DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

United States Travel and Tourism Advisory Board; Meeting of the United States Travel and Tourism Advisory Board

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of an Open Meeting.

SUMMARY: The United States Travel and Tourism Advisory Board (Board or TTAB) will hold a meeting on Wednesday, March 31, 2021. The Board advises the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) on matters relating to the U.S. travel and tourism industry. The purpose of the meeting is for Board members to discuss recommendations for the Secretary on how to distribute the funding appropriated in section 6001 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for “assistance to States and communities that have suffered economic injury as a result of job and gross domestic product losses in the travel, tourism, or outdoor recreation sectors.” The final agenda will be posted on the Department of Commerce website for the Board at https://www.trade.gov/ttab-meetings at least two days prior to the meeting.

DATES: Wednesday, March 31, 2021, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. EDT. The deadline for members of the public to register, including requests to make comments during the meeting and for auxiliary aids, or to submit written comments for dissemination prior to the meeting, is 5:00 p.m. EDT on Monday, March 29, 2021.

ADDRESS: The meeting will be held virtually. The access information will be provided by email to registrants.

Requests to register (including to speak or for auxiliary aids) and any written comments should be submitted by email to TTAB@trade.gov.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Aguinaga, the United States Travel and Tourism Advisory Board, National Travel and Tourism Office, U.S. Department of Commerce; telephone: 202-482-2404; email: TTAB@trade.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: The Board advises the Secretary of Commerce on matters relating to the U.S. travel and tourism industry.

Exceptional Circumstances: Pursuant to 41 CFR 102-3.150(b), the notice for this meeting is given less than 15 calendar days prior to the meeting because of the exceptional circumstances of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which contains $3 billion in funding for the Department of Commerce for economic adjustment assistance and requires that 25 percent of those funds be for “assistance to States and communities that have suffered economic injury as a result of job and gross domestic product losses in the travel, tourism, or outdoor recreation sectors.” To allocate the funds expeditiously and in a manner that would best achieve the goals of the Act, the Secretary of Commerce needs prompt advice from the Board on how these funds should be distributed.

Public Participation: The meeting will be open to the public and will be accessible to people with disabilities. Any member of the public requesting to join the meeting is asked to register in advance by the deadline identified under the DATES caption. Requests for auxiliary aids must be submitted by the registration deadline. Last minute requests will be accepted but may not be possible to fill. There will be fifteen (15) minutes allotted for oral comments from members of the public joining the meeting. To accommodate as many speakers as possible, the time for public comments may be limited to three (3) minutes per person. Members of the public wishing to reserve speaking time during the meeting must submit a request at the time of registration, as well as the name and address of the proposed speaker. If the number of registrants requesting to make statements is greater than can be reasonably accommodated during the meeting, the International Trade Administration may conduct a lottery to determine the speakers. Speakers are
requested to submit a written copy of their prepared remarks by 5:00 p.m. EDT on Monday, March 29, 2021, for inclusion in the meeting records and for circulation to the members of the Board.

In addition, any member of the public may submit pertinent written comments concerning the Board’s affairs at any time before or after the meeting. Comments may be submitted to Jennifer Aguinaga at the contact information indicated above. To be considered during the meeting, comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. EDT on Monday, March 29, 2021, to ensure transmission to the Board prior to the meeting. Comments received after that date and time will be transmitted to the Board but may not be considered during the meeting. Copies of Board meeting minutes will be available within 90 days of the meeting.

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Jennifer Aguinaga,
Designated Federal Officer,
United States Travel and Tourism Advisory Board.

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