

**PART I
OPERATIONS
GWTIDA as AGENT for
NJSEA**

(Minutes from 12/21/23 Regular Board Meeting)

**GREATER WILDWOODS TOURISM IMPROVEMENT & DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
WILDWOODS CONVENTION CENTER**

REGULAR MEETING, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023

**Part I - OPERATIONS
GWTIDA as agent for NJSEA**

Call to Order: The Meeting was called to order by Mr. Greenland at 6:00 p.m.

Salute to flag.

The Open Public Meetings Act was read by Mr. Greenland.

Roll Call:

Mr. Byrne	Present	Mr. Murray	Present
Mr. Greenland	Present	Mr. Sciarra	Present
Mr. Barnabei	Present	Mr. Morey	Present
Mr. Hamlin	Absent	Mr. Vasser	Present
Mr. Bumbernick	Absent		

Also present were Mr. Belasco, Ms. Feketics, Ms. LaBounty, Ms. Dougherty, Mr. Rose, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Federici, Ms. Springer, Mr. Frey, Mr. Amenhauser and Mr. Siciliano.

Mr. Greenland welcomed John Siciliano back and stated that he will always be a part of the GWTIDA and Wildwoods Convention Center family.

A. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Sciarra made a motion to approve the Re-Organization meeting minutes of October 19, 2023, second by Mr. Murray.

Roll Call:

Mr. Byrne	Abstain	Mr. Murray	Yea
Mr. Greenland	Yea	Mr. Sciarra	Yea
Mr. Barnabei	Yea	Mr. Morey	Abstain
Mr. Hamlin	Abstain	Mr. Vasser	Yea
Mr. Bumbernick	Yea via email		

Motion moved and approved.

Mr. Murray made a motion to approve the regular meeting Operations minutes of October 19, 2023, second by Mr. Sciarra.

Roll Call:

Mr. Byrne	Abstain	Mr. Murray	Yea
Mr. Greenland	Yea	Mr. Sciarra	Yea
Mr. Barnabei	Yea	Mr. Morey	Abstain
Mr. Hamlin	Abstain	Mr. Vasser	Yea
Mr. Bumbernick	Yea via email		

Motion moved and approved.

Mr. Murray made a motion to approve the regular meeting Operations minutes of November 16, 2023, second by Mr. Morey.

Roll Call:

Mr. Byrne	Yea	Mr. Murray	Yea
Mr. Greenland	Yea	Mr. Sciarra	Abstain
Mr. Barnabei	Abstain	Mr. Morey	Yea
Mr. Hamlin	Yea via email	Mr. Vasser	Abstain
Mr. Bumbernick	Yea via email		

Motion moved and approved.

B. Public Comment – None.

C. Executive Director's Report

Included in the board packet were:

- Administrative Update – December 2023
- ASM Update – December 2023
- DE North Update – December 2023
- Finance Update – December 2023
- Housing Update – December 2023
- Sales Update – December 2023

Mr. Belasco discussed the Ocean Avenue garden beds. Soil samples have been taken and were sent to the plant experts at Rutgers. We are awaiting their response and will follow up.

Mr. Greenland discussed the Family Holiday Celebration and thanked all the staff for their hard work in making the building beautiful and making the event a success.

Mr. Belasco highlighted that one of our long-term engineers, Mike Szeligowski, has retired after 41 ½ years with the union, and 21 ½ years spent with us here. Mike is an integral part of our team, an original member, and we wish him well in his retirement.

Ms. Springer announced that two key ASM roles have been filled. Julie Pozzuolo will begin her new role as ASM Event Coordinator to fill the open position left by Jessica Skierski, on January 4th. In addition, Craig Pulsciski has been hired to fill the engineering position left by Mike Szeligowski. Craig has already begun training in the facility until the new year, when he will take over a regular shift.

Ms. LaBounty stated that we have received tax collection numbers for October. The 2% tax is down compared to October 2022. We are, however, still 6% ahead of last year overall, and 30% ahead of plan.

