


Kenai Peninsula Borough

Borough Mayor

MEMORANDUM

TO: Assembly President
Borough Assembly Members

FROM: Peter A. Micciche, Borough Mayor 

DATE: October 22, 2024

RE: Tourism Industry Working Group Appointments

In accordance to Ordinance 2024-047, I hereby submit my appointments to the Tourism Industry Working Group for Assembly's confirmation.

Industry Representatives

1. Carol Fraser
2. Duane Bannock
3. Tom Tougas
4. Jonathan Faulkner, Alternate

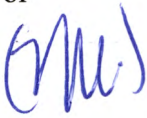
Community Members

1. Denie Hippert
2. Donna Hall
3. Larry Opperman
4. Sargeant Truesdell
5. Donald St. John, Alternate

Thank you.

Kenai Peninsula Borough
Office of the Borough Clerk

MEMORANDUM

TO: Peter A. Micciche, Borough Mayor
FROM: Michele Turner, Borough Clerk 
DATE: October 21, 2024
RE: Tourism Industry Working Group Applicants

September 3, 2024 the Assembly adopted Resolution 2024-047, establishing a Tourism Industry Working Group. The resolution indicated the members of the working group were to include seven voting members and three ex-officio non-voting members comprised as follows: three tourism-related industry representatives and four community members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Assembly; ex-officio Assembly Members are to be appointed by the Assembly President.

The notice of vacancy was posted on KPB's Facebook page and webpage on September 11, 2024 and October 4, 2024. The individuals listed below submitted applications for your consideration.

Industry Representatives

Rebecca Hinsberger
Tom Tougas
Jonathan Faulkner
Samantha Springer
Gregory Haas
Loren L. Myhill

Patricia A. Relay
Carol Fraser
Marcia J. Kuszmaul
Elizabeth Stark
Duane Bannock

Community Members

Christopher Beauchamp
Marv St. Clair
Gregory Haas
Nate Craig
Elaina Spraker
Denie Hippert

Donna Hall
Donald St. John
Sargeant Truesdell
Larry Opperman
Hedra Andrew

Thank you.

Turner, Michele

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@kpb.us>
Sent: Wednesday, September 11, 2024 1:17 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk; Cannava, Dana
Subject: New application for KPB Tourism Industry Working Group

A new KPB Tourism Industry Working Group application has been submitted on 2024-09-11 13:16:47.

Name

Carol Fraser

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 90244

Anchorage, AK 99517

Email

cfraser@aspenhotelsak.com

Cell Phone

907-602-3766

In which area do you live in the Kenai Peninsula Borough?

kenai, soldotna, Homer

Member Category

Tourism Industry Representative

What expertise or background do you have that makes you a strong candidate for the tourism industry working group?

32 years of tourism marketing experience, hotel management, destination marketing.

In 150 words or less, please tell the mayor why you would like to serve on the KPB Tourism Industry Working Group.

I have a unique perspective as I live and work in Anchorage and have 8 hotels throughout Alaska so I have knowledge of how bed taxes can successfully work across the state. I also have destination marketing experience to grow tourism on the Kenai Peninsula. With three hotels on the Peninsula, I would like to have a seat at the table to partner with the borough for success.

Turner, Michele

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@kpb.us>
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 9:51 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk; Cannava, Dana
Subject: New application for KPB Tourism Industry Working Group

A new KPB Tourism Industry Working Group application has been submitted on 2024-09-10 21:50:20.

Name

Duane Bannock

Mailing Address

47 Spur View Drive

Kenai, AK 99611

Email

duane@uptownmotel.com

Cell Phone

9073982316

In which area do you live in the Kenai Peninsula Borough?

City of Kenai

Member Category

Tourism Industry Representative

What expertise or background do you have that makes you a strong candidate for the tourism industry working group?

I have been in the local hospitality industry for 14 years. I am familiar with KPB tax code and can also provide data from 3 local convenience store/gas stations that reflect similar trends of visitors. I'm kinda good at math too...

In 150 words or less, please tell the mayor why you would like to serve on the KPB Tourism Industry Working Group.

I have addressed the Assembly many times on this subject and have previously offered to spend time as a member of the community AND from this industry in an effort to use my experience and insight to demonstrate how we manage the difficult world of a seasonal business in a year-round operation .

I am willing and able to serve. However, I am also willing to participate from the sidelines too if there are other applicants.

