



Association of Indiana Convention and Visitors Bureaus
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Wednesday, February 12, 2003
Brownstown, Indiana

MINUTES

President Peggy Hobson called the meeting to order at 10:18 a.m.

Secretary Karen Lentz called roll. A quorum was recognized. She advised that the membership had received the minutes of the previous meeting and:

Moved by Marilee Fowler, Evansville CVB; seconded by Greg Ayers, South Bend/Mishawaka CVB: "That the minutes of the January 8, 2003 meeting of the Board of Directors be accepted as presented." Motion carried.

Peggy Hobson thanked host Bonnie Busbice, Jackson County Visitors Center, who welcomed the group to Brownstown.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Dionne Wisniewski presented the statement of financial position.

Moved by Amy Vaughan, Hamilton County CVB; seconded by Bob Bedell, Indianapolis CVA; "That the treasurer's report be accepted as presented." Motion carried.

Government Relations Committee

Lynn Lucas reported that Mark Shublak is reformatting AICVB's food and beverage tax policy and will send the policy to all legislators.

Ice Miller is creating invitations that AICVB members can use to formally invite their legislators to the AICVB legislative dinner on Wednesday, April 9th. The next AICVB Board meeting is also April 9. Reception will begin at 6:00 pm and dinner at 6:30 pm at the Omni Severin Hotel in Indianapolis. Shublak will coach AICVB members on talking points for that night.

Several legislators attended the luncheon during the American Bus Association Marketplace to see firsthand the economic impact of tourism and ABA.

Lynn Lucas thanked those who contacted their Senators regarding SB 2 for Kosciusko County. Fortunately, this bill is now dead. HB 1018 is still moving and would raise innkeepers tax from 3 to 5 percent on Knox County.

AICVB members shared concern about the Indiana Supreme Court ruling that said legislation based on population is unconstitutional. The Indiana Constitution prohibits special laws and the population language was deemed special by the Court. This decision affects approximately 525 laws including some food and beverage taxes and innkeeper taxes. Ice Miller is working to formulate a fix. One option

involves a constitutional amendment and that would take several years. Another option is to amend all 525 laws by reference. Shublak will keep AICVB apprised.

HB 1576 regarding local collection of innkeepers tax is important to CVBs and members should urge their legislators to support this. AICVB initiated this legislation.

SB 499 regarding funding for State Tourism was discussed. The Government Relations Committee is seeking further details of the funding proposal.

A Leadership Day Reception is being planned for February 19 by the hotel, restaurant and RV industries. AICVB will also be a sponsor. Details will be communicated to members.

Professional Development Committee

Linda Lytle reported that the committee is working on the fall retreat.

Membership Committee

Cathi Wineland reported that Noble County and Jay County are going through AICVB application process.

Communications Committee

This committee will be looking at ways to link AICVB members with information from all tourism industry associations.

ICVBA

Teresa Anderson reported that one CVB has submitted all materials for evaluation and will most likely soon be accredited. Three other Indiana CVBs are going through the process. The ICVBA Board of Directors will be meeting soon.

Partnerships Task Force

Peggy Hobson reported that two new task forces would begin this year. The Partnerships Task Force will be chaired by Matt Carter, Indianapolis CVA. This group will identify logical partnerships for AICVB, recruit partners, develop what the partnerships will entail, and carry out activities beneficial to all partners. Anyone interested in participating on the task force should contact Matt.

Industry Leadership Task Force

The new Industry Leadership Task Force will be chaired by Dionne Wisniewski, LaPorte CVB. The purpose of the task force is to position AICVB as a powerful force in the industry and the state. There will be a strategic planning process to determine what leadership role AICVB should play. Dionne appointed all AICVB members to be on the task force. There will be a facilitated working lunch following the April Board meeting to develop this.

Old Business

At the January 8, 2003 meeting, the new slate of officers was presented but an election did not take place. Therefore,

Moved by Greg Ayers, South Bend/Mishawaka CVB; seconded by Emory Lencke, Hendricks County CVB; "That the slate be accepted as presented." Motion carried unanimously.

Peggy reminded everyone to send her his or her grade school pictures for an upcoming activity.

Bob Bedell, Indianapolis CVA, thanked everyone for involvement in ABA Marketplace. Comments from guests were most positive.

Cathi Wineland reported that The Hoosier Hospitality Conference is March 25-26, 2003 at Westin Hotel in Indianapolis. Brochures were mailed and registration is available on-line at www.hoosierhospitalityconference.com. Early bird registration is by March 11. AICVB members are asked to donate a silent auction item; proceeds will be used for the AICVB scholarship program that is being developed. Silent auction forms were distributed and will be mailed. AICVB members will also act as room hosts during the Conference. A sign up sheet was passed around. Several more room hosts are needed. Please contact Cathi if you can help.

New Business

Historic Landmarks Foundation workshop is February 21 in Seymour. Details were sent via email. IACVB membership dues have decreased. AICVB members are encouraged to join.

Dr. Allen Dale Olson, president, Indiana Arts Alliance, and executive director of the Southern Indiana Center for the Arts discussed the arts as a part of tourism.

The President adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

Indiana Tourism Report

Marianna Weinzapfel, Indiana Tourism, distributed Enjoy Indiana Week information. Restructuring is still being determined. Regional Marketing Managers will remain in place. Indiana Tourism is reminding new Department of Commerce regional directors that tourism is economic development. She will send the list of regional directors to AICVB members. Tourism staff is under a personnel freeze. Lynne Fuller is now directing the marketing for Commerce including tourism.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathi Tanner Wineland, Administrative Coordinator