



Association of Indiana Convention and Visitors Bureaus
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
February 1, 2005
Indianapolis, Indiana

President Lynn Lucas called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

Secretary Karen Niverson called the roll.

Lynn Lucas advised that the membership had received the minutes of the meeting and: Moved by Peggy Hobson, Kokomo/Howard Co. CVB; seconded by Dan O'Connell, Fort Wayne CVB, that:
"The minutes of the January 19, 2005 meeting be accepted as presented." Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Government Relations Committee

Lynn Lucas thanked Jim Epperson, Jennifer Anderson, Ellen Harper, Cathi Wineland and Mark Shublak for making arrangements for the Legislative Dinner on February 1.

Professional Development Committee

Marilee Fowler will chair of Professional Development committee since Amy Vaughan will be unable to fill this position. Linda Lytle encouraged members to donate to the Hoosier Hospitality Silent Auction that will help fund the AICVB scholarship. She also sent around a sign up list for volunteers to serve as room hosts for the Conference.

Member Services Committee

Mike Woolfington announced that this committee is developing a recognition program and awards for AICVB members. He is requesting information about length of tenure of CVB directors. The committee is also working on an ambassador program that will be announced at the next meeting.

Old Business

Some members continue to experience challenges in receiving Email from AICVB. If you know you are missing some AICVB Email, please let Cathi Wineland know.

New Business

Treasurer Emory Lencke announced that the 2005 AICVB budget has been drafted and will be sent to members soon. Members will vote on the budget through email.

Lynn Lucas announced that AICVB officers and committee chairs met in early December to set goals for 2005. A business plan draft is a work in progress. Four goals were developed:

1. AICVB identify and branding
2. Relationships
3. Active membership

4. Financial viability

Legislative Review

Mark Shublak explained that the General Assembly is a quarter of the way through the session, which ends on April 29. So far, there have been no bills to divert innkeepers tax for revenue for purposes other than tourism. There are many food and beverage bills. Some have been heard but none are moving. Some may be attached to other bills later in the session.

The main mission for AICVB during the legislative session is to keep innkeeper's tax dedicated to tourism and creating a new department of tourism.

House Bill 1008 puts ag tourism under the Office of Rural Affairs and Agriculture. An amendment will be introduced soon that will remove it from agriculture and puts it under tourism.

The Lt. Governor made a budget request to keep the stated tourism budget separate from the rest of her budget so that the Office of Tourism is appropriately funded.

Advancing the Missouri model is highly unlikely this year due to poor state financial condition. Shublak encouraged AICVB members to continue talking about it this year so that when things are better financially, it won't be a new issue.

Shublak reviewed the Bill Tracking Report that AICVB members receive weekly.

HB 1188 creates a moratorium on state and local commissions. Tourism Council is part of this bill. Members should look at their local situations and let Mark Shublak know if you have issues. He thinks that perhaps down the road that we can ask the Lt. Governor to exempt the Tourism Council from this review, but not now.

Shublak believes that AICVB's grass roots effort is a worthwhile, first year activity. AICVB members are in attendance at the Statehouse daily in teams of two. The AICVB brochure will be delivered to all legislators and is available at the Statehouse.

The messages for legislative dinner tonight:

1. Innkeeper's tax dedicated for tourism
2. Office of Tourism be supported by an appropriation. This money has not been appropriated in the recent past.

Announcements

Matt Carter reported IACVB send out revisions to standards for CVB reporting. Matt will send to AICVB members to give feedback. He recommended that AICVB create a committee to review these standards.

Diana Lawson reported that there is a meeting at Purdue next week between IACVB and the Institute for Convention and Visitor Bureau Accreditation, created by AICVB, to discuss possible alliances.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Bob Bedell, Indianapolis CVA, introduced Indianapolis Deputy Mayor Steve Campbell to discuss the proposed new football stadium and convention center expansion.