Thank you for the consideration.

Duane Bannock

Uptown Motel/Louie's Restaurant/Back Door Bar

Big John's Chevron Kenai, K-Beach & Sterling

Turner, Michele

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@kpb.us>
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2024 3:17 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk; Cannava, Dana
Subject: New application for KPB Tourism Industry Working Group

A new KPB Tourism Industry Working Group application has been submitted on 2024-09-23 15:17:19.

Name

Tom Tougas

Mailing Address

PO Box 2127

Seward Alaska

99664

Email

tom@tmtalaska.com

Cell Phone

907-362-1570

In which area do you live in the Kenai Peninsula Borough?

Seward

Member Category

Tourism Industry Representative

What expertise or background do you have that makes you a strong candidate for the tourism industry working group?

I have lived year round in Seward for 34 years. Raised 4 children in Seward.

My Family own Major Marine Tours and the Harbor 360 and

Gateway hotels.

In 150 words or less, please tell the mayor why you would like to serve on the KPB Tourism Industry Working Group.

Seward has a unique experience in the Visitor

Industry with the Railroad, Cruise ships, Kenai Fjords National Park.

Seward has a 7% sales tax and a 4 % Bed tax.

I'm very familiar with how these taxes support

Year round service in the community.

Thanks

Tom Tougas

Turner, Michele

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@kpb.us>
Sent: Wednesday, September 18, 2024 8:45 AM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk; Cannava, Dana
Subject: New application for KPB Tourism Industry Working Group

A new KPB Tourism Industry Working Group application has been submitted on 2024-09-18 08:44:51.

Name
Jonathan Faulkner4021

Mailing Address
4021 west hill road

Homer Alaska

Email
Landsendjdf@gmail.com

Cell Phone
9073993410

In which area do you live in the Kenai Peninsula Borough?
Homer

Member Category
Tourism Industry Representative

What expertise or background do you have that makes you a strong candidate for the tourism industry working group?
Owned and operated lands end for 40 years. Owned van gilder in Seward . Own Kenai landing in Kenai.

Served on numerous marketing boards including KPTMC

In 150 words or less, please tell the mayor why you would like to serve on the KPB Tourism Industry Working Group.
Truthfully, I don't know of anyone more qualified to assess the impacts of the visitor industry—both positive and negative—than myself.

Beyond this, I understand every aspect of the industry, I have a proven commitment to this state and Place I've lived my entire life, and I care.

I care particularly about facts, and believe this debate needs more, not less, data that is factual and transparently derived.

Turner, Michele

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@kpb.us>
Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 9:22 AM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk; Cannava, Dana
Subject: New application for KPB Tourism Industry Working Group

A new KPB Tourism Industry Working Group application has been submitted on 2024-10-08 09:22:25.

Name
Denie Hippert

Mailing Address
PO Box 836

Email
Denis.hippert@icloud.com

Cell Phone
907-290-1494

In which area do you live in the Kenai Peninsula Borough?
Sterling

Member Category
Community Member

What expertise or background do you have that makes you a strong candidate for the tourism industry working group?
20+ years on the board of directors of Fur Ronda, the oldest and largest winter festival in the US. 6 years as board chairman.

In 150 words or less, please tell the mayor why you would like to serve on the KPB Tourism Industry Working Group.
My experience in understanding tourism and knowledge of understanding how to get a board to work together on a common goal or goals will add value to the board.

Turner, Michele

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@kpb.us>
Sent: Wednesday, October 9, 2024 4:14 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk; Cannava, Dana
Subject: New application for KPB Tourism Industry Working Group

A new KPB Tourism Industry Working Group application has been submitted on 2024-10-09 16:13:49.

Name

Donna Hall

Mailing Address

370 CRESTWOOD CIR

P.O. Box 902

Email

dterphall@gmail.com

Cell Phone

9074351633

In which area do you live in the Kenai Peninsula Borough?

Homer

Member Category

Community Member

What expertise or background do you have that makes you a strong candidate for the tourism industry working group?

I am a community-minded person with a commitment to supporting the travel and tourism industry on the Kenai Peninsula. I truly enjoy all this area has to offer and enjoy sharing the beauty.

In 150 words or less, please tell the mayor why you would like to serve on the KPB Tourism Industry Working Group.

