



## **Southeast Conference Visitor Industry Committee Meeting** **Wednesday, October 14th, 2020**

### **Minutes**

**Call to Order/Opening Remarks:** Chair KC Hostetler opened the meeting at 2:04 pm via Zoom with more than 30 participants, including Kirby Day, Richard Harney, Lanie Downs, Wendy Lindskoog, Carl Ramseth, Carol Fraser, Beth Weldon, Wendy Anderson, Michelle O'Brien, Ricardo Worl, Dana Herndon, Pattie Mackey, Mike Tibbles, Holly Johnson, Rachel Roy, Laurie Booyse, Rep. Andi Story, Alana Peterson, Liz Perry, Carol Rushmore, Cody Jennings, Sarah Leonard, Bobbie Meszaros, Drew Green, Rick Harris, Mario Fulmer, Robert Venables, Meilani Schijvens, Katherine Bell, Sarah Woodruff and others.

Committee Chair KC Hostetler welcomed participants. She announced that newly elected SEC Board members, Zak Kirkpatrick will be the co-chair of this committee. She asked for the approval of the minutes from the June 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. Approved by Kirby, seconded by Dana, Approved unanimously.

The agenda was also approved by Liz, seconded by Carol Fraser, Approved unanimously.

Robert Venables, Executive Director of Southeast Conference, gave a brief overview on the recent Southeast Conference Annual Meeting. He said there were panels from each economic sector and industry, each offering practical take-aways. The sessions were recorded and available on the Southeast Conference website.

Patti Mackey gave a brief overview of the ATIA conference. Presentations and panels discussed key issues facing the industry. A "Shark Tank" styled program showcased new projects and gave away funds to help kickstart several new ideas for the industry. Dr. Zink also gave an update. A standout presentation by Brad Dean, CEO of Discover Puerto Rico gave a great presentation about tourism recovery. The Board of Directors elected Bill Peddler as the new chair as well as other new board appointees. The 2021 Convention is tentatively scheduled for the week of October 11 in Anchorage.

Meilani Schijvens went through the objectives for the 2020 Economic plan and facilitated discussion with meeting attendees about what to add and what to remove or edit for the 2025 Southeast Alaska Economic Development Plan.

KC Hostetler thanked everyone for coming. She said there may be another meeting prior to January to hash more specifics on some of the things that were discussed. With no other new business to discuss, the Chair announced the next meeting of the Visitor Industry Committee is tentatively set for January 12, 2021 at 2pm.

**The meeting was adjourned at 3:08 pm**