



Committee on Finance

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Agenda Item 5

Boards and Commissions – Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee

3 Vacancies

Purpose(s)/Service(s): advise County Council on distribution of revenues from the Accommodations Tax.

Enabling Legislation: Greenville County Council Ordinance No. 2115, effective 7/1/1990.

Greenville County Council Ordinance No. 2115 created the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee to make recommendations to County Council concerning the expenditure of revenue generated from the accommodations tax as established by Section 12-35-710 et seq. of the South Carolina Code of Laws. The advisory committee consists of seven (7) members with four of the members being selected from the hospitality industry in the unincorporated area of Greenville County. The committee membership is as follows:

(A) The four members from the hospitality industry include:

- Two members representing large, full service hotels in the unincorporated area of the County.
- One member representing a limited service hotel in the unincorporated area of the County.
- Notwithstanding any other provisions of this ordinance, one member shall be Chairman of the Board of the Greenville Convention and Visitors Bureau regardless of residence.

(B) The remaining three members shall be selected as follows:

- One member shall be a representative from the cultural organizations of the County.
- Two members shall be appointed at large with one member preferably from the local restaurant association and the other with business ties to the tourism industry in the unincorporated area of the County.

The committee receives all requests from qualified applicants for funds to be appropriated by County Council in the next fiscal year no later than March 15 of each fiscal year. Each applicant submits only one request during each fiscal year. The request should be broken down to show the various programs for which the monies will be spent and the applicant prioritized the programs. The committee transmits their recommendations concerning the expenditures of accommodations tax revenue to the County Council no later than May 1 of each fiscal year.

County Council reviews the recommendations and determines the program to receive the funding.

Members are appointed for two (2) year staggered terms. Vacancies shall be filled in their usual manner. The term of the Chairman of the Board of the Greenville Convention and Visitors Bureau shall coincide with the terms of appointment to Chairman of the Board of the Greenville Convention and Visitors Bureau and any successors to that position shall be automatically appointed to the committee.

The committee makes recommendations to County Council on the expenditure of revenue generated from that portion of the accommodations tax allocated for tourism. The committee meets on an "as needed basis."

Attachment: Applications