

October 15, 2020
2:06 p.m.
Newport, Oregon

The Destination Newport Committee met electronically, via Zoom, on the above date in the Council Chambers in Newport City Hall, 169 SW Coast Highway.

In attendance were Committee Members Judy Kuhl, Daniella Crowder, Maggie Conrad, Lauri Hines, and Ian Clayman. Also in attendance were Council Liaison Dietmar Goebel, Deputy City Recorder Gloria Tucker, Chamber representative Bobbi Price, and Newport News-Times Representative Jeremy Burke. Absent was Committee Member Eric Seil.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION was made by Hines, seconded by Conrad, to approve the consent calendar. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Tourism Recovery Plan Discussion. Conrad introduced the agenda item. Kuhl noted Destination Newport's money has been spent for the fiscal year. She explained the News-Times and the Chamber have been promoting Newport. She suggested focusing recovery efforts next fiscal year. She added Room Tax Revenue is down from last year. Tucker noted that the committee could also discuss recovery options beyond Destination Newport funds including grants. Kuhl stated the Chamber has been watching closely for tourism grants that the city could apply for. Goebel emphasized the decrease in Room Tax revenues this year was significant.

CHAMBER AND NEWS-TIMES REPORT

Burke presented the report included in the packet. Kuhl confirmed Burke will link up the new website's address. Burke noted all social media has increased 20 percent and the website traffic is down 13 percent from last year. He stated he will add in 2019 comparison numbers next time. He added the Room Tax revenue decreased 29 percent in August.

Kuhl presented the Chamber Report. She noted most people are booking reservations for 2021. She added the Seafood and Wine Festival will look very different, but the Chamber is still encouraging visitors to come to Newport for a small event with 10 vendors.

Tucker confirmed the committee would like to meet next in January. Tucker confirmed the committee was still comfortable meeting via Zoom. Burke added, overall, Room Tax revenue is down 35 percent from last year.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 P.M.