

**TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH
ACCOMMODATIONS TAX ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
February 6, 2020
10:00 a.m.**

Town of Edisto Beach
Town Hall
2414 Murray Street
Edisto Beach SC 29438

Present: Judith Blancett, Matthew Kizer, Van Maxwell, Paul Oakley, Robert Pratt. Absent Tyler Von Neida and Leslie Varner Hurley.

Call to Order: Chairman Oakley called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes – Matthew Kizer moved to approve the minutes of November 7, 2019, seconded by Judith Blancett and approved 5 – 0.

New Business:

Election of Officers – Matthew Kizer nominated Paul Oakley to remain as Chairperson of the ATAX Board. That nomination was approved 5 – 0. Paul Oakley nominated Leslie Varner Hurley remain as Vice Chairperson. That nomination was approved 5 – 0.

ATAX Fund Balance – Robert Pratt moved to approve the ATAX fund balance of \$260,370.13, seconded by Matthew Kizer and approved 5 – 0.

ATAX Applications:

Town of Edisto Beach Special Projects Coordinator, Edisto Beach Cookin' on the Creek BBQ Festival, \$15,500 – Special Projects Coordinator Kelly Moore presented the application on behalf of the Town of Edisto Beach. The 2019 BBQ Festival was very successful, and the profits from that festival were put into park improvements. Mrs. Moore is asking for \$15,500 to cover the cost of upgrades necessary to increase the number of cook teams that can participate, and to cover the purchase of the meat for the festival. Alcohol Permitting, which paid for the meat in 2019, is depleted and Mrs. Moore has been unsuccessful in finding sponsors to defray costs of the meat purchase. Mrs. Moore would also like to hire security for the event. Paul Oakley moved to approve the application, seconded by Van Maxwell and approved 5 – 0.

Edisto Art Guild, Art in Public Spaces: A Seaside Mural, \$9,605 – Edisto Art Guild President Olivia Padgett presented the application on behalf of the Art Guild. The Art Guild has been in discussion with muralists from Georgetown, SC in hopes of having the privately-owned fence that faces Jungle Road behind the Bi-Lo painted. Since the ATAX guidelines provide for "advertising and promoting the arts" Mrs. Padgett feels ATAX money can be used for this expense. The Art Guild has written permission from the owner of the fence to have a mural painted on it. Questions arose from the Board about public funds being used to improve privately-owned property. While the Board supports the idea of art in public spaces and the mural, they asked the Art Guild to pursue the possibility of other financing or the mural being done pro bono by local artists. In the alternative, the Art Guild should investigate all legal tools that other

communities have used to protect the public investment when public funds are invested in privately owned property. With the addition of such legal protections, the Art Guild could then resubmit the mural application to the ATAX Board.

Adjournment – Matthew Kizer moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Robert Pratt and approved 5 – 0.

The public/media were notified of the date, time and location of the meeting on Friday, January 31, 2020.

APPROVED BY THE ATAX BOARD

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Deborah Hargis". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Deborah Hargis, Municipal Clerk
May 7, 2020