



Board of Directors Minutes

January 15, 2025

Board Members Present: Troy Shirbroun, Manda Hughes, Dustin Queen, Greg Owenby, Doug Miracle, Tammie Mason, Lori Bramlett, AJ Petrillo, Richard York, Steve Miracle, John Kieffer, Jamie Cantrell, Laura Thomas, Marc Nicholson and Gini Tipton

Board Members Absent: Kevin Panter, Candace Youngberg and Lisa Vest.

November minutes were approved. Manda asked for a motion to be made to accept the minutes. Dustin Queen 1st and 2nd by Troy Shirbroun. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report & Financials: Doug Miracle

Executive Committee Business: Manda Hughes – Board member change. Gini Tipton to replace Darren Danner's term (School System). Richard York 1st and Lori Bramlett 2nd. All in favor.

Manda Hughes asked for a motion to adjourn. Steven Miracle motion 1st, Greg Owenby 2nd, All in favor.

Next Meeting February 19th, 12:00

Approved By: _____

Date _____

AJ Petrillo, Secretary

[Handwritten signature] *2/19/25*



Board of Directors Minutes

February 19, 2025

Board Members Present: Troy Shirbroun, Manda Hughes, Dustin Queen, Doug Miracle, Tammie Mason, Lori Bramlett, AJ Petrillo, Richard York, John Kieffer, Jamie Cantrell, Laura Thomas, Marc Nicholson, Kevin Panter, Candace Youngberg and Darren Danner.

Board Members Absent: Greg Owenby, Steve Miracle and Gini Tipton.

January minutes were approved. Troy asked for a motion to be made to accept the minutes. Marc Nicholson 1st and 2nd by Kevin Panter. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report & Financials: Doug Miracle and Christie Gribble

Executive Committee Business: Manda Hughes

- United Bank CD matures 2/28 (reference balance sheet)
 - Vote - The executive committee made a motion to open a new 6 mth CD at United Bank at 4.5%. Richard York 2nd. All in favor.
- Other:
 - Legal Reform was discussed.
 - Vote - Manda asked for a motion to sign the Georgia Chamber Letter in Support of Legal reform in Georgia: SB 68 & SB 69. Kevin Panter 1st and 2nd by John Kieffer. All in favor.

President's Report: Commitment to Conservation – Save the Date 4/22 at 2:00 pm.

Membership: Members 1004. Lunch & Leads January 26 attendees, February 41 Attendees. Monthly highlights, pre-renewal calls and monthly calls.

Communications: Valentine's Cards & Deliveries. Bird Basics Class with Jaime Davis.

Tourism: Social Media Monthly Stats. Young Professionals Meeting 2/18 at Tipping Point.

Visitor Centers: Seasonal Updates and Fire and Ice.

Finance & Events: 40th Annual Banquet – March 15th.

Office Manager: New Chef every other Month. Various maintenance at all Centers.

Manda Hughes asked for a motion to adjourn. Kevin Panter motion 1st, Dustin Queen 2nd, All in favor.

Next Meeting March 19

Approved

By:

Secretary

Date

3/19/25

AJ Petrillo,



FANNIN COUNTY
CHAMBER & CVB

Board of Directors Minutes

March 19, 2025

Board Members Present: Troy Shirbroun, Manda Hughes, Dustin Queen, Doug Miracle, Tammie Mason, Lori Bramlett, John Kieffer, Laura Thomas, Marc Nicholson, Greg Owenby, Gini Tipton, Steve Miracle and Darren Danner.

Board Members Absent: AJ Petrillo, Kevin Panter, Richard York, Candace Youngberg and Jamie Cantrell.

February minutes were approved. Manda asked for a motion to be made to accept the minutes. Dustin Queen 1st and 2nd by Doug Miracle. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report & Financials: Doug Miracle

Executive Committee Business: Manda Hughes

- South State CD matures 4/12
 - Vote – The executive committee made a motion to open a new 5-month CD at South State at 4.35%. John Kieffer 2nd. All in favor.