Mr. Lynch stated that we are looking forward to next year being another great year. We are at approximately 90% bookings of where we were in 2019 (pre-Covid).

Motions:

Mr. Belasco stated that we are in Phase 2 of our parking lot clean up and will be cleaning out and filling in the cracks and repainting. Two quotes were received, one over the bid threshold. The Buildings & Grounds Committee is recommending that we award a contract to RG Lee in the amount of \$43,994.

Mr. Vasser made a motion to award a contract to RG Lee in the amount of \$43,994 for the resealing and repainting of four parking lots from Burk Avenue to Rio Grande Avenue, plus the turnaround located in front of the Wildwoods Convention Center, contingent upon RG Lee providing all necessary documentation, second by Mr. Murray.

Roll Call:

Mr. Byrne	Yea	Mr. Murray	Yea
Mr. Greenland	Yea	Mr. Sciarra	Yea
Mr. Barnabei	Yea	Mr. Morey	Yea
Mr. Hamlin	Absent	Mr. Vasser	Yea
Mr. Bumbernick	Absent		

Motion moved and approved.

Correspondence/Communication: None.

D. Chairperson's Report

Mr. Greenland reiterated meetings and conference calls held and attended throughout the month, as well as discussions with Mr. Belasco regarding ongoing items. There were no questions.

Committee Reports:

- o **Buildings and Grounds Committee:** Mr. Greenland stated that minutes of the Buildings & Grounds Committee meeting were included in the packet. Repaving lot, issue with Wildwood sign over front entrance. "O" rusted out frame, letters will be removed, and the frame will be replaced.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Policies/Procedures: None.

Correspondence/Communication: None.

E. Executive Session – None.

F. Any matter of immediate attention – None.

- G. **Motion to go into the GWTIDA/Advertising portion of the meeting.**
Mr. Byrne made a motion to go into the GWTIDA portion of the meeting, second by Mr. Murray.

Roll Call:

Mr. Byrne	Yea	Mr. Murray	Yea
Mr. Greenland	Yea	Mr. Sciarra	Yea
Mr. Barnabei	Yea	Mr. Morey	Yea
Mr. Hamlin	Absent	Mr. Vasser	Yea
Mr. Bumbernick	Absent		

Motion moved and approved.

Respectfully,



Frances Feketics
Board Secretary

PART II
GWTIDA
ADVERTISING/PROMOTIONS
(Minutes from 12/21/23 Regular Board Meeting)

**GREATER WILDWOODS TOURISM IMPROVEMENT & DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
WILDWOODS CONVENTION CENTER
REGULAR MEETING, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023**

Part II – GWTIDA/Advertising and Promotions

A. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Barnabei made a motion to approve the regular meeting Tourism minutes of October 19, 2023, second by Mr. Sciarra.

Roll Call:

Mr. Byrne	Abstain	Mr. Murray	Yea
Mr. Greenland	Yea	Mr. Sciarra	Yea
Mr. Barnabei	Yea	Mr. Morey	Abstain
Mr. Hamlin	Abstain	Mr. Vasser	Yea
Mr. Bumbernick	Yea via email		

Motion moved and approved.

Mr. Byrne made a motion to approve the regular meeting Tourism minutes of November 16, 2023, second by Mr. Murray.

Roll Call:

Mr. Byrne	Yea	Mr. Murray	Yea
Mr. Greenland	Yea	Mr. Sciarra	Abstain
Mr. Barnabei	Abstain	Mr. Morey	Yea
Mr. Hamlin	Yea via email	Mr. Vasser	Abstain
Mr. Bumbernick	Yea via email		

Motion moved and approved.

B. Public Comment – None.

C. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Belasco stated that the Advertising Committee, Marketing Staff and Joy Samaniego, our Housing Manager, have been working over the last several months on finding and implementing a booking engine for our website. We met with the Greater Wildwood Hotel & Motel Association, and they will support the letter that will be going out to all hotel owners and Greater Wildwood Chamber of Commerce members. We have received 60 responses to date, and it looks to be going well. The committee will continue to work on this project and hope to bring a recommendation to the board at the January board meeting.

