

**SWOTC Board meeting**  
**January 24, 2023, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.**  
**Video call**

**Present:** Jennifer Flynn, Craig Goyette, Irma Joeveer, Troy Loop, Andrew Meyer, Peter Rigby, Denny Vervaeke

**Regrets:** Susan Judd, Kelly Provost, Lindsay Wilson

**Absent:** no

**Resources:** Janet Jones - MHSTCI; SWOTC - Joanne Wolnik, June Nussey, Ana Baxter, Kelleagh Alexander, Jen Moore

**Chair Aileen Murray** called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m.

**Land Acknowledgement**

**Confirmation of Quorum**

**Conflict of Interest** - none declared at this time.

Moved and seconded to accept the agenda as printed. Carried.

Moved and seconded to accept the minutes of December 13, 2022 and January 10, 2023. Carried.

**Business Arising from the minutes:** none

**Ideas & Observations:**

- Denny made the paper for his goodwill over Christmas to a family stranded by the storm.
- Summer bookings are happening and filling up. It looks promising for summer.
- Front line hospitality – the money due to government from COVID loans is causing stress for business owners.
- Hearing municipal budgets have big increases and where does tourism or support for small businesses fit into those budgets.
- Struggles with having staff in place when the 'people' arrive for the summer
- Mass exodus of mature workers across the industry and all sectors

**Treasurer's report:** Peter Rigby

Transitioning from Sage accounting to Quickbooks and changing bookkeepers has delayed the numbers being received by the Board in a timely manner.

Working with the bookkeeper to design templates for the Board and staff to get the information needed.

Legal fees are up due to copyrighting for Unlocked & Inspired material.

Moved and seconded to accept the financial statements as presented. Carried.

TRF financials – final stages of projects. Some incomplete and funds returned from the businesses. Staff are working on community projects to reallocate the underspent funds.

Moved and seconded to accept the TRF financials as of January 15, 2023. Carried.

**Operations report:** Joanne Wolnik

Written report

Now in Q4 (final quarter) for the fiscal.

Business plan has been submitted. No word on acceptance of the budget in the business plan.

DMO Council meeting on January 31 @ 1 p.m. If there are 2 directors that would like to join the meeting, please contact Joanne.

Moved and seconded to accept the operations report. Carried.

**Planning & Evaluation report:** Troy Loop

Making amendments to the committee schedule due to changes in the operating report. Committee is moving forward as needed.

**Governance Committee:** Craig Goyetche

RFP for governance review – there were 2 quotes that fit within the scope and budget.

Project will be awarded by the end of the month.

Bylaws need to be reviewed by lawyers in the future. Suggested to consider this expense in a future budget.

**Executive Committee:** no report

**MTCS report:** Janet Jones

- Tourism Program audit being done by the Auditor General. Stage 1 is planning and scoping which is underway. Some or all of the RTOs may be contacted during the audit process. The Auditor General's report is due to be released in the Fall of 2023.
- Business plan – RTO1 was the only RTO to ask for an increase. RTO1 should expect status quo regarding funds.
- Cyber security policy – should we review since we are working offsite.

**Other Business** – none

**New Business** – none

**Next meeting** – March 6 at 3 p.m. in Hamilton prior to the Southern Ontario Tourism Conference.

Moved 'in camera' at 11:45 a.m.

Moved out of 'in camera' at 11:48 a.m.

Moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Carried.

**Meeting adjourned** at 11:48 a.m.