President's Report: Leadership Fannin Alumni on 8/7 at Twisted Tomato. Co-op marketing grants had 15 recipients. TPD updates: pickleball, bathrooms and Pavilion at Tammen Park; Horseshoe Bend large Pavilion improvements. Hotel/motel and visitation were up in January.

Membership: Members 1025. 4 Ribbon cuttings scheduled for March. Ambassadors February lunch had 14 in attendance; March is at Carroll's BBQ on the 20th. March Lunch & Leads attendance was 38. Monthly highlights, pre-renewal calls and monthly calls.

Communications: Bird Basics Class with Jaime Davis. Visitor Center signs updated.

- Accessibility
 - Updating Discover McCaysville Copper Basin walking map
 - Working with the BRBA to update their maps
 - Mobi mat possibility at Morganton Point

Tourism: Self-guided tour maps. New Ridge magazine. Partnership with State Visitor Center's – sent cornhole games to centers and golf towels to Augusta.

Visitor Centers: Outdoor projects at McCaysville: Native Garden and rocking chairs from Abernathy. Inventory & restock at centers for busy season. Over 300 in attendance at St. Partick's parade.

Finance & Events: 40th Annual Banquet – April 12th. 5th Annual Clay Shoot May 2nd (rain date May 9th)

Office Manager: Ongoing maintenance and improvements at all Centers. Possibly an Accessible door at Downtown Center. New Merchandise – sourcing local. Assisting with pre-renewal calls.

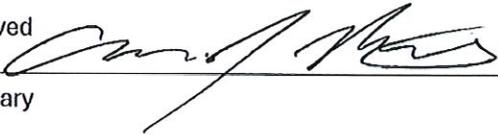
Manda Hughes asked for a motion to adjourn. Lori Bramlett motion 1st, Marc Nicholson 2nd, All in favor.

Next Meeting April 16

Approved

By: _____

Secretary



Date 4/16/25 AJ Petrillo,



Board of Directors Minutes

April 16, 2025

Board Members Present: Troy Shirbroun, Manda Hughes, Dustin Queen, Doug Miracle, Tammie Mason, Lori Bramlett, John Kleffer, Laura Thomas, Marc Nicholson, Greg Owenby, Gini Tipton, Steven Miracle, AJ Petrillo, Kevin Panter, Richard York, Candace Youngberg, Jamie Cantrell and Darren Danner.

Board Members Absent: None.

March minutes were approved. Manda asked for a motion to be made to accept the minutes. Dustin Queen 1st and 2nd by Steven Miracle. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report & Financials: Doug Miracle

Executive Committee Business: Manda Hughes

- Budget amendment in June or thereafter
- Banquet Award Winners
 - Ambassador of the Year – Justin Farrington
 - Outstanding Chamber Member of the Year – Pam Fink
 - Community Service Award – Tim Doherty, Doc's Healing Hives
 - Heart of the Community – Fannin Children's Fund
 - Honorary Lifetime Membership Award – Patricia Webb

President's Report: Special Guest, Terry Flowers, Fannin County High School Welding Instruction and SkillsUSA advisor. Year-end financial position. Hotel/motel and visitation. Board meeting next month will be at UNG.

Membership: Members 1022. 4 Ribbon cuttings scheduled for April and 6 currently scheduled for May. Ambassadors: Monthly luncheons, attendance of Ribbon Cuttings and Membership recruit. Lunch & Leads attendance in March was 37, they will meet at Family Connection starting in June. Member information, monthly highlights, pre-renewal calls and monthly calls.

Communications: Information Please directory. STEM night is on Earth Day. Milkweed class with Becky is on May 6th. Participating in Soap Box Derby. Milkweed Giveaway is May 9th.

Tourism: Self-guided tours/map revamping and training with team. Visitor Guide. Young Professionals met at Blue Ridge Adventure Dog with 30 signed up for the year.

Visitor Centers: Instillation of Native Garden at McCaysville Visitor Center. First Quarter FAM tour report. Merceir's Cider 5k insights.

Finance & Events: 40th Annual Banquet recap. 5th Annual Clay Shoot May 2nd (rain date May 9th) at Noontootla Farms. Economic Impact Report. Visitor Activity Report.

