

Pinellas County Tourist Development Council Bylaws

PREAMBLE

The purpose of the Pinellas County Tourist Development Council (TDC) is to advise the Board of County Commissioners as to recommendations to best promote Pinellas County tourism.

As used in these Bylaws, the term "BCC" shall at all times refer to the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners, the term "TDC" shall refer to the Pinellas County Tourist Development Council, and the term "VSPC" shall refer to the County's Convention and Visitor's Bureau known as Visit St. Petersburg/Clearwater.

ARTICLE I

MEMBERSHIP

1. Purpose. The TDC, established per Fla. Stat. 125.0104(4)(e), advises and makes recommendations to the BCC as to VSPC programs and services as well as other tourist development tourism programs and/or expenditures which serve to promote Pinellas County as a tourism destination.
2. Number. The membership of the TDC shall consist of twelve (12) members in accordance with Florida Law.
3. Eligibility. Individuals shall be deemed eligible for appointment to the TDC in accordance with the specific requirements of Florida Law.
4. Appointment. The BCC shall, at duly noticed public meetings, appoint the members of the TDC, including filling any and all vacancies.
5. Term. TDC members shall be appointed for four (4) year terms. Once appointed, if a TDC member resigns or is removed before the end of their four (4) year term, the TDC member shall be deemed to have served a full term for purposes of Section 6 below.
6. Number of Terms. Each member of the TDC may serve a maximum of three (3) consecutive four (4) year terms. A person who has reached the term limits set forth herein shall not be eligible to serve on the TDC again for a minimum period of twelve (12) months from the end of their last term.
7. Resignation, Removal.
 - (a) Any member may resign at any time from the TDC upon written notice to the Chairperson of the TDC, who shall in turn notify the BCC. The resignation shall be effective as of the date of the notice of resignation.

(b) Any member who as a result of either a change in employment, elected office or appointment to another governmental or private board which results in a non-waivable ethical conflict or legal ineligibility to serve, shall be subject to removal from the TDC by the BCC.

(c) Only the BCC has the power to remove a TDC member and the BCC may, in its absolute discretion, remove any member of the TDC from office at any time during his or her term upon written notice to such member. The notice of removal shall be effective when either given in person or, if given by mail, upon deposit in the United States mail via certified mail.

8. Vacancies. Vacancies on the TDC caused by any reason whatsoever will be filled by the BCC.

9. Compensation. Unless the BCC directs otherwise, no member of the TDC shall receive reimbursement for expenses incurred in serving on the TDC or any committee thereof.

10. Duties.

(a) Each new TDC appointee shall within 15 days of appointment, meet with VSPC staff to review and familiarize themselves with VSPC, as the County's tourism department, as well as the County's tourism promotion and capital funding programs administered by VSPC.

(b) Each new TDC appointee shall within 15 days of appointment meet with the County Attorney's office to review these bylaws and applicable Florida laws, including but not limited to public records and sunshine law matters.

(c) Each TDC member shall immediately notify VSPC staff of changes in their employment, elected office status or appointment to other boards in order to ensure their continued eligibility to serve on the TDC.

11. Limitation on Powers. The role of the TDC shall be solely advisory in nature. In no event shall the TDC or any of its appointees have the authority or right to control or require the BCC, its officers or employees, to take or refrain from taking any action with respect to County tourism programs and/or services.

12. Committees. In executing and discharging its duties, the TDC may, from time to time, create one or more temporary advisory subcommittees which shall provide recommendations directly to the TDC.

ARTICLE II

OFFICERS

1. Appointment. The BCC shall appoint the TDC Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. The terms of these officers shall be for one (1) year and they may be reappointed.

2. Duties.

(a) TDC Chairperson. Unless expressly provided otherwise by the BCC, the Chairperson of the BCC shall be a member of the TDC and serve as its Chairperson. The chair of the TDC shall preside over all meetings of the TDC.

(b) TDC Vice-Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson shall be appointed by the TDC and shall preside over meetings of the TDC in the absence of the Chairperson.

3. Compensation. Unless otherwise determined by the BCC, no officer of the TDC shall receive compensation for services as an officer of the TDC.

ARTICLE III

MEETINGS

1. Regular Meetings. The TDC shall meet at least once each quarter. Regular TDC meetings shall be held at the meeting place and time designated by the TDC Chairperson.

2. Special Meetings. Special Meetings of the TDC such as workshops and committee meetings may, from time to time, be called by the Chairperson of the TDC and any such meetings will be noticed in accordance with the applicable requirements of law. These special meetings shall not count for attendance provisions in Section 5 below.

3. Proxies. No member of the TDC may act by proxy.

4. Notice. Regular Meetings of the TDC may be held without additional notice to its members if the time of such meeting has been fixed by the Chairperson, these Bylaws, or by the TDC at the immediately preceding meeting. To the extent practicable, Special Meetings shall be held upon seven (7) days' notice by mail or 72 hours' notice if delivered personally by telephone or via email to each TDC member.

5. Failure to Attend. TDC members are expected to attend all regular meetings of the TDC. A TDC member who will not be attending a regular meeting must notify the office of the TDC Chair of such absence in order to be excused from the meeting. Two or more unexcused absences from consecutive regular TDC meetings shall result in BCC consideration of removal of the TDC member.

6. Open Meetings. All regular meetings and, to the extent practicable, special meetings of the TDC shall be preceded by notice thereof to the public of the date, time, and place. All persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting of the TDC and no person(s) shall be required to register his or her name or to provide any other information to attend any meeting.

7. Quorum. At any meeting of the TDC, a majority of the appointed members then serving shall constitute a quorum.

8. Vote. Each TDC member present at a TDC meeting shall be entitled to one (1) vote. Every recommended action for BCC consideration shall be done or made by a majority of the members present at a duly held meeting at which a quorum is present.

ARTICLE IV

AMENDMENTS OF BYLAWS

Bylaws of the TDC may be adopted, amended or repealed only by the BCC. Recommendations for amendments in the Bylaws may be initiated by the TDC.

ARTICLE V

Effective Date.

These Bylaws shall become effective upon adoption by the BCC and, for purposes of Section 6, Article I herein, shall apply to all TDC member appointments made after the adoption of these bylaws.


Janet C. Long,

Chair, Pinellas County Tourist Development Council
and
Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners

Dated: Aug 25th, 2017

APPROVED AS TO FORM
OFFICE OF COUNTY ATTORNEY

By: MZas
Managing Assistant County Attorney