

# **MINUTES**

## Short-term Rental Board

April 8, 2024

### **1. Call to order**

- a. The regular business meeting of the Short Term Rental Board was held on Monday, April 8, 2024 in Room 201 of the Community Center in Blairsville, Ga. It began at 5:01 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 Sweenie, Martin Pilote, AnaLuisa Salvatti. A quorum was present.
- b. Guests in attendance: Atty William Mercer
- c. Members not in attendance: Susan Phillips, David Dyer
- d. Recognition of visitors: none

### **3. Reading and approval of prior meeting minutes**

- a. Ms. Jenkins read the minutes in their entirety of the meetings held on 2.5.24 and 3.18.24. Mr. Mercer provided clarification regarding the board's role when owners request a variance. A variance is a PRIVILEGE, that isn't afforded to everyone. A variance request is the owner asking to be able to do something that has already been deemed against the law. It can be denied for all good and necessary reasons. Neighbor notification of variance meeting is provided by publication of the agenda in the newspaper and on the county website.
- 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. Ms. Jenkins reviewed the UC STR by the Numbers document.

### **5. Reports of ad-hoc committees**

### **6. Old Business**

- a. **Can owner emails be removed from the automated tax return emails? The response from GOVs:** Unfortunately, the notifications run on all email addresses that are attached to their account. The only way to stop them from receiving

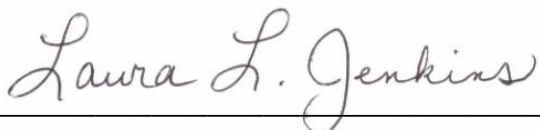
notifications is to remove them entirely from their account. They will then have no access to their accounts.

- b. **Amending the ordinance:** It is a best practice to wait at least one year before amending an ordinance. Because amending the ordinance requires the full process, it should only be begun when there are several changes that need to be made.
- c. **“Provisional Approval”** was added to the STR Variance Application reviewed at the called meeting on March 18, 2024.

## 7. New Business

- a. Discussion was held regarding the renewal process – do we make all owners complete all the different steps and uploads? Mr. Mercer made a suggestion to create an acknowledgement for Registered Agents and owners to sign when the RA isn't a resident of Union County. Mr. Woodall motioned to have Mr. Mercer create the Registered Agent Acknowledgement for all owners, whether the RA is in Union County or not. Ms. Jenkins seconded the motion, it passed unanimously. Mr. Woodall motioned to do away with the redundant uploads of the driver's license, SAVE document and septic permit for the renewal process. Mrs. Sweeney seconded, the motion passed unanimously. Ms. Jenkins showed the online application and the licensing process to the board, using a “dummy” GOVos account. Mrs. Sweeney suggested that owners fill in ONLY those areas that have changed in order to reduce redundancy. Mr. Woodall suggested having the application pre-populated with the information the owner filled in during the initial licensing process. Ms. Jenkins will email the software developer to see what's possible.

## 8. Adjourn – at 5:06 p.m.



Signature, Laura L. Jenkins, Secretary

4/15/2024

Date