

LOUISIANA COMMISSION ON CIVIC EDUCATION

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Louisiana Commission on Civic Education

APPROVED MINUTES

June 26, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Louisiana Commission on Civic Education was held on Friday, June 26, 2020 in House Committee Room 1 at the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The chairman, Judge C. Wendell Manning, called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

Judge Manning: Before we call the meeting to order, I have been advised by Candace that we have a quorum. I'm Judge Wendell Manning. I'm chair of the commission. I want to welcome you to our meeting today. This is our first meeting, of course, in the wake of the pandemic. So thank you for your understanding and cooperation in wearing appropriate masks and you will see where we are practicing social distancing.

Ms. Davis: Sorry.

Judge Manning: Good afternoon.

Ms. Davis: Good afternoon.

Judge Manning: Now, uh, at this time I ask for Candace to please call the roll.

II. ROLL CALL

The secretary called the roll and the following was noted:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Judge C. Wendell Manning, Chairman
Shan Davis, Vice Chairperson

Fredell Butler
Rep. Gary Carter (on behalf of Rep. Raymond Garofalo)
Melissa Cloutet (on behalf of Robert Travis Scott)
Peggy Cotogno
Barry Erwin
Sen. Cleo Fields
Kevin Gautreaux (on behalf of Beth Courtney)
Michael Ince
Terry Landry
Lawrence J. Narcisse
Jill Roshto
Lauren Russell
Kenny Shutt (on behalf of Will Chapman)
Monica Taylor
Joel Watson, Jr.
Jackson Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT

Rep. Barbara Reich Freiberg
Ryan Gremillion
Doris Hicks
Polly Johnson
Sen. Beth Mizell
Morgan Robertson
Jamie Staub
Kyle Wedberg

STAFF PRESENT

Candace Shields, Senior Secretary

Ms. Shields: Sixteen members present.

Judge Manning: Thank you, Candace. We do have quorum. I do have some announcements I have to make with regard to COVID, uh, procedures. Pursuant to safe distancing procedures, we have spaced our members on the dais which limits seating availability. With that being said, we have additional commission members seated in the front row of the audience section. If any of the commission members who are in the audience would like to speak, please let me know with a gesture so that I can recognize you to come forward to the microphone at the witness table. Legislative staff will sanitize the witness table between speakers. So before approaching the mic,

please give them time to disinfect the area. And, you will note that we are in a different meeting room. We are not accustomed to that. I do want to thank sergeant-at-arms Mr. James Bullock and, uh, from the House, Mr. Anthony Long with Budgetary Control for his assistance with IT needs. With that being said, we have a large number of new commission members and new designees. And, I want to take a moment to give each of our members an opportunity to reintroduce themselves and speak about their representative capacity here on the commission. And, I understand Senator Fields will need to return quickly to the Senate Chamber as they went into session, uh, recently. And, I would like to call on Senator Fields first if that's okay.

Sen. Fields: Yes, very briefly, uh, Cleo Fields. I'm the senator for the Fourteenth District. I'm serving in my capacity as chairman of Senate Education and it's good to be here.

Judge Manning: Thank you, sir. Glad to have you. Shan?

Ms. Davis: Yeah. Hi, Shan Davis. Um, I'm the designee for BESE. I'm the executive director of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Judge Manning: Thank you, Shan. Uh, Judge Manning. I'm with the Fourth Judicial District Court and immediate past president of the District Judges Association and I represent the, uh, Louisiana District Judges Association here on the commission and I serve as chair. So, we have Representative Carter?

Rep. Carter: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Ah, my name is Gary Carter. I represent the West Bank of the City of New Orleans which is District 102, Algiers, the West Bank for those who really know. I'm serving as the designee's pick for the, uh, chairman of, uh, the Education Committee.

Judge Manning: Thank you.

Mr. Gremillion: I'm Ryan Gremillion. I'm the, uh, Policy Director at the Louisiana Department of Education, representing Dr. Brumley.

Mr. Butler: Hi, I'm Fredell Butler, uh, representing Parents and Teachers. I've served on the state board. I've, uh, helped to create several, uh, parent/teacher organizations within schools within our area. And, I am, ah, a parent of several.

Judge Manning: Thank you, Mr. Butler.

Mr. Erwin: Hi, I'm Barry Erwin. I'm President of, uh, Council for a Better Louisiana. Uh, we are a state-wide non-profit non-partisan advocacy group and do a lot of work in, uh, public education.

Mr. Ince: Yes, uh, my name is Mike Ince. I'm Director of Inter-Governmental Affairs for Lieutenant Governor Nungesser. I'm very excited to be participating and hopefully share, um, all our programs and services in the Culture, Recreation and Tourism Office.

