

**Open Work Session  
Tourism and Youth and Civic Center Commission  
August 21, 2018**

Mr. Wayne Strausburg, Director of Administration, Mr. Steve Miller, Director of Recreation, Parks & Tourism, and Mr. Mike Delano, Chairman of the Tourism Board, came before Council. Mr. Strausburg said they are bringing this to Council after a discussion that came up to Mr. Miller, and it really came up from the Chairs of the two Boards. He said, simply put, they have been having difficulty for quite some time having a quorum at the Civic Center Commission meetings. He said they have had difficulty with that, as well as difficulty with attracting people who would be helpful on that Commission. He said the people who have been attending the meetings are people who are also on the Tourism Board. He said Tourism and the Civic Center are so interrelated that they felt it would probably be of service to those people who are expending a lot of time on a volunteer basis to combine those two Boards into one Board so that people only have one meeting to attend, and they could, perhaps, get better cross verbalization in terms of ideas about how they promote both the Civic Center and Tourism in the County. He said Mr. Urban, the Chair of the Civic Center Commission, could not attend the meeting today, but he was fully supportive of merging these two Boards, and Mr. Delano who, as Council knows, chairs the Tourism Board, is supportive of it as well. He said it does require Council action, if they are so inclined, and they are here today to answer any questions Council may have.

Mr. Joe Holloway asked if they had a restructuring of the Civic Center Commission just a few years ago, to which Mr. Miller responded, it was several years ago, and it used to be combined with Recreation and Parks. He explained, at that time, the Civic Center was going down the path of renovations, and the meetings were basically dedicated to Civic Center, and Recreation and Parks was not getting its due, so it broke off. He said he thinks that was in the early 2000s. Mr. Joe Holloway said he knows at one time the Civic Center was on its own, and then went with Recreation and Parks in the 1990s.

Mr. Cannon asked, since they are planning on combining both of these Commissions, will Mr. Mike Delano still be the Chairman, to which Mr. Strausburg responded, yes, unless they make Mr. Urban and Mr. Delano co-chairs. He said these are really good people who spend a lot of time and have some great ideas, and they think this will work very well. He said, from his standpoint, he thinks this is a good move, and will facilitate, he thinks, better attendance, and better discussions and outcomes. Mr. Cannon said, honestly, the Civic Center pretty much is tied together with Tourism. He said a lot of what the Civic Center does revolves around getting people here and creating venues, so it makes a lot of sense. Mr. Miller said both Tourism and the Civic Center receive part of the hotel room tax, so there is a vested interest in having those two groups combine discussions because they are both recipients of that tax.

Mr. Joe Holloway asked how many people serve on each committee, to which Mr. Miller responded, there is a max of 11. He said, with this, they would have 9 who would move over to Tourism, so they would look to fill those other two spots. Mr. Joe Holloway asked how many they will have on this committee, to which Mr. Miller responded, 11 would be the goal. Mr. Dodd clarified, after they combine both of them, to which Mr. Miller responded, yes. He said the ones they are moving over were already on Tourism, so they are waiting on a couple of other folks.

Mr. Cannon said they can put this on the schedule in September. Mr. Strausburg said he assumes they will do this by Resolution, to which Mrs. Hurley responded, this would have to be done by Legislative Bill because the Commissions are established in the County Code. Mr. Cannon then asked Mrs. Hurley how soon the Bill can be drafted, to which Mrs. Hurley responded, that is actually a County Attorney

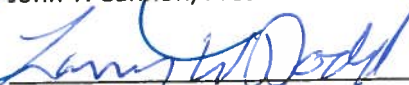
question. She then asked Mr. Paul Wilber, County Attorney, how soon he can draft the Legislation, to which Mr. Wilber responded from the audience, he will have it ready for the next meeting.

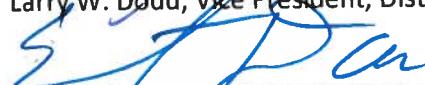
Mr. Miller said he has a question in terms of the bylaws, which will need to be amended. He then asked if that is something he would do on his end. He explained, they have by-laws for each Commission, so he presumes they would combine those two by-laws. Mr. Cannon said he will defer to Mr. Wilber on that.


Mr. Joe Holloway asked if there is anyone who is going to be displaced and not going to be happy about being displaced, and Council will hear from them, to which Mr. Miller responded, he does not believe so. Mr. Strausburg said their terms have expired, and a couple of people have mentioned that either for business or personal reasons they really cannot continue. He said they have a member who attends regularly who they will ask to move over, and he thinks she will accept. He said they have a proposed new member they are going to approach who will add a different facet to the Board. He said he does not think Council will hear any negativity from anybody.

Mr. Cannon addressed Mr. Wilber in regards to Mr. Miller's statement about the by-laws. He said, if there is trouble with the timeframe, he should let Council know because that will add a little more work to what he has to do, to which Mr. Wilber responded, he will let them know. There was no further discussion.


  
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John T. Cannon, President

  
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Larry W. Dodd, Vice President, District 3

  
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Ernest F. Davis, District 1

  
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Marc Kilmer, District 2

\_\_\_\_ absent \_\_\_\_\_  
John B. Hall, District 4

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Holloway, District 5

\_\_\_\_ absent \_\_\_\_\_  
Matt Holloway, At-Large

  
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Laura Hurley, Council Administrator