Department Updates – Included in the board packet were:

- Administrative Update – December 2023
- Events Department Update – December 2023
- Finance Department Update – December 2023
- Marketing/Public Relations Update – December 2023

Mr. Greenland stated that Ms. Megan Dougherty attended all holiday meetings and put a lot of hard work into the Christmas season. Thank you to all involved in making the holiday events successful in the building and throughout the island.

Ms. LaBounty stated that we have received tax collection numbers for October. The 1.85% tax collections were down slightly, approximately \$7,400 compared to October 2022. However, we are still 8% ahead of 2022 overall and 32% ahead of plan.

Mr. Rose stated marketing is going well, and the Wildwoods are the place to be.

Correspondence/Communication: None.

Motions:

Mr. Vasser made a motion to approve the Bill List in the amount of \$1,648,786.62, second by Mr. Byrne.

Roll Call:

Mr. Byrne	Yea	Mr. Murray	Yea
Mr. Greenland	Yea	Mr. Sciarra	Yea
Mr. Barnabei	Yea	Mr. Morey	Yea
Mr. Hamlin	Absent	Mr. Vasser	Yea
Mr. Bumbernick	Absent		

Motion moved and approved.

Ms. LaBounty stated that the board previously voted in October to approve the GWTIDA budget, and now it needs to be adopted. There were no changes, and the resolution was included in the board packet as follows:

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget and Capital Budget/Program for the Greater Wildwoods Tourism Improvement and Development Authority for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2024, and ending, December 31, 2024 has been presented for adoption before the governing body of the Greater Wildwoods Tourism Improvement and Development Authority at its open public meeting of December 21, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget and Capital Budget as presented for adoption reflects each item of revenue and appropriation in the same amount and title as set forth in the introduced and approved budget, including all amendments thereto, if any, which have been approved by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget as presented for adoption reflects Total Revenues of \$4,349,451.77, Total Appropriations, including any Accumulated Deficit, if any, of \$4,390,109.00 and Total Unrestricted Net Position utilized of \$40,657.23; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Budget as presented for adoption reflects Total Capital Appropriations of \$-0- and Total Unrestricted Net Position planned to be utilized of \$-0-; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of Greater Wildwoods Tourism Improvement and Development Authority, at an open public meeting held on December 21, 2023, that the Annual Budget and Capital Budget/Program of the Greater Wildwoods Tourism Improvement and Development Authority for the fiscal year beginning, January 1, 2024 and, ending, December 31, 2024 is hereby adopted and shall constitute appropriations for the purposes stated; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Annual Budget and Capital Budget/Program as presented for adoption reflects each item of revenue and appropriation in the same amount and title as set forth in the introduced and approved budget, including all amendments thereto, if any, which have been approved by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

Mr. Murray made a motion to adopt the 2024 GWTIDA Budget, as presented, second by Mr. Byrne.

Roll Call:

Mr. Byrne	Yea	Mr. Murray	Yea
Mr. Greenland	Yea	Mr. Sciarra	Yea
Mr. Barnabei	Yea	Mr. Morey	Yea
Mr. Hamlin	Absent	Mr. Vasser	Yea
Mr. Bumbernick	Absent		

Motion moved and approved.

Mr. Greenland stated that the 2024 GWTIDA Board Meeting Schedule needs to be approved. A proposed schedule was included in the board packet and emailed to all board members for review and is as follows. The change in June is due to the Barefoot Country Music Festival.

January 18, 2024,	July 18, 2024
February 15, 2024,	August 15, 2024
March 21, 2024,	September 19, 2024
April 18, 2024,	October 17, 2024
May 16, 2024,	November 21, 2024
June 19, 2024 (Wed.)	December 19, 2024

Mr. Murray made a motion to approve the 2024 GWTIDA Board Meeting Schedule, as presented, second by Mr. Vasser.