Judge Manning: And Peggy?

Ms. Cotogno: Oh, me?

Judge Manning: Yes, ma'am.

Ms. Cotogno: The Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education. Um, it's a non-profit that works for, uh, promoting, uh, civic education and good citizenry. It's, um –, it's been in existence for almost thirty years and just began to promote, you know, civic education.

Judge Manning: Thank you. Now, in the audience. If each of you individually, the commission members, please come to the witness table and introduce yourselves, please. They are standing by. Thank you, Mr. Bullock.

Ms. Taylor: Uh, Monica Taylor from Louisiana Attorney General's Office.

Mr. Wright: I'm Jackson Wright. I'm from the Governor's Office. Policy Research Analyst. I work closely with Richard Hartley, the Education Policy Advisor and former teacher and school administrator.

Mr. Watson: Joel Watson. I represent Louisiana Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin.

Mr. Shutt: Yes, uh, Kenny Shutt. I, er, uh, I'm sitting in for Will Chapman, uh, executive director of Louisiana Press Association. We're the trade organization for Louisiana news media.

Mr. Gautreaux: I'm Kevin Gautreaux. I'm sitting in for Beth Courtney, CEO of Louisiana Public Broadcasting and I'm a producer there.

Ms. Roshto: I'm Jill Roshto with Louisiana Association of Non-Profit Organizations.

Mr. Narcisse: I'm Lawrence Narcisse, former president of LAE and Government Relations of LAE. Past president of the League of Women Voters and I'm representing the League of the Women Voters here today.

Judge Manning: Any other commission members? Please come forward. Thank you.

Ms. Russell: I'm Lauren Russell. I work in the House Communications Office and I do the Legislators Back to School Program for the House.

Ms. Cloutet: Um, I'm Melissa Cloutet. I'm here on behalf of the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana where I'm the communications director and I am here as, um, PAR President Robert Travis Scott's designee.

Judge Manning: Any other commission members? Again, I welcome all of our commission members. We also want to keep in our thoughts and prayers those who are not able to join us because of other reasons. Uh, but, that –, we do have a couple of our commission members who are observing us live-streaming. So, we welcome all of you again.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Judge Manning: We now continue with our agenda. Moving to the approval of the minutes from our November 15, 2019 meeting.

Mr. Butler: So moved.

Judge Manning: Properly moved by –, would you please raise your hand? Mr. Butler. Thank you. Is there a second?

Ms. Davis: Second.

Judge Manning: Second by Shan. Any discussion on the motion? Hearing none, all in favor say aye.

Members: Aye.

Judge Manning: Any opposed? Any abstention? The minutes are approved.

Mr. Butler made a motion to approve the minutes of November 15, 2019. There being no objection, the minutes were approved.

IV. BUSINESS

A. Approve the recommendations of the Application Review Committee for the new 2020-2021 membership on the Legislative Youth Advisory Council

Judge Manning: Moving on with our agenda now. First item is approval of recommendations of the Application Review Committee for the new 2020-2021 membership of the Legislative Youth Advisory Council. For that report, I will call upon Megan Bella. Thank you, Megan.

Testifying and providing information to the commission was Louisiana Senate LYAC Coordinator Megan Bella, representing Legislative Youth Advisory Council.

Ms. Bella: Megan Bella. Senate staff and LYAC Coordinator. I'd like to talk just a little bit about the application process and then I'll read the list of names. So this year, our numbers were down from last year which, kind of, we attribute to COVID closures. Our deadline was in March which hit right at the same time that everyone was kind of in chaos. Uh, but we did extend the deadline and everyone that reached out to me, I made sure their application got in. So we had ninety people apply. Um, after the deadline, I collected all of the applicants and sorted them by congressional district and that is determined by the address of the school that the student goes to. So we do the six congressional districts and we had six members of this commission that were chosen to score the applications. They each read and scored two districts. Uh, those were somewhat of a double-blind because they don't know who the other people are that scored and then also we tried to rearrange it so that they were getting areas of the state that they don't live in. The student's information is redacted when the members of the commission get the applicants and the scoring system is based on a rubric. That's ten questions. It's based on the students answers to the eight short answer questions and then the two letters of recommendation. There's one question that just asks how the student will contribute to the overall diversity of the council. After the scores are totaled, they're sorted from highest to lowest in each of the three congressional districts. The top three students are chosen and once those are taken out, it's the top scores overall from all of the districts make up the rest of the thirty-one. And, before we move on, I'm happy to answer any questions about the application process.

Judge Manning: Any questions for Ms. Bella? Alright, thank you.