Office Manager: Speed bump installed. New Chamber letters on wall. New Accessible door at Downtown Center. Supporting the team.

Manda Hughes asked for a motion to adjourn. Jamie Cantrell motion 1st, Doug Miracle 2nd, All in favor.

Next Meeting May 21st at UNG Blue Ridge

Approved

By:  Date 5/21/25 AJ Petrillo,
Secretary



Board of Directors Minutes

May 21, 2025

Board Members Present: Troy Shirbroun, Manda Hughes, Dustin Queen, Doug Miracle, John Kieffer, Laura Thomas, AJ Petrillo, Kevin Panter, Richard York, Candace Youngberg, Jamie Cantrell, Greg Owenby, Gini Tipton, and ~~Darren Danner~~.
LISA VEST

Board Members Absent: Steven Miracle, Marc Nicholson, Lori Bramlett and Tammie Mason.

April minutes were approved. Manda asked for a motion to be made to accept the minutes. AJ Petrillo 1st and 2nd by Kevin Panter. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report & Financials: Doug Miracle

Executive Committee Business: Manda Hughes

- Pay down Mortgage
 - Vote – The executive committee made a motion to pay down the mortgage by \$80,000.00. Kevin Panter 2nd. All in favor.
 - The \$80,000 comes from non-restricted profit from Chamber portion of cash flow in 2024. It does not include any hotel/motel tax.
 - After the \$80,000, the mortgage will be \$153,458.92
- ACH payment authorization
 - Vote - The executive committee would like to make a motion to allow the Chamber team to make ACH payments with the same internal controls in place, including executive committee approvals for expenses \$5,000 and over. Doug Miracle 2nd. All in favor.
- 2026 Chamber Banquet – Discussion
- McCaysville Lease – Upcoming renewal (vote in June)

President's Report: Hotel/motel and visitation, City is up and County is level. Commitment to Conservation has one registered and others inquiring. Thank you to team and board for busy few months. Georgia Heart is our June special guest.

Membership: Members 1011. 8 Ribbon cuttings scheduled for May. Ambassador Susan Ross was our Ambassador for 1st Quarter, recruiting 5 Ambassadors. Lunch & Leads May turnout was around 30. New location in June. There were 165 Pre-Renewal calls for June.

Communications: 31 People attended our Milkweed Workshop class with Becky. Successful Milkweed Giveaway Day, over 600 plants stratified by students. Mobi Mat has arrived at Morganton Point.

Tourism: GrillFest – Alpharetta Food Event with Atlanta Magazine; Mercier’s hard cider partnership. GACVB & Explore Georgia Tour of Blue Ridge Downtown tour. Photo Shoot with 6 businesses and 25 models. New Visitor Guides are in.

Visitor Centers: Attended Trout Festival & Trout Trot. Seasonal Décor – overhaul and streamlining for the future. Planned Tourism Day for Leadership Fannin.

Finance & Events: 5th Annual Clay Shoot was a success, \$10,000. 2024 Economic Impact Report. 2024 Audit and 2024 DCA Reports.

Office Manager: Assisted with pre-renewal calls. 2024 Auditor check list. Assistance with C2C and continuous maintenance at all centers.

Manda Hughes asked for a motion to adjourn. Kevin Panter motion 1st, Doug Miracle 2nd, All in favor.

Next Meeting June 18th

Approved

By: _____
Secretary



Date

6/18/25

AJ Petrillo,



FANNIN COUNTY
CHAMBER & CVB

Board of Directors Minutes

June 18, 2025

Board Members Present: Troy Shirbroun, Manda Hughes, Dustin Queen, Doug Miracle, Tammie Mason, John Kieffer, Laura Thomas, Marc Nicholson, Greg Owenby, Steve Miracle, AJ Petrillo, Richard York, Candace Youngberg, Jamie Cantrell and Lisa Vest.

Board Members Absent: Kevin Panter, Gini Tipton and Lori Bramlett.

March minutes were approved. Manda asked for a motion to be made to accept the minutes. John Kieffer 1st and 2nd by Richard York. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report & Financials: Doug Miracle

Executive Committee Business: Manda Hughes

- McCaysville Lease – Vote to renew for another three years.
 - The executive committee made a motion to renew the McCaysville lease for another three years September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2028. Steven Miracle 2nd. All in favor.

