

TOURISM COMMISSION MEETING

Minutes

June 23, 2009

3:00 P.M.

Whatcom County Museum of History & Art

Members Present: Drew Schmidt, Gene Knutson, Dena Eastman, Loni Rahm, Edward Crasper, Brad Burdick, Taimi Dunn Gorman, Ed Bennett, and Susan Tive

Ex-officio Members Present: Patricia Leach

Members Absent: Steve Brenk, Brant Baron, Todd Elsworth, and Carolyn Casey

Staff Present: Nicole Oliver and Heather Aven

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES. SECONDED. VOTE: ALL AYES..

2. FINANCIAL REPORT:

Nicole stated that there continues to be a steady decrease in lodging tax revenues. She reported that May's figures reflect March's activity, which is down 31% from last year. She reported that the fund is down 15%, and year-end projections indicate the Commission will be started 2010 with 85,979 instead of the normal 280,000 – 300,000. She predicted that the reserves will have to be used this year.

She reiterated that all commitments made for this year will be paid, but they will all be warned that there is not much to allocate next year so they can plan their budget accordingly.

3. LEGISLATIVE ISSUES:

No issues to report

4. NEW BUSINESS:

No meetings will take place in July or August, unless it becomes necessary for LTAC to meet.

The Commission requested that the financial reports still get sent to them over the summer months.

ADJOURN – 3:30pm for a tour of the Lightcatcher Museum