

MINUTES

Short-term Rental Board
December 11, 2023

1. Call to order

- a. The regular business meeting of the Short Term Rental Board was held on Monday, December 11, 2023 in Room 201 of the Community Center in Blairsville, Ga. It began at 5:00 and was presided over by Patrick Woodall, Chairman, with Laura Jenkins (Short Term Code Enforcement Officer) as Secretary.

2. In attendance

- a. Voting members: Patrick Woodall, Laura Jenkins, Karen Sweeney, Martin Pilote, AnaLuisa Salvatti, David Dyer, Susan Phillips, William Mercer. A quorum was present.
- b. Guests in attendance: none
- c. Members not in attendance: none
- d. Recognition of visitors: none

3. Reading and approval of prior meeting minutes

- a. Laura read the minutes in their entirety of the meeting held on 11.13.23.
- b. A motion was made by Patrick Woodall to approve the minutes as read. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Reports of officers and standing committees

- a. **Secretary:** UCSTR By the Numbers (3 attachments)
 - Discussion was held regarding data clean-up in MuniRevs and LodgingRevs. The percentages of compliant properties and listings may not be correct yet, it will take several more weeks to clean it all up, and we may not ever get to 100%. Laura reviewed 2 working documents that she uses to do this. One was a list of Tourist Accommodations (TA) that have more than one listing that was marked "Property Found". Their listings have been marked "Compliant" because the ordinance does not require that Tourist Accommodations obtain an STR license,

nor does it require their license number be displayed in their listings.

- The other document was a report run by Laura in LodgingRevs. Upon speaking with GOVos, it was determined that the compliance statuses for all properties and listings must be manually marked. Discussion was held regarding the status of "Listing Removed". If the owner is not actively renting the property, they must remove the listing completely from the OTA. Blocking the calendar is not sufficient, because it's still being advertised.
- Discussion on timing of approval for Laura to be able to write a citation. Currently she is unable to do so. William Mercer mentioned it MAY be done by year end and provided direction/instructions on when to escalate an issue to his attention.
- Some discussion on Google/multiple web-sites - ability to request changes/updates can be a challenge. Laura discussed process for owners when rental owner status has changed if they have not notified us. Tracking down new owner contact information is not always straightforward, especially if the property is in the name of an LLC.
- GOVos does not have the ability to search for individual websites, those that are managed by owners and not through a Property Management Company or OTA (online travel agent such as Airbnb/VRBO/Booking.com). Opportunity to miss properties that should be paying taxes, no way to determine. Question posed on how much of an issue this would be and is it possible to spend TOO MUCH time trying to track these down – a case of diminishing returns?

5. Reports of ad-hoc committees

a. No reports of ad-hoc committees

Individuals with disabilities who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting, or the facilities are required to contact the County Clerk at 706-439-6000 promptly to allow Union County to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.


6. Old Business

- a. Set meeting dates for calendar year 2024
 - i. Feb. 5, April 8, June 10, Aug. 12, Sept. 9, Nov. 4

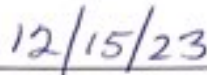
7. New Business

- a. No new business

8. Adjourn Patrick made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Laura seconded, passed unanimously. Adjourned at 5:52.



Signed, Laura Jenkins, Secretary



Date