President's Report: Hotel/motel and visitation, city has seen an increase. Two have been picked for Commitment to Conservation. The main Visitor Center will be closed on Saturday. Georgia Heart – Welcome and Presentation.

- Lisa Kelly, Senior Advisor and prior Executive Director
- McKenzie Smith, Director of Operations

Membership: Members 1010. Lunch & Leads new June location at Family Connections had over 40 attendees. Next gathering is August 6th/no July. Ribbon Cuttings: June 23rd The Grove at Blue Ridge and 5 scheduled for July. Business After Hours was at Toccoa Riverside Restaurant with 65 in attendance. Next gathering is August 12th at Kiwanis of Blue Ridge/no July. June member spotlight is Kevin Panter at 28 years with the Chamber.

Communications: Firefly Day and Hour is July 2nd. Sensory Sensitive Block – Old Timer's Day Parade.

Tourism: Travel Association Blue Ridge Tour had 17 Counties that toured Grumpy Old Men Brewery, Lynn Kemp (Canoe/Oar) and the Swan Drive Inn. Couples Getaway Sweepstakes received 7900 emails. Sending State Visitor's Center tube, shirt and water shoes. Tourism Committee/Young Professional Event was at OTF with 35 in attendance. US Air Force Jazz Bank Concert 8/9 7-8:30 pm at the Performing Arts Center (Free).

Visitor Centers: Tourism bags will be left outside the main office on Saturday's. McCaysville Visitor Center was up by 42.5%. Project Chimps Banana Bus tour can accommodate 10 people and two wheelchairs.

Finance & Events: Dining with Fireflies is on 7/2 at Noontootla, RSVP cut off is 6/23. Leadership Alumni is at Twisted Tomato Blue Ridge on 8/7. Eggs & Issues is on 11/21 at the Blue Ridge Arts Association.

Office Manager: Adding cabinets and ADA vanity in the bathrooms at Main Visitor Center. Pre-renewal call support. Lighting at main improved.

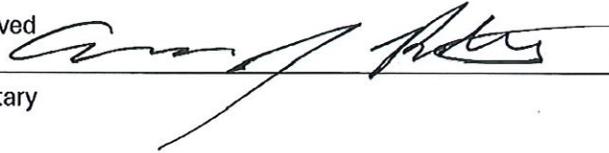
Manda Hughes asked for a motion to adjourn. Doug Miracle motion 1st, Troy Shirbroun 2nd, All in favor. No July meeting.

Next Meeting August 20

Approved

By:

Secretary



Date

8/20/25

AJ Petrillo,



FANNIN COUNTY
CHAMBER & CVB

Board of Directors Minutes

August 20, 2025

Board Members Present: Troy Shirbroun, Manda Hughes, Dustin Queen, Doug Miracle, Tammie Mason, John Kieffer, Laura Thomas, Marc Nicholson, Steve Miracle, AJ Petrillo, Richard York, Candace Youngberg, Jamie Cantrell, Kevin Panter, Gini Tipton and Lori Bramlett.

Board Members Absent: Greg Owenby and Lisa Vest.

June minutes were approved. Manda asked for a motion to be made to accept the minutes. John Kieffer 1st and 2nd by Kevin Panter. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report & Financials: Doug Miracle

Executive Committee Business: Manda Hughes

- CDs maturing / review investment options - Vote

Executive Committee made a motion to invest funds as follows with the understanding that rates may adjust slightly given timing. Kevin Panter made a 2nd. All in favor. Richard York abstained from voting for the investments.

Bank	Term	Rate	Amount
South State Bank	5 Months	4.25%	\$ 225,000.00
United Bank Shares	7 Months	4.25%	\$ 225,000.00
Bank OZK	13 Months	4.00%	\$ 225,000.00
Edward Jones	MM - Liquid	4.25%	\$ 225,000.00
Pacific Life - Woodmen	3 year fixed annuity	4.25%	\$ 218,169.33
Total Invested			\$ 1,118,169.33

Christie Gribble stated that with the South State and United Bank CDs maturing in the next few weeks, we are reducing those two CD amounts down by about ½ each to spread investment funds out as outlined.

