

Tourism Development Board
Retreat
May 3rd 2018
Chamber of Commerce Community Room
4:30 PM

- Members in Attendance
 - Katie Kemezis, Mandy Eller, Mayor Jimmy Haley, John Partin, Matt Sands and Michael D. Griffith
- Member not in attendance Matt Sands
- Lacy Garrison with Southern Standard

Chairman Jimmy Haley welcomed everyone to this called meeting. The meeting was to discuss Project Post. Project Post is a site located along the Collins River with a facility and 11 acres with a purchase price of \$400,000.00. The meeting was to see if TDB had interest in secure the site given is key location and critical part of current tourism. Member Mandy Eller reported that in her efforts as interim tourism director, she has approached several prospective businesses about relocation and that site would work well for that. Members John Partin and Christy Ross had questions about funding and the importance of vetting potential tenants if the TDB did purchase. Member Katie Kemezis liked the opportunity for diversify the TDB revenue stream if an appropriate structure could be setup. Chairman Haley and member Michael D. Griffith talked about potential methods of financing. Chairman Haley agreed to clarify with state of Tennessee's TWRA about river access. Michael D. Griffith reported hypothetical interest rates cost and rental rates for site. It was agreed tenant demand and relocation of a business or helping a startup business with tourism focus was key to this making project post successful. Michael Griffith made the motion that Mandy Eller cultivate the potential tenants in order to see if project post is viable and report back to the board John Partin second. Motion passed

Chairman Haley gave brief update on interest in securing more access to mountains near town

With no further business the Meeting was adjourned with a motion by Mayor Jimmy Hailey and seconded by Mandy Eller

Submitted, _____

Christy Ross, Secretary