Ms. Bella: Alright. So. And I apologize in advance if I mispronounce anyone's name, but I'll read our '20-'21 LYAC members:

Congressional District 1:

Jackson Cantrell	Mandeville High School
Avery Pierson	Lusher Charter School
Raedan Stephens	Mandeville High School

Congressional District 2:

Martalisa Fischer	Hahnville High School
Emani Leefort	Cabrini High School
Hrilina Rakhs	SummerStone Academy

Congressional District 3:

Anil Cacodear	Episcopal School of Acadiana
Benjamin Martin	Sam Houston High School
Grant Suire	Episcopal School of Acadiana

Congressional District 4:

William Bartle	C.E. Byrd High School
Embeth Coyle	Loyola College Prep
Katharyn Woodard	Glenbrook School

Congressional District 5:

Ashton Lee	Hammond High Magnet School
Autumn Moon	Cedar Creek School
Abigail Pierce	Buckeye High School

Congressional District 6:

Joseph Ismail	Runnels High School
Gabriel Savoy	Assumption High School
Nalon Soileau	University Laboratory School

At-Large Members:

Elaine Gboloo	Episcopal School of Baton
Alexis Harvey	St. Joseph's Academy
Ali Langlois	Stem Magnet Academy of Pointe Coupee
Hana Le	Ruston High School
Anna Kate Luke	Ascension Episcopal School
Hafsa Mansoor	University Academy of Cenla
Molly McNulty	C.E. Byrd High School

Emma Murphy	Benton High School
Kaitlyn Parker	Parkview Baptist School
Steffek Rainey	Catholic High School
Grant Thevenot	Catholic High School
Grace Warciski	Live Oak High School
Kingson Wills	C.E. Byrd High School

Ms. Bella: And for all of the applicants that are watching, I'll be e-mailing out this list of names after the meeting.

Judge Manning: Thank you, Megan. Thank you for your hard work with regard to this process. I call upon Mr. Butler.

Mr. Butler: Uh, yes, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to, ah, move that the list of LYAC members as mentioned by Megan be approved by this commission.

Judge Manning: Thank you, Mr. Butler, for your motion. Is there a second?

Mr. Erwin: I'll second.

Judge Manning: Seconded by Mr. Erwin. Any questions or discussion?

Sen. Fields: Very briefly.

Judge Manning: Yes, Mr. Fields, Senator Fields.

Sen. Fields: Very briefly, Mr. Chairman. Do we have a copy —, are you going to provide us a copy with the, uh, membership?

Ms. Bella: Yes.

Sen. Fields: That's all.

Judge Manning: Yes, sir. Any other questions or comments? Hearing none, we will proceed to the vote. All in favor, say aye.

Members: Aye.

Judge Manning: Any opposed? No? Any abstentions? Motion carries. And again, I want to thank all of the students around the state who applied for this work. We had, uh, phenomenal applicants and I would encourage those of you who may not have been selected this year to please, please, uh, try again if you are eligible in the next year and I speak from experience with my own son. It took him three years and three tries before he was finally selected and that was eight or nine years ago. But, the process is done in a fair fashion, uh, trying to be independent of any outside undo influence and the scoring protocols were adopted by our commission many, many years ago. So, again, Megan, thank you for your hard work and congratulations to our new LYAC members. Let's give them a round of applause.

Mr. Butler made a motion to approve the recommendations of the Application Review Committee for the new 2020-2021 membership on the Legislative Youth Advisory Council. There being no objection, the recommendations were approved.

WITNESSES PRESENT:

Information Only:

Megan Bella, LYAC, Baton Rouge, LA

B. Receive LYAC Update: 2019-2020 Members

Judge Manning: Now we're moving –, we look forward to receiving an update from our 2019-2020 members of LYAC. Would they please come forward and identify themselves? Would you –, would it be better, Mr. Bullock, for them to speak from the standing mic? Would that be easier?

Mr. Bullock: (Inaudible).

Unknown Female House Sergeant-at-Arms: A lot easier.

Judge Manning: Alright. Thank you.

Testifying and providing information to the commission was John Garrett Patrick, representing Legislative Youth Advisory Council.

Mr. Patrick: My name is John Garrett Patrick. I'm a recent graduate of Concordia Parish Academy in Vidalia, Louisiana.

Testifying and providing information to the commission was Ashton Lee, representing Legislative Youth Advisory Council.

Mr. Lee: I'm Ashton Lee. I am going to be a junior at Hammond High Magnet School. So, go Tors!

Testifying and providing information to the commission was William Bartle, representing Legislative Youth Advisory Council.

Mr. Bartle: I'm William, um, Bartle. I'm from C. E. Byrd in Shreveport.

Judge Manning: Alright. So we have these three representatives here with us today. Are there any updates or comments you would like to provide to us with regard to your experience and work with the Louisiana, uh, Legislative Youth Advisory Committee?