- Budget amendment - Vote

Executive Committee made a motion to approve the amended budget as presented. Kevin Panter 2nd. All in favor.

President's Report: Hotel/motel and visitation, was up 6% from January – June, City was about even. Ridge 2nd edition was postponed due to printer issues. City of Blue Ridge Forum will be at the Performing Arts Center October 7, at 5:30. Eggs & Issues is November 21st, registration TBD.

Membership: Approximately 1000 members. Ribbon Cuttings: July had 4, August had 3 and there are 4 scheduled for September. Business After Hours was at the Kiwanis fairgrounds with 85 in attendance. Next gathering is September 18th for the Blues & BBQ at the Blue Ridge Farmers Market. Lunch & Leads had 47 in attendance meeting at Family Connections for the rest of the year. Member Spotlight for July was Kiwanis and August is Mountain Valley Motors. Over 75 members a month are being touched with renewal calls.

Communications: Marketing 101 class had 8 members in attendance. We had our tables set up at Kiwanis Rodeo on Friday and Saturday. The new Visitor's Guide to Loving Local is out.

Tourism: Bags with our materials were given out at the Atlanta Top Doctor's Event. Table set up with our materials at the GON Outdoor Blast where 650 people visited us and 250 emails were received that will receive our newsletter. Our maps have been refreshed and taken down from 20 to 11. US Air Force Jazz Bank Concert was at the Performing Arts Center, this is a National event that took a year of planning.

McCaysville Center: Summer statistics show all three centers were up 20% in visitors. There were over 200 tourism bags handed out at the Walk the Line 5k Christmas in July. Refresh maps are up in the centers. Milkweed is thriving in the native garden at McCaysville.

Finance & Events: Leadership Alumni was at Twisted Tomato Blue Ridge with 75 alumni graduates in attendance. The 33rd Annual Chamber Golf Tournament at OTF will be on October 14 (rain date 10/21). There are 112 players signed up. We still need tent, beverage and hole sponsors.

Office Manager: There is a meeting being held on September 22nd at 10am to prepare for disaster relief/recovery with Patrick Cooke speaking. This will help county officials and the community to be on the same page in case of an emergency. Maintenance at all centers including hand dryers at the main and downtown center for conservation purposes.

Manda Hughes asked for a motion to adjourn. Kevin Panter motion 1st, AJ Petrillo 2nd, All in favor.

Next Meeting September 17

Approved

By: _____
Secretary

Date 9/17/25 AJ Petrillo,



FANNIN COUNTY
CHAMBER & CVB

Board of Directors Minutes

September 17, 2025

Board Members Present: Troy Shirbroun, Manda Hughes, Dustin Queen, John Kieffer, Laura Thomas, AJ Petrillo, Kevin Panter, Richard York, Jamie Cantrell, Greg Owenby, Gini Tipton, Steven Miracle, Marc Nicholson, Lori Bramlett, Tammie Mason and Lisa Vest.

Board Members Absent: Doug Miracle and Candace Youngberg.

August minutes were approved. Manda asked for a motion to be made to accept the minutes Jamie Cantrell 1st and 2nd by Kevin Panter. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report & Financials: Christie Gribble, in Doug's absence.

Executive Committee Business: Manda Hughes

President's Report: Hotel/motel and visitation is up. Train renewal is April 2026. Tourism Product Development projects discussed. Leadership nominations are coming in and Board votes next month on Board Nominations. Ridge 2nd edition is postponed until further notice.

- October – New Board Members
- November – Executive Committee and Budget

Membership: Members 985. August had 4 ribbon cuttings, September and October have 5. Business After Hours is at Blues and BBQ tomorrow from 5:00 – 6:30. Lunch & Leads for September had 32 attendees, Parade of Homes will speak at next month's gathering. Member Spotlight for September was Silks for Less. There were 65 Pre-Renewal calls for September.

Communications: Fall Decorating Contest is October 3rd. Video equipment has been upgraded.

