



**Tourism Advisory Committee (TAC)  
Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
**Location:** Savannah City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Media Room  
**TAC Attendees:** Sue Adler, Melinda Allen, Steve Brenneman, Jason Combs, Charlie Brazil, Ryan Madson, Vaughnette Goode-Walker  
**Absentees:** Mitch Linder, Michael Owens, Joe Marinelli  
**City Staff:** Susan Broker, Edward Grant, Rachel Buck  
**Guest Attendees:** Stephen Plunk (TLC), David McDonald, Nancy Radke, Marysue McCarthy

**Call to order: 8:30 AM**

**Summary**

The meeting began with the approval of minutes from the previous meeting on February 27. Discussions included sending a letter of recommendation against Cruisin Tiki's Savannah approval and updates on Tourism Task Force activities, focusing on walking tours. Successes and concerns from the recent St. Patrick's Day event were reviewed, with plans to improve towing signage and address porta potty issues. Concerns about crowd control and cleanup post-parade were raised, noting improvements despite challenges. An update was requested on the bicycle ordinance draft, with plans for a review before presenting it to the city council.

**1. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

S. Adler initiated the meeting by requesting a motion to approve the meeting minutes from March 26, 2024. During the discussion, it was noted that Sue Adler's name was missing from the list of attendees. A motion was put forward by S. Brenneman and seconded by C. Brazil to approve the minutes with amendments to include Sue Adler in the February meeting attendance. The motion was unanimously approved.

**2. Staff Report:**

**Cruisin Tikis Savannah**

- A letter of recommendation against the approval of Cruising Tikis Savannah was submitted to the mayor and aldermen. Discussion occurred regarding this recommendation, noting that the company will have the opportunity to petition directly to the City Council for approval if desired.

**Tourism Task Force meeting**

- Rachel Buck presented updates on the Tourism Task Force's recent activities, including the first small group meeting on March 25th, focusing on walking tours. Attendees from TAC included Charlie Brazil, Vaughnette Goode-Walker, Jason Combs, and Melinda Allen, while Dan Leger (Savannah Dan Tours), T.C., and Brenna Michaels (Genteel & Bard) represented walking tour groups. Discussions addressed issues such as sound regulation, tour capacities, and operational hours, along with challenges from external factors impacting tours. The next Tourism Task Force Meeting is scheduled for April 8th.

**St. Patrick's Day**

### **Towing Signs and St. Patrick's Day Event**

- Edward Grant presented on the success of the St. Patrick's Day event, highlighting measures like increased barricades and food truck locations.
- Discussions addressed the removal of towing signs by the public before the parade and the towing of 50 vehicles during the event.
- There was discussion on the need to improve the process of installing and removing signs.

### **Portable toilets during the parade**

- Issues regarding the placement of porta potties, including facing the hedge line in squares, were reviewed.
- The discussion included personal porta-lets staged on pickup trucks, with plans to ban this practice by city ordinance next year.
- Efforts to address these issues, such as increasing the number of porta potties and enforcement measures, were discussed.

### **Cleanup efforts post parade**

- Improvements in crowd control and cleanup efforts following the St. Patrick's Day parade were discussed.
- Challenges faced by the Park and Tree Division in maintaining public spaces were highlighted.
- Despite challenges, improvements in crowd control and cleanliness were noted throughout the event.

### **3. Other Business:**

#### **Bicycle Ordinance**

- An update was requested on the bicycle ordinance, and what the plans were for the ordinance moving forward.
- Rachel Buck confirmed she would provide an update on the ordinance at the next meeting.

### **The meeting adjourned at 9:16 AM**

Next Meeting: April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, at 8:30 a.m., Savannah City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Media Room

Minutes Prepared by Edward Grant and Rachel Buck