I am a volunteer host at the Homer Visitor Center and support promoting the Kenai Peninsula as a whole. We get many questions about the other destinations on the Peninsula.

Turner, Michele

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@kpb.us>
Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2024 3:40 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk; Cannava, Dana
Subject: New application for KPB Tourism Industry Working Group

A new KPB Tourism Industry Working Group application has been submitted on 2024-10-16 15:39:47.

Name
Larry Opperman

Mailing Address
405 Endicott Drive

Email
larryoppak@gmail.com

Cell Phone
9075980490

In which area do you live in the Kenai Peninsula Borough?
Soldotna

Member Category
Community Member

What expertise or background do you have that makes you a strong candidate for the tourism industry working group?
As a senior manager within an Air Force engineering squadron, I collaborated on numerous committees to address obstacles and develop strategies to provide the best services to all residents and entities on a military installation. This involved being part of a group to basically run a small city by maintaining transportation infrastructure, utilities, facilities mgt, waste mgt, environmental mgt, wildlife mgt, and every t activity to ensure smooth and efficient operations in support of the Air Force mission. I've been involved in local initiatives to improve quality of life for local Anchorage residents, such as participating in the local Anchorage Metropolitan Area Transportation Solutions (AMATS) group, member of the Anchorage Environmental Subcommittee to the city council, with recommendations made economically feasible. And many years ago, I was a member of a Sports Development Committee in a southwest Missouri town working to bring more sporting activities to the local area and increasing the economic benefit of local business.

In 150 words or less, please tell the mayor why you would like to serve on the KPB Tourism Industry Working Group.
After recreating on the Kenai Peninsula for over 33 years and now living in Soldotna full time for over 13 years, I'm confident of my ability to understand and promote what the peninsula has to offer for current and future tourism initiatives. It is my goal to be a part of the process to ensure tourism initiatives can be accomplished in a manner that provides economic benefit to the residents and businesses on the peninsula

while minimizing or preventing any undue financial burdens on local private or government entities. Put simply, work to ensure any government services required to support tourism initiatives are paid for by those tourism participants, thus preventing any financial burden on peninsula residents.

Turner, Michele

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@kpb.us>
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 11:38 AM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk; Cannava, Dana
Subject: New application for KPB Tourism Industry Working Group

A new KPB Tourism Industry Working Group application has been submitted on 2024-10-15 11:37:41.

Name

Sargeant Truesdell

Mailing Address

35628 Kenai Spur Hwy

Email

sargetruesdell@gmail.com

Cell Phone

9079534545

In which area do you live in the Kenai Peninsula Borough?

Soldotna

Member Category

Community Member

What expertise or background do you have that makes you a strong candidate for the tourism industry working group?

I am a 49 year resident of the Kenai Peninsula. My wife is a small business owner whose business is positively impacted by tourism.

In 150 words or less, please tell the mayor why you would like to serve on the KPB Tourism Industry Working Group.

I am always in search of ways to make a positive impact on my community. I will bring 49 years of Kenai Peninsula love and experience to the table. I am an open minded, creative thinker, who will work positively with the other members of the committee to accomplish our group mission.

Turner, Michele

From: Kenai Peninsula Borough <webmaster@kpb.us>
Sent: Wednesday, October 9, 2024 10:36 PM
To: G_Notify_AssemblyClerk; Cannava, Dana
Subject: New application for KPB Tourism Industry Working Group

A new KPB Tourism Industry Working Group application has been submitted on 2024-10-09 22:35:51.

Name

Donald St John

Mailing Address

2785 Watergate Way

Kenai, AK 99611

Email

akdon@acsalaska.net

Cell Phone

907-398-4474

In which area do you live in the Kenai Peninsula Borough?

Kenai

Member Category

Community Member

What expertise or background do you have that makes you a strong candidate for the tourism industry working group?

I have lived in Kenai from the mid-seventies. I worked at Unocal Chemical Plant until medical retirement. I built our home. I had a couple small businesses I was a past Vice Division Commander of the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Past board member Central Peninsula Garden Club. I have traveled the road system staying at many hotels, motels, and B&B's.

In 150 words or less, please tell the mayor why you would like to serve on the KPB Tourism Industry Working Group.

I would like to represent the average KPB resident that isn't in the tourism industry. I believe that businesses, residents, and tourist should pay a reasonable amount for services used or used to support them.