***VISITORS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES***

*July 28th, 2021 at 8:00 AM*

*City of Valley City Commission Chamber and Zoom*

Chair Koepplin called the meeting to order at 8:03 AM.

Present: Bobby Koepplin, Ken Reid, Mary Lee Nielson (8:14 AM), Tammy Jo Taft (via Zoom)

Guests Present: Traci Lee and Jon Walthour

**Minutes**Member Taft moved to approve the minutes of the July 14th, 2021 meeting, seconded by Member Reid. Motion carried.

**Consider the Following Applications for Dakota Dogs**

 **a. Image Enhancement Application**

 **b. Food and Beverage Application**

Member Koepplin stated there was a page missing from the Image Enhancement application.

Jon Walthour and Traci Lee gave a brief presentation of their future plans for Dakota Dogs.

Anybody that starts construction prior to the approval of the applications is at risk for not being funded by the commission per the grant guidelines.

Member Koepplin questioned specific invoices asking if they were bills or quotes, if the work has been completed.

Jon responded with what work had been completed and what is still waiting completion. The invoices from TV Liquidator and J & V Handy Services LLC have not yet been completed.

Member Taft requested a sketch or some sort of pictures representing what the completed project would look.

Member Koepplin asked the committee members if they feels a restaurant qualifies for Food and Beverage Grant.

Jon requested information about how they don’t qualify for the Food and Beverage Grant.

Member Nielson stated she is the representative for tourism and having a restaurant qualify as a tourism attraction doesn’t work. People are not going to get off the road to come for a Dakota Dogs. When we do a tourism tax we do it for something that will draw people in. At this time Dakota Dogs is not established as a tourist attraction. Member Koepplin requested they speak with the building inspector regarding their plans, provide a sketch, complete the missing page of the Image Enhancement Application and bring that back to review at a later date. At this time the recommendation is to table this.

Member Nielson motioned to table, seconded by Member Reid. Motion carried.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:32 AM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Brandy Johnson