shown on the spreadsheet. Abstain: Hart and Rust. Yay: Bowers, Kenney, Rise, Goldman, Lentz, Harless. Motion passes.

Motion by Goldman and seconded by Bowers to approve and recommend the Lodging Tax Grant funding request for Vancouver's Downtown Association, Downtown Ambassador Program as shown on the spreadsheet. Abstain: Rust. Yay: Hart, Bowers, Kenney, Rise, Goldman, Lentz, Harless. Motion passes.

Motion by Goldman and seconded by Lentz to approve and recommend the Lodging Tax Grant funding request for the Queer Community Network, Pride Block Party as shown on the spreadsheet. Abstain: Rust. Yay: Hart, Bowers, Kenney, Rise, Goldman, Lentz, Harless. Motion passes.

Motion by Hart and seconded by Bowers to approve the recommendations for the remainder of the events as indicated on the spreadsheet. Yay: Kenney, Rise, Goldman, Lentz, Rust, Hart, Bowers and Harless. Motion passes.

The committee discussed the Administrative Cost Proposal and made a motion.

Motion by Rise, seconded by Goldman to approve the Administrative Cost Proposal as it is written and outlined on the spreadsheet. Yay: Hart, Bowers, Kenney, Rise, Goldman, Lentz, Rust and Harless. Motion passes.

Kimberly Kerlee requested a motion be made to excuse committee member Kenefsky from the meeting.

Motion by Goldman, seconded by Rise and carried unanimously to excuse the absence of Janet Kenefsky.

Item 5: Public Comment
None

Item 6: Other Business
Committee member Kenney made a recommendation regarding future Lodging Tax Grant Program applications and the criteria. Bowers recommended that LTAC have representatives join future meetings and discussions regarding LTAC funds. The group discussed choosing representatives from the committee to attend the City Council meeting in December once a City Council meeting date is solidified. One representative from the Lodging Tax generator side and one from the Lodging Tax recipient side.

Item 7: Executive Session (as needed)
None

Item 8: Adjourn
2:42 p.m.

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Signed by:
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Kim Harless, Board President

Meetings of the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee are electronically recorded. The tapes are kept on file in the office of the City Clerk for a period of six years.