

***Parks, Recreation and Tourism***

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Gloucester Tourism Committee Re-structured**

The Gloucester Tourism Committee recently held several work sessions in an effort to re-evaluate the committee's structure. The main objective was to ensure representation on the committee from those segments of local business that are directly affected by tourism in the county.

As a result, a new set of By-Laws has been presented to, and approved by, the Gloucester Board of Supervisors. The purpose of the Tourism Committee is to be an advocate for the local tourism industry and to provide input to staff and the Board of Supervisors on budgeting and tourism initiatives, to lobby for tourism interests when needed, and to network with other organizations to facilitate coordination of programs. The new structure calls for members from the lodging industry; restaurateurs; recreational facilities such as campgrounds and marinas; large and small retailers; historical attractions; property managers; the Chamber of Commerce; and the Main Street Association. Some of these segments are already represented on the committee; however, we are seeking interested individuals who have a strong interest in Gloucester's future as a tourist destination, who want to share their ideas and who can commit to four meetings a year. If you are in the food industry, lodging, retail, or property management, please download a Volunteer Bank form from our website at <http://www.gloucesterva.info/boardsandcommissionsdb/> and click on *Volunteer Board Bank Form* or call Jenny Graziano at 693-0014 to have a form mailed to you.

Committee terms are 3 years and meetings will be held quarterly. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be July 9, at 8:30 a.m. – location to be announced.