



Simon Webster, Chairperson
Alex Patel, Vice Chair
Fran Lindsey
Randi Stringham

Rafael Hernandez
Stuart Whitaker
Susan Rand

**Palestine Tourism Advisory Board
4/26/17 Meeting Minutes**

The Tourism Advisory Board of Palestine met on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, 4:00 p.m., at the Palestine Economic Development Conference Room, 100 Willow Creek Parkway, Ste. A, Palestine, Texas. Attending were the following:

Members in Attendance:

Simon Webster, Chair
Alex Patel, Vice-Chair
Fran Lindsey
Rafael Hernandez
Randi Stringham

Staff Present:

Mary Raum, ex-officio
A quorum was present.

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m. by Simon Webster

Board Discussion & Action

1. Discussion and possible action on Chamber of Commerce contract with the City of Palestine –
 - Staff presented the current contract that was adopted on Feb 27, 2012 to the board for review and discussion. The board reviewed the scope of services and compensation and it was determined by the board that the scope of detail requirements for compensation are not being met. A motion was made by Board Vice-Chair Alex Patel to recommend to the City to void the contract because the Chamber is not meeting the two part test for use for Hotel Occupancy Tax. Motion was second by Board Chair Simon Webster. With no further discussion, the motion was approved with all present in favor.
2. Review and discuss current stage of the Palestine Tourism Master Plan
 - Staff presented a document titled the Tourism Master Plan Community Assessment as the first phase in the development of the Tourism Master Plan. The document was reviewed and then brainstorming was discussed outlining the creation of a committee for the Community Assessment detailing who should be involved and strengths & weaknesses in infrastructure.

Staff Reports

1. Staff presented the Tourism Departmental Report for March 2017. Hotel Occupancy receipts are not posted to the comptroller website yet for March, so the report will always reflect that metric one month in the rear. Staff reported that hotel occupancy was +9.6% for January and +10.7% for February.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by Board Chair Simon Webster, Board Member Fran Lindsey second the motion, meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.



Date Approved: 5/11/12

[Handwritten signature]

Simon Webster, Tourism Advisory Board Member

Mary Raum

Prepared by: Mary Raum, Marketing Manager

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