Tourism: Attended outdoor OWAA Conference in Chattanooga. Monthly meeting with Tourism Committee. Using Placer to track data on visitation where people are visiting/spending money. Young Professionals met at Vertigo with 18 in attendance.

McCaysville Manager: Summer stats: 40% Georgia, 26.2 Florida and 16.7 from Tennessee. Connecting with the Copper Basin. Fall selfie spot at the Center.

Finance & Events: 33rd Annual Chamber Golf Tournament at Old Tocca Farm on 10/14 (Rain date 10/21). Reminders: City of Blue Ridge Forum at the PAC on October 7th at 5:30 pm and Eggs & Issues on November 21, registration TBD.

Office Manager: Assisted with pre-renewal calls. Adopted Orvin Lance Road. Disaster Relief meeting is set for September 22nd at 10 am. Continued team support.

Manda Hughes asked for a motion to adjourn. Richard York motion 1st, Troy Shirbroun 2nd, All in favor.

Next Meeting October 15th

Approved

By: _____

Secretary



Date

10/15/25

AJ Petrillo,



FANNIN COUNTY
CHAMBER & CVB

Board of Directors Minutes

October 15, 2025

Board Members Present: Troy Shirbroun, Manda Hughes, Dustin Queen, Doug Miracle, Tammie Mason, John Kieffer, Laura Thomas, Greg Owenby, Gini Tipton, Steven Miracle, Jamie Cantrell, Lisa Vest, Richard York and AJ Petrillo.

Board Members Absent: Kevin Panter, Candace Youngberg, Marc Nicholson and Lori Bramlett.

September minutes were approved. Manda asked for a motion to be made to accept the minutes. Steven Miracle 1st and 2nd by Jamie Cantrell. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report & Financials: Doug Miracle

Executive Committee Business: Manda Hughes

- Board positions for 2026: 3-year terms – Vote. Manda Hughes asked for a motion for each of the following 3-year board terms starting January 2026.
 - Tammie Mason, 2nd term. AJ Petrillo 1st and 2nd by Greg Owenby. All in favor.
 - Dustin Queen, 2nd term. Troy Shirbroun 1st and 2nd by Greg Owenby. All in favor.
 - Doug Miracle, 2nd term. Troy Shirbroun 1st and 2nd by AJ Petrillo. All in favor.
 - AJ Petrillo, 2nd term. Greg Owenby 1st and 2nd by Dustin Queen. All in favor.
 - Greg Owenby 2nd term. Troy Shirbroun 1st and 2nd by Steven Miracle. All in favor.
 - Steven Miracle, 1st term. Troy Shirbroun 1st and 2nd by Manda Hughes. All in favor.

President's Report: Hotel/motel, visitation, and economic impact was up 2% through August. Ridge 2nd edition – magazine reveal moved to 11/13 at 5:00 at the Arts Center. Upcoming Board votes: November – Executive Committee and 2026 Budget.

Membership: Members 995. September had 5 Ribbon cuttings, 7 scheduled for October. Business After Hours: 130 attended Blues & BBQ and Healing Farms had 55 in attendance for October. October Lunch & Leads attendance was 42. Member Spotlight for October is Toccoa Riverside Restaurant. Pre-renewal calls: Spoke with approx. 60 members this month.

Communications: Fall Decorating Contest, had 14 signed up. Winners: 1st UCB, 2nd TeaTree Spa and 3rd KOA. Updating directional signs. 200 packs of Milkweed seeds will be passed out on Halloween.

Tourism: Tourism stats – County comparison stats. Two upcoming events in 2026. Garden & Gun earned media attention – 350 thousand reached.

McCaysville Manager: September stats: Visitors up 59%, 29 states represented. Monday activity is rising. Historic heritage highlight: Map #10. 400 visitors at our booth for Blues & BBQ, with a 6% increase in overall weekend visitation.

Finance & Events: 33rd Annual Chamber Golf Tournament was at OTF on 10/14. Eggs & Issues is at the Blue Ridge Mountain Arts Association on 11/21 from 7:30 -10:00 a.m.

Office Manager: Assisting with pre-renewal calls. Adopt a Road: Dry Branch near the day use area. Continued work on Disaster Relief. Maintenance of all centers; new shelves at main. Accepting applications/screening for downtown position.

