

# **FRANKLIN COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

## **MINUTES FOR September 21, 2015**

The Franklin County Tourism Development Authority met on Monday, September 21, 2015 at the Greater Franklin County Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, Louisburg, North Carolina. Robert Sykes, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m.

The minutes of the previous meeting were distributed to the board members and posted on the Franklin County Government Website.

Russell Vollmer presented the Vollmer Farm Fall Festival Grant to the group. The date of the festival is October 3-31, 2015. He thanked the TDA Board for reading and considering the application request. Russell stated that previous funding was helpful for marketing his organic produce. The festival includes a variety of activities and features 2-3 day passes with links to local lodging places. Agri-tourism has been quite competitive among area businesses. Approximately 1800 Wake County summer campers visited the farm this year. School tours are being implemented and local persons are hired to work during the events.

Aaron Snowell, Will Williams, Robert Underhill, William Hunter, and John Perry presented the Jack Johnson Story: The Night It Happened Grant to the board. The presenters and TDA Board members introduced themselves. Aaron Snowell thanked the TDA Board for this opportunity. Local residents have endorsed the project because of its historical significance. A poster and film teaser were distributed to the group. President Obama has a bill to be signed that will issue a posthumous pardon for Jack Johnson. The film will be premiered at Louisburg College. Ninety percent of the filming will occur in Franklin County and ten percent will be filmed in Raleigh, North Carolina. The project hopes to use local students. The Jack Johnson Story will have a Facebook Page. TDA Board members asked questions. The short film will be 20 minutes long and the long film will be 60-80 minutes long. A copy of the script will be available to TDA Board Members.

Bobby Cooper made the motion to approve the Vollmer Farm Fall Festival for \$7,000.00. and Mamie Jones seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Bobby Cooper made the motion to table the Jack Johnson Story Grant and Mamie Jones seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Open issues included that there were some additional lodging businesses in the county. It was agreed that the businesses would not be placed on the TDA Webpage.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Robert Sykes, Chairperson

Fannie W. Brown, TDA Liaison