Charlotte County Tourist Development Council
Meeting Minutes
Friday, October 16, 2026

A meeting of the Charlotte County Tourist Development Council was held Friday, October 16, 2026, at the Punta Gorda Airport, Building 313, 7375 Utilities Rd, Punta Gorda, FL.

Members Present
Commissioner Christopher Constance
Kathy Burnam
David Haynes
Keith Farlow
Cole Kelly
Melissa Miranda
Councilmember Melissa Lockhart
Councilmember Janis Denton

Staff Present
Thomas David, County Attorney
Sean Doherty, Tourism Development Director
Sean Walter, Sports Sales Manager
Roger Davis, Fiscal Services
Kimberly Powell, Admin. Services Coordinator
Dan Roe, Tax Collector's Office
Aimee Blenker, Director of Global Leisure Sales
Amy Cantrell, Sales Assistant

Members Absent
Robin Madden

Guests
Kayley Miller – Punta Gorda Airport
Suzie Smith – Punta Gorda Airport
Kim Parks – Englewood Chamber of Commerce

I. **Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**
Commissioner Christopher Constance called the Charlotte County Tourist Development Council (TDC) meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

II. **Roll Call**
A quorum was established.

III. **Approval of the Agenda**
A motion was made by Kathy Burnam and seconded by Melissa Lockhart to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. **Citizens' Input**
There was no citizens' input on any agenda items.

V. **Approval of TDC Meeting Minutes**
A motion was made by Janis Denton and seconded by Kathy Burnam to approve the minutes of August 21, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. **Budget Report - Roger Davis**
Roger Davis presented the fiscal report. Davis provided a FY26 Budget Summary. Davis advised that operating expenditures are $5,955,305.00, transfers $629.819 with $760,569 encumbered. Total budget expenditure is 85%. The largest portion was for promo activities advertising. Davis reported the tourist development trust fund, fourth and fifth cent, total of $600,000 with $67,000 encumbered for advertising promotional activities.

VII. **Tourist Tax Report- Dan Roe**
The tax collector's report was presented by Dan Roe. Roe reported that the 4th Quarter 2026 (July – August) collections totaled $1,207,323.26. Roe continued to report that there were 600 suspect accounts on file. Roe reported inactive suspect accounts found in the 4th quarter are 0. Roe reported 3235 active accounts with 110 new accounts added.

VIII. **Budget Review –** As no TDC member had been assigned to take over the budget review role, the expenditure detail was not reviewed this cycle, however, the document remains available for any TDC member who wishes to review it. David Haynes volunteered to conduct the budget review going forward. A motion was made by Melissa Lockhart and seconded by Kathy Buram to approve Mr. Haynes for this role. Motion carried unanimously.

IX. **Director/Staff Report - Sean Doherty**
Sean Doherty, Tourism Director, provided a recap of the Tourism Department Board Report. Doherty reviewed the Q3 research report by Downs & St. Germain. Doherty provided information on vacation rentals. Doherty discussed the plan to refresh the Visit Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach strategic plan. Doherty discussed upcoming events and offered an update on available products in Charlotte County. Doherty provided a recap of the marketing, sports, leisure, meetings, and public relations departments.

X. **Citizens' Comments**
Kim Parks, Englewood Chamber of Commerce, offered an update on current events in Englewood and announced the chamber had hired a new Executive Director, Kellie Dunson Allen.

XI. **Council Comments**
Melissa Lockhart welcomed Melissa Miranda to the TDC board. Lockhart thanked Commissioner Constance for his service on the TDC board.

Melissa Miranda shared her appreciation for serving on the TDC board.

Keith Farlow welcomed Melissa Miranda to the TDC board. Farlow praised Commissioner Constance for his work on the TDC board. Farlow discussed Waterfest.

David Haynes discussed that short-term rentals are having more activity. Haynes praised staff for working with him to improve international interest. Haynes discussed the construction costs to build homes in Gasparilla and Manasota Key. Haynes discussed Comedy for a Cause. Haynes praised Commissioner Constance, stating that it was an honor to serve on the TDC board, acknowledging that Commissioner Constance is a good leader.

Kathy Burnam thanked staff for a great meeting. Burnam acknowledged that Commissioner Constance has been a blessing and will be missed. Burnam thanked staff for their continued support and bringing business to Fishermen's Village. Burnam discussed recent events at Fishermen's Village, reporting that all storefronts are now occupied following the recent opening of Dunkin Diamonds. Burnam welcomed Melissa Miranda.

Janis Denton thanked Commissioner Constance for his leadership and service. Denton welcomed Melissa Miranda and Cole Kelly to the TDC board. Denton discussed events in Punta Gorda. Denton discussed the marina and upcoming construction.

Cole Kelly thanked staff for today's report. Kelly thanked Punta Gorda Airport for hosting the meeting today. Kelly discussed the recent Drone show and offered details on next year's event. Kelly discussed the boat slips at Laishley Park. Kelly discussed the Lemon Bay Conservancy.

XII. Next Scheduled Meeting

The next scheduled TDC meeting is at 9:00 a.m. Friday, December 11, 2026. The meeting will be held in Conference Room B-106, 18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte, FL 33948.

XIII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:39 a.m., followed by a tour of the newly opened spaces at the Punta Gorda Airport.

Approved

These meeting minutes are in DRAFT form until approved at the December 11, 2026, TDC meeting.