

**WA STATE COMMUNITY TRADE & ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

**TOURISM COMMISSION
COMPETITIVE GRANT COMMITTEE MEETING
Chair: Duane Wollmuth**

**April 7, 2009 – Red Lion SeaTac / Olympic Room
Seattle, Washington**

FINAL – April 24, 2009

SUMMARY

Meeting attendees

Members Present: *Chair: Duane Wollmuth*, Kimberly Bennett, Clint Campbell and Kris Watkins

Members Absent: Michael Campbell, Leonard Forsman and Chad Mackay

Staff: Gail Mitchell, Cheryl Rasch and Sandra Adix (AAG)

Call to Order / Roll Call / Approval of Agenda:

1. Duane Wollmuth called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Roll Call:

A roll call of the Committee members was taken, and the presence of a quorum was established. See above for the members that are present or absent.

3. Approval of Agenda:

ACTION: Agenda was reviewed by Duane Wollmuth. Kim Bennett moved to approve the agenda. Clint Campbell seconded. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Review and Discussion of the Competitive Grant Applications

Duane reminded the committee that the stated goal of today's meeting was to review and discuss the pool of grant applications, and to determine a final list of grant awardees.

Duane reminded the committee to keep in mind the following key points when discussing the grant applications:

- Geographic and demographic area
- Economic Development – developing or adding to the economy

- \$250,000.00 grant allowance – not mandated, so we are not obligated to award the entire \$250,000.00.

The committee embarked on a discussion regarding holding a portion of the grant funding back for emergency situations that may arise later in the year. The discussion was tabled for further discussion with the whole Tourism Commission.

Committee members briefly discussed the subject of Way Finding usage. Discussion and possible changes to this item in the grant materials will take place in a future meeting, prior to the next round of Grant applications.

Cheryl Rasch shared that 32 applications were received, including one application that was received after deadline and disqualified.

Committee members, having individually read and evaluated all 31 qualified grant applications, then proceeded through a systematic discussion of the proposed projects. Discussion and caucusing included individual evaluations, evaluation of geographic and demographic diversity, and the nature of the projects under consideration.

Committee members discussed that they did not have to award all of the funding and could also choose to partially fund some of the grant applications. The proposed recipients that would receive partial funding would then have the option to revise the scope of work for the grant as requested by the Committee or decline the grant.

Committee members identified a short list of eligible applications for more in-depth discussion. Within this group, they considered the nature of the projects requested, and the geographic areas of the state that would be served. There were four recusals for specific evaluations, as follows:

- Kris Watkins: identified and recused herself from evaluations of the following applications:
 - Kennewick, City of
 - Washington Wine Country
- Duane Wollmuth: identified and recused himself from evaluations of the following applications:
 - Washington Wine Country
 - Woodinville Wine Country

Through review and caucusing, Committee members established a final list of 20 proposed FY 2010 tourism grant awardees, for a total award amount of \$250,000.00. Fifteen of the proposed applicants would be funded for full requested amounts; one applicant would be funded for the specific section of the grant approved by the Committee; and the other four applicants would receive partial funding for a revised scope of work to be negotiated between CTED and the recipients.

Clint Campbell made a motion to fund 15 grant applications at full requested funding levels:

- Allied Arts of Whatcom County \$25,000.00
- Bainbridge Island Downtown Association \$ 5,000.00
- Cascade Loop Association \$19,000.00
- Cowlitz County \$ 6,325.00
- Grays Harbor Tourism \$25,000.00
- Kirkland, City of \$ 7,000.00
- Methow Valley Sports Trails Association \$15,987.00
- NW Agricultural Business Center \$10,000.00
- Olympia-Lacey-Tumwater VCB \$10,000.00
- Olympic Peninsula Visitors Bureau \$15,750.00
- Prosser Chamber of Commerce \$ 5,000.00
- Puget Sound Regional Council \$10,000.00
- SeaFair Foundation \$25,000.00
- University Place, City of \$15,000.00
- Washington Wine Country \$25,000.00

Kim Bennett seconded. **MOTION CARRIED**

Duane Wollmuth made a motion to fund five applicants at partial funding levels:

- Kennewick, City of @ \$ 7,097.00
- U.S. Canada Peace Anniversary Association @ \$ 7,097.00
- Visit Rainier @ \$ 7,097.00
- Woodinville Wine Country @ \$ 7,097.00
- Yakima Valley VCB @ \$ 2,550.00

Kim Bennett seconded. **MOTION CARRIED**

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.