

**CITY OF MARINETTE ROOM TAX COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES FROM 02/25/22**

Mayor Genisot acting Room Tax Commission Chairman called the City of Marinette Tourism Commission meeting to order at 11:00 AM at Marinette City Hall in conference Rm 214.

1. **Call the meeting to order**
2. **Upon a call of the roll, the following Committee member's attendance was recorded as follows:**  
**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor Genisot, Alderperson Kowalski, Tom Moyle (via telephone) and Scott Wahl.  
**ABSENT:** None  
**OTHERS PRESENT:** Executive Recreation Director Gavin Scray; Tourism Director Shawn Katzbeck, Mayor's Assistant Jan Kust & Steve Wolfe.
3. **Approval of December 16, 2021 meeting minutes.**  
Alderperson Kowalski moved/ Scott Wahl seconded and all concurred to accept as presented the minutes of December 16, 2021.
4. **Discussion and possible action regarding budget for 2022 Room Tax.**  
Mayor Genisot stated the budget passed with anticipated revenues of \$376,000. \$35,000 is set aside for 2 Cabela's Fishing tournaments which leaves a surplus of approximately \$23,000 for additional events to be supported by Room Tax dollars.
5. **Discussion and possible action regarding Room Tax Grant Application submitted by Steve Wolfe of War in the Woods Promotions, Inc., for a Mixed Martial Arts Competition (Pro/Am) Event at the REC on April 9, 2022, requesting \$10,000 in grant funding with an anticipated \$30,000 in total project expenses.**  
Steve Wolfe was present to give an explanation regarding the event. Wolfe stated the event will take place on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at the Marinette REC Center. Wolfe stated this is a different type of event than the previous boxing event. There are 19 fights set to take place with competitors from areas as far as Canada and Africa. He stated Mixed Martial Arts Competition is governed by the State of Wisconsin. The event could bring in a possible 800-1,000 attendees, which will be utilizing area hotels and restaurants. Wolfe stated the grant request is for \$10,000 however the intentions is to return all funds in excess for the cost of renting the REC and related services. Alderperson Kowalski moved/ Tom Moyle seconded and all concurred (Scott Wahl abstained) to approve requested \$10,000 in grant funding for Mixed Martial Arts Competition (Pro/Am) Event at the REC on April 9, 2022.
6. **Update and presentation on 2022 fishing tournaments.**  
Executive Recreation Director Gavin Scray distributed a list of 2022 Fishing Tournaments, which include two Cabela's Tournaments and one AIM Walleye Tournament that was rescheduled from 2021. Scray announced a new tournament called Head 2 Head (H2H) scheduled for April 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> which will bring in new anglers to the community.
7. **Discussion and possible action regarding the City of Marinette chosen for the 2022 Wisconsin Commercial Ports Association Annual Meeting site on September 15/16 2022, requesting \$2,000 in grant funding for hosting fee and marketing.**  
Included in the today's packet is a request for \$2,000 in grant funding for hosting the Wisconsin Commercial Ports Association Annual Meeting at the Marinette Community REC Facility. The meeting will be a tourism event to promote our City. Port and maritime projects will be showcased to include tours of Fincantieri Marinette Marine. Approximately 50-80 people staying in local hotels. Scott Wahl moved/ Alderperson Kowalski seconded and all concurred to approve the request \$2,000

Cc: Commission members; Mayor; Common Council and Clerks file.

in grant funding to the Wisconsin Commercial Ports Association for their annual meeting to be held at the Community REC Facility on September 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> 2022.

**8. Discussion and possible action regarding choosing a non-profit organization for advertising.**

Mayor Genisot stated a non-profit entity needs to be chosen in order to comply with state Law. Alderperson Kowalski moved/ Scott Wahl seconded and all concurred to renew the contract with the Chamber of Commerce as the non-profit organization for advertising.

**9. Discussion and possible action regarding excess Room Tax used for Marketing.**

Marketing & Tourism Director Shawn Katzbeck stated additional funds would give him more avenues to promote events. The committee would like to see an action plan and have Katzbeck submit it at the next Room Tax meeting. Tom Moyle moved/ Scott Wahl seconded and all concurred to increase the amount budgeted for Marketing to \$7,000.00

**10. Topics for next meeting**

- Update from War in the Woods event.

**11. Adjourn.**

Alderperson Kowalski moved/Scott Wahl seconded and all concurred to adjourn at 11:49AM.

Lana Bero, City Clerk

**(Next regular Room Tax Commission meeting will be determined at a later date.)**