Manda Hughes asked for a motion to adjourn. Doug Miracle motion 1st, Troy Shirbroun 2nd, All in favor.

Next Meeting November 19

Approved

By: _____
Secretary



Date 11/19/25 AJ Petrillo,



FANNIN COUNTY
CHAMBER & CVB

Board of Directors Minutes

November 19, 2025

Board Members Present: Troy Shirbroun, Manda Hughes, Dustin Queen, Laura Thomas, Greg Owenby, Gini Tipton, Jamie Cantrell, Lisa Vest, Richard York, Kevin Panter, Marc Nicholson, Lori Bramlett and AJ Petrillo.

Board Members Absent: Candace Youngberg, Steve Miracle, Tammie Mason, John Keifer and Doug Miracle.

October minutes were approved. Manda asked for a motion to be made to accept the minutes. Kevin Panter 1st and 2nd by Richard York. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report & Financials: Christie, in Doug's absence.

Executive Committee Business: Manda Hughes

- 2026 Executive Committee – Vote. Manda Hughes asked for a motion for each of the following Executive Committee starting January 2026.
 - Steve Miracle – Secretary. Lisa Vest 1st and 2nd by Kevin Panter. All in favor.
 - AJ Petrillo, - Treasurer. Dustin Queen 1st and 2nd by Greg Owenby. All in favor.
 - Doug Miracle – Vice Chair. AJ Petrillo 1st and 2nd by Richard York. All in favor.
 - Greg Owenby – Chair. Troy Shirbroun 1st and 2nd by Jamie Cantrell. All in favor.
- Greg Owenby asked for a motion for Manda Hughes – Past Chair. AJ Petrillo 1st and 2nd by Richard York. All in favor.
- 2026 Budget – Vote. The budget was sent out by Christie on Friday and is shown on the screen. The Executive Committee would like to make a motion to approve the 2026 Budget as presented, 2nd by Kevin Panter. All in favor.
- One year appoint to the board – Char Stacy

President's Report: Branding project update. Ridge 2nd edition magazine reveal was 11/13 at the Arts Center. YTD visitation update through September, County up, City down. New for 2026 – sponsorship and ad opps roll out. 2026 meeting schedule 3rd Wednesday, no July or December meetings. Orientation date has changed to January 28th.

Membership: Members 1000. October had 7 Ribbon cuttings and currently 8 for November. Business After Hours: 80 attended Serenity in the Mountains. Next BAH is December 2nd at BMAA. November Lunch & Leads attendance was 28. Member Spotlight for November was The Diamond Center. Pre-renewal calls: Spoke with approx. 58 members this month.

Communications: Shop Small Initiative. Gifts for seniors will have 300 bags. Special Olympics were on November 5th. The new Loving Local is out.

Tourism: October Tourism Newsletter stats: sent to 115k emails, 34.4% open rate and 2,250 clicks; October Visitor Stats: 475.8k Visitors to the County, 152.7k Visitors to Downtown Blue Ridge, 63.8k Visitors to Downtown McCaysville, 10,764+ Train riders, 3,061 Visitors served in our Visitor Centers. Website Partner Referrals – YTD – September, 428,485 partner referral events, with 93,514 users. YP Committee Meeting.

McCaysville Manager: October Visitor Centers: McCaysville 1,072, Downtown 1,265, Main 598. Halloween Safe Zones & Bigfoot Boogie 5k Recaps. November FAM tour was at Cohutta Fishing and Healing Farms.

Finance & Events: Budge work. Successful Ridge Reveal at the Arts Association. Eggs & Issues on Friday at the Arts Association with Chris Clark speaking sold out. Sponsorship and advertising opportunities.

Office Manager: Assisting with pre-renewal calls and aging list. Steering Committee for Leadership Fannin. Participated in Special Olympics. Help with staffing. All things Christmas.

Manda Hughes asked for a motion to adjourn. Kevin Panter motion 1st, Richard York 2nd, All in favor.

Next Meeting Orientation January 28th

Approved

By: _____ Date _____ AJ Petrillo,
Secretary