

**TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH  
ACCOMMODATIONS TAX ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**August 1, 2024**

**3:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

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

**Present:** Chair Leslie Varner Hurley, Judith Blancett, Mike Hobson, Brandon Jackson, and Tyler Von Neida (*Quorum of Committee*)

**Absent:** Matthew Kizer, and Rick Moore

**Staff Present:** Town Administrator Mark Aakhus, Assistant Town Administrator Dee Stalvey, and Municipal Clerk Donna Iskra

**Call to Order**

Chair Varner Hurley called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Von Neida moved to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2024, ATAX meeting. This motion was seconded by Ms. Blancett and unanimously approved.

**New Business**

**ATAX Fund Balance Report**

Discussion was held on the Fund Balance Report and the unencumbered balance of \$800,761.

1. Mr. Hobson asked if ATAX funds received from the State but not spent needs to be returned to the State. Mr. Aakhus will provide confirmation of the process.
2. Mr. Hobson requested a report on the unencumbered balances for the last three years. Mr. Aakhus stated a report will be provided at the next ATAX meeting.

Mr. Hobson made a motion to approve the balance information as presented. Mr. Jackson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

**ATAX Project Balance Report**

Following discussion, Mr. Hobson made a motion to approve the ATAX Project Balance Report with funds expended in the amount of \$209,972. Mr. Von Neida seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**ATAX Applications**

**Edisto Art Guild (Edisto Plein Air Paint Out, \$1,595)**

- Christian Stemkowski presented the application request for the Edisto Plein Air Paint Out event to be held on October 14-18, 2025. The Edisto Art Guild requested \$1,595 for advertising the Edisto Plein Air Paint Out event in an international publication. Ms. Stemkowski noted the advertisement will reach a broader audience

from farther away. The 2/3-page ad will appear in the international magazine published in January 2025. With these funds, they will concentrate on expanding advertising internationally. Mr. Von Neida made a motion to approve the Edisto Art Guild request for the Edisto Plein Air Paint Out advertising in the amount of \$1,595. Mr. Jackson seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

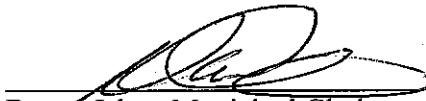
- Ms. Stemkowski presented an application for the Edisto Plein Air Paint Out event in the amount of \$1,000. The funds are being requested to purchase portable lighting to provide optimal viewing of the artwork. Improved lighting could potentially expand the event. Ms. Varner Hurley made a motion to approve the request for \$1,000 for the Edisto Plein Air Paint Out to purchase lighting. Mr. Von Neida seconded the motion.
  - Yeas: Ms. Varner Hurley, Mr. Von Neida, Ms. Blancett, and Mr. Jackson
  - Nays: Mr. Hobson
  - Motion Approved

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Von Neida made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Varner Hurley seconded this motion, which was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 3:26 p.m.

**APPROVED BY THE ATAX BOARD**

  
Donna Iskra, Municipal Clerk  
February 6, 2025