

Room Tax Commission
April 19, 2023
Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order at 9:30 am
2. Roll call – Sue Saxhaug, Ron Van Dusen, Crystal Loppnow, Robin Ginner, Justin Behling, Diane Marquardt, Kim Emerson and Peter Anderson
3. **Motion/Second, Justin Behling/Sue Saxhaug, to approve the meeting minutes from the March 2023 Room Tax Commission meeting. Motion passed.**
4. Discussion and possible action on the following agenda items
 - a. Approval of recipient recommendation from the Tourism Promotion & Development Grant program committee. Kim Emerson reported that two grant applications were received for the Spring 2023 grant cycle: Rotary Foundation for \$50,000 for the construction of the building at Rotary Square; and Great Headwaters Trail for \$50,000 for the construction of a safe crossing at Bridge Street from Spruce to Riverview Park as part of the River Trail project. The Grant Committee is recommending an award to Rotary Foundation for \$50,000 and to request that Great Headwaters Trail (GHT) resubmit their grant application in the future when the rest of the funds are secured for the project and a project timeline is established. **Motion/Second, Ron Van Dusen/Crystal Loppnow to approve the recommendation by the Grant Committee to fund Rotary Foundation at \$50,000 and ask GHT to resubmit for a future cycle. Motion passed.**
 - b. Town of Washington is proposing an ordinance to limit the nights allowed for short-term rentals, and to require a property owner or manager to be within a certain distance of the rental should problems arise so they are able to quickly get to the property and take care of any issues. A special session is scheduled for May 10th at 5 pm at the Washington Town Hall to discuss the proposed ordinance and host a public hearing for input from residents and property owners. The new Lake Forest condo association will not allow short term rentals in the development unless specifically managed by the condo association. Members of the Room Tax Commission were encouraged to attend the May 10th meeting for informational purposes.
5. **Motion/Second, Sue Saxhaug/Justin Behling, to adjourn at 9:55. Motion passed.**