

Alabama Gulf Coast Convention & Visitor's Bureau Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: March 25, 2025

Recorded by Sally Westendorf

Board Members Present: Susan Boggs, Karen Bobe, David Bodenhamer, Bill Brett, Robert Craft, Penny Groux, Glen Kaiser, Tony Kennon, Ken Kichler, Frank Reed, Mark Stillings (a quorum was met)

Board Members Absent: Bill Bennett

GSOBT Staff Members Present: Kim Chapman, Beth Gendler, Kellie Herrod, Crystal Hinds, Jo Phillips, Michelle Russ, Carlos Serrano, Malia Elliott, Rachel Anderton

Visitors: Chief Dan Netemeyer, Billy Widner, Blake Phelps, Lee Jones, Jon Walker, Jason Dyken. Phillip Harris, Ralph Helmich, Ford Handley, Steve Meyer, Gabe DiCianni, Sheila Hodges, Gary Ellis, Jake Whittaker, Jim Arnold

Call to Order

Chairman Glen Kaiser called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. in the conference room at the Orange Beach Welcome Center in Orange Beach, AL.

Guests introduced themselves.

Gulf Shores Police Chief Netemeyer presented social media posts about a potential event threatening public safety in Alabama's Beaches in June. He encouraged open communication between the police force and vacation rental management companies and hotel operators.

Presentation

Glen Kaiser introduced the Sports Advocacy video. Beth Gendler introduced the consultants from Sports Facilities Companies, Jim Arnold and Jake Whittaker.

Jim and Jake provided background of SFC, their company expertise, process, services, and experience in the Southeastern market. They also provided an overview of the current design, financials, and placement within the development process. Jim and Jake provided a detailed explanation of the economic impact of the facility.

Page Two Board of Directors Meeting March 25, 2025

There was a lengthy discussion about shared use of the proposed Sports Complex space amongst visitor populations and community members.

Mark Stillings departed at 10:00 a.m.

Tony Kennon departed at 10:17 a.m.

At the conclusion of the presentation, all members took a break.

Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes from the February 25, 2025 meeting were presented. Susan Boggs made a motion to approve the minutes. Ken Kichler seconded the motion. After no discussion, the motion passed. Members absent in February abstained.

Task Force Recommendation

Beth Gendler outlined the Task Force's recommendation: a 3% revenue share of the 10% lodging tax attributed to new room nights associated with the new sports complex, referencing the handout (onsite rebates).

Bill Brett made a motion to formally propose the aforementioned revenue share request to the City of Orange Beach and the City of Gulf Shores. Susan Boggs seconded the motion. With no additional discussion, the motion passed unanimously by present members.

Beth explained that the 23.6 acres north of the Auburn facility may be available to the organization to purchase.

Announcements & Discussion Items

Robert Craft reminded owners and property managers to keep trash cans off the road and bike paths.

Adjourned

Chairman Glen Kaiser adjourned the meeting at 11:15 am.