



BILLY NUNGESSER  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**State of Louisiana**  
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR  
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM  
OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DIVISION OF THE ARTS

KRISTIN P. SANDERS  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

**LSAC Minutes for Tuesday, October 19, 2021**

Members Present: Chair Mary Lee, Margie Camardelle, Conni Castille, Jonathan Foret, Darden Gladney, Dirk Guidry, Gene Meneray, Patti Nelson, Henry Price, Olivia Regard, Ed "Tiger" Verdin, Christian Vigé, Richard Williams, Kristin Sanders (ex-officio)

Absent: Ellen Anthony, Joy Pace, Patrick Widhalm (joined the call after approval of the minutes)

OCD Staff Present: Erica Anderson, April Baham, Danny Belanger, Carrie Broussard, Scott Finch, Susannah Johanssen, Maida Owens

**I. Call to Order and Welcome**

Meeting was called to order at 11:07 am by Chair Mary Lee.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Roll Call**

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

*Motion by Price to approve the July 20, 2021 minutes, seconded by Verdin.*

*Motion carried, 13-0 with Anthony, Pace, and Widhalm absent.*

**V. Reports**

Chair Report by Mary Lee. Chair Lee allotted her time to the Strategic Plan Action Steps Presentation.

Assistant Secretary Report by Kristin Sanders. Assistant Secretary Sanders noted that the month of October is Seafood, Folk Life, Atchafalaya National Heritage, and Archeology month. The Louisiana Book Festival will be virtual this year from October 30<sup>th</sup> – November 14<sup>th</sup>. As part of the Louisiana Homecoming Campaign, the Lt. Governor has been traveling around to all of the universities hosting tailgating events. November 4<sup>th</sup> he will be at ULL. A special highlight for the State is our first ever float in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Executive Director Report by Susannah Johansen. Mrs. Johanssen noted that the Cultural Districts has 3 new districts and 6 new boundary expansions applications pending approval. This would bring the total number of districts up to 118 and cover 44 parishes. LDOA and OCD are conducting interviews for a new Cultural District Director as well as a WAE position in Grants to administer the American Relief Plan (ARP) funds. ARP funds will be distributed out to the 86 current General Operating Support (GOS) grantees and LDOA will be creating a new grant opportunity for small rural and BIPOC arts organizations. Rural and BIPOC organizations may also be eligible for matching funds from South Arts. The LDOA has some remaining funds in FY 21 and FY22 that will be spent on capacity building, training and workshops spread out amongst the departments. These focus areas will help LDOA fulfill initiatives laid out in the Strategic Plan.

NASAA Report by Gene Meneray. Mr. Meneray encouraged the LSAC members to attend the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) training currently offered by NASAA. NASAA is carefully watching the NEA budget as it moves through Congress. Currently it is projected to have a serious increase from previous years. Per statute 50% of NEA's budget is distributed out to the 57 State/Territory Arts Agencies, this increase would increase Louisiana's annual distribution as well. NASSA hopes to return to in-person meetings in 2022.

**VI. Business**

Strategic Plan Action Steps Presentation & Discussion  
Program Updates by Arts staff.

**VII. Public Comment**

None.

**VIII. Meeting Adjournment**

Castille motioned to adjourn the meeting Nelson seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:40 pm.

**Next LSAC Meeting:** January 18, 2022