Roll Call:

Mr. Byrne	Yea	Mr. Murray	Yea
Mr. Greenland	Yea	Mr. Sciarra	Yea
Mr. Barnabei	Yea	Mr. Morey	Yea
Mr. Hamlin	Absent	Mr. Vasser	Yea
Mr. Bumbernick	Absent		

Motion moved and approved.

Mr. Greenland thanked Mr. Byrne for his hard work and dedication throughout his years with GWTIDA and expressed his sincere gratitude for working alongside him. Mr. Greenland read the following resolution into the minutes:

WHEREAS, Thomas Byrne is a lifelong resident of The Wildwoods; and

WHEREAS, He was appointed to the Greater Wildwoods Tourism Improvement and Development Authority (GWTIDA) in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Tom Byrne's leadership and dedication to the Wildwoods earned him the position of Chairperson in 2012, where he served as Chairman for 11 years; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Chairman Byrne led GWTIDA to the doorsteps of our host hotel, through the COVID shutdown, and the Overhaul of the Rio Grande Avenue Entrance all leading to the growth and success of the Wildwoods; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Byrne is a respected and admired leader in our community; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Byrne retired from his position as Chairman of the GWTIDA Board in August 2023; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Byrne is retiring from his position on the GWTIDA Board at the end of 2023; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the GWTIDA Board, our employees and The Wildwoods expresses its sincere gratitude to Thomas Byrne for his many years of service and dedication; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board members of GWTIDA wish Thomas Byrne all the best (especially with the fish) in his retirement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be presented to Thomas Byrne as a token of the Board's appreciation.

Mr. Greenland made a motion that the Greater Wildwoods Tourism Improvement and Development Authority expresses its sincere gratitude to Thomas Byrne for his many years of service and dedication to the Wildwoods, second by Mr. Murray.

Roll Call:

Mr. Byrne	Yea	Mr. Murray	Yea
Mr. Greenland	Yea	Mr. Sciarra	Yea
Mr. Barnabei	Yea	Mr. Morey	Yea
Mr. Hamlin	Absent	Mr. Vasser	Yea
Mr. Bumbernick	Absent		

Motion moved and approved.

Mr. Greenland presented a plaque to Mr. Byrne in recognition and appreciation for his many years of service to GWTIDA and the Wildwoods. We thank Mr. Byrne for his leadership and for his influence on the many accomplishments achieved during his time with GWTIDA. Board Member 2011-2023, Chairperson 2012-2023.

D. Chairperson's Report

Mr. Greenland discussed meetings attended throughout the month, and there were no questions.

Committee Reports:

- **Advertising:** Mr. Hamlin stated that the committee met and discussed the 2024 advertising campaign, which is a refreshment of the 2023 campaign. We are waiting to receive copy of the video.
- **Special Events:** Mr. Bumbernick stated that the committee met and reviewed 4 post-event reports-NJ BBQ & Blues Festival, Wildwoods Christmas in July Golf Parade, Spanish Food & Music Festival, and Olde Time Italian Festival. Funding apps were reviewed for Captain Kidd Pirate Day, Run to Remember, Kite Festival, and Christmas in July Golf Parade. The Wildwood Crest Running Fest application was reviewed and tabled until more information can be obtained.

Old Business – None.

New Business – Mr. Lynch thanked the board for allowing him to use the facility for the Lunch with Lynch Foundation. Since its inception, the organization has serviced 3,200 families and 10,482 children. Mr. Greenland thanks Mr. Lynch for representing us so well.

Policies/Procedures – None.

Correspondence/Communication – None.

E. Executive Session – None.

F. Any matter of immediate attention

Our next Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 6 p.m.

G. Motion to Adjourn

Mr. Byrne made a motion to adjourn, second by Mr. Murray.

Roll Call:

Mr. Byrne	Yea	Mr. Murray	Yea
Mr. Greenland	Yea	Mr. Sciarra	Yea
Mr. Barnabei	Yea	Mr. Morey	Yea
Mr. Hamlin	Absent	Mr. Vasser	Yea
Mr. Bumbernick	Absent		

Motion moved and approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



Frances Feketics
Board Secretary