

MINUTES
March 26, 2008

I. Call to Order

Vice Chair Calder Smoot called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers. Present were members Fred Barth, Candi Catoe and Rick Miller. The audience included Mayor Rick Owen, Town Manager Michael Boaz, Finance Officer Sally Rominger, Chamber Office Manager Peggy Coscia, President and Melissa Schism of the Tombras Group. There were a number of interested parties in the audience.

II. Consideration of the Minutes – Mr. Miller moved to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2008 Regular Meeting. Mr. Smoot seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

III. Financial Report – Mrs. Rominger reported that the Authority's budget would be \$20,000 to \$25,000 short for the fiscal year and a budget amendment would be necessary. After a brief discussion the Authority agreed to discuss the amendment at a future meeting. Mrs. Rominger reported that the Fund Balance was \$132,430. Mrs. Rominger presented the bills to be paid. Mr. Miller moved to pay the bills as presented. Mrs. Catoe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

IV. Consider Audit Contract – Mr. Miller moved to approve the contract from Bryce Holder CPA for the fiscal year 2008/2009. Mrs. Catoe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

V. Tombras Group – Mrs. Schism reported that she had met with Chairperson Burleson with regards to some changes in the Authority's web site. Mrs. Schism estimated the cost of the changes to be \$1,500. The portal page design was discussed and Mrs. Schism asked that the changes to the page be presented by Wednesday, April 2nd. Mr. Miller moved to approve the continued distribution of brochures for the Spring/Summer 2008. Mrs. Catoe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

VI. Chamber Report –

a. Chamber – Mrs. Coscia indicated that the Quilt Trail project needed more sponsors. Mrs. Coscia noted that Sherry Garris had asked that the Authority promote the Nascar Race in August, the race is at the Bristol Motor Speedway with a number of fans spending the night on Beech Mountain.

b. Governor's Conference – Mrs. Coscia thanked the Authority for the opportunity to attend the Conference. Mrs. Coscia reported on various topics that were discussed, noting that the largest competitor to NC tourism was cruise lines. Mrs. Coscia indicated that discussions included whole family vacations, shorter vacations and the draw of discounts.

c. A Cool 5 – The Chamber is assisting the Recreation Department with a running event on June 7th, starting at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Miller moved to approve \$250 toward the event. Mr. Barth seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

VII. Adjournment – Mr. Miller moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 a.m. Mr. Barth seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Reba Greene
Town Clerk