Mr. Bartle: Alright. So basically –, can ya'll hear me?

Judge Manning: Yes, If you would say your name one more time for the benefit of those observing who may not be able to see you on the screen.

Mr. Bartle: Alright. I'm William Bartle from C. E. Byrd in Shreveport. Um, so over the past year on the council, I think we've done a really good job of, uh, not just getting to know each other, but, like, getting to know the issues and, um, learning, like, how to, um, go after the problems that we see in the community for the youth of Louisiana as a whole in the community. Um, so, we found out –, um, we met the entire year about what we wanted to chose as our solution to send to the Senate and to the House as a –, and unfortunately, we weren't able to actually get that done this year due to the coronavirus. Just –, that didn't really work out, but we eventually chose the Purple Star School System. But, uh, I want to speak on something else real quick. Um, with that, I think that next year as I continue on the council – and as Ashton has as well – I think that it's important that we found out, like, how the council works now that we, uh, understand how it's going –, how we're going to, ah, tackle our solutions next year. Because, I think so much of a focus was put on, um, finding the solution that we were just hammering and hammering, uh, trying to find what we wanted to fix. But now, I think it's important that we're going to look in –, let the solution find us. Maybe that is more important to look at, like, with this year coronavirus. That really found us, uh, this year. You see all that's going on in the news right now. That's nothing you could have predicted, ah, but it is something you can definitely fix. It something you could tackle and look to change for the future. So I think that as we look forward to next year, uh, letting the solution find us and tackling as we see it. Uh, and, that's probably the best way to go at that. And, I think that, um, really you see, uh, with the youth of Louisiana, you see activism at a higher rate than you've ever seen with the climate, with police brutality, systematic racism. You see it with, um, climate change. You see it with the education system. You see youth really, uh, wanting to get involved and preparing to, ah, really tackle that.

If you look forward to the future and realize that's our battles to play, you realize it's our future at risk. So, I think that --, that this Legislative Youth Advisory Council will be better than ever and it will have a better grasp on how we want to, uh, look for the problems in the community and look to fix them and, uh, really represent the youth in Louisiana. Thank you.

Judge Manning: Thank you for your comments. Ashton?

Mr. Lee: Um, Ashton Lee from Hammond High Magnet School. Uh, first of all, I'd like to thank God for just giving me the opportunity to serve my first year and now a second year. Uh, I really didn't expect ya'll to accept me the first year go-round. And I was, like, not nervous until I got up here and I was, like, sitting there --, I was, like, oh, crud, I hope they pick me again. Uh, and thank ya'll for letting me serve for the first and second term. Um, LYAC really helped me as an individual. I --, when I --, like I said when I first applied, I never thought I'd get in. I was involved in my school, but I wasn't really involved in my school as much. Uh, now I'm so involved in my school, uh, multiple clubs and involved in multiple academic, uh, organizations we have as well as with our member Andrew Gary. I joined YAT and now we are starting --, and I'm the state affairs director with that --, so now we're starting, uh, legislating, uh, drafting legislation and advocating for youth issues. So, LYAC has allowed to be a door that God has opened for me to be able to look at all of the options I have. It has prepared me for life. You know, walking into a first live meeting, you can tell we are all, you know, bright eyed kids who want to become the president of the United States. Pretty much, a majority of us probably said we want to become the president of the United States. Uh, you know, we --, and we debate --, we debate all of the time about certain issues and, like, it was just --, we were so --, we were so passionate about things, but we need the tools to actually push it. So I thank ya'll for giving us the tools because now we understand this is the legislative process. Not everything is, like, okay, well, we, uh, addressed systematic racism. Okay, what are you going to do about it? What legislation are you going to make? Things like that. It's not just going to be there for us. We have to work hard for it. We have to work with the change makers and we've been given the opportunity to represent the youth so it's our job to be the legislative process. While they're being passionate on the front lines, it's up to us to get the nitty gritty work done. So, uh, COVID really messed up our year. Ah, that speaks for everybody. I don't --, nobody ever expected anything to happen like that. But, maybe it was a learning experience for a lot of us to understand how society works with connecting with technology. Uh, issues --, how are we going to address issues with COVID and still having social issues going on in the United States and in our state. So, um, it didn't turn out like we wanted. Our year got cut short, but I think we are better for it and we understand how now we have to work if a situation comes like that again. God willing, it doesn't. But if it does, we know how to be proactive and still represent the youth of our state. So, thank you so much.

Judge Manning: Thank you, Ashton. Anyone else from LYAC? Any questions or comments from our members? Mr. Butler? This one? There we go.

Mr. Butler: I'd just like to commend the young men for their comments and representing LYAC in the manner in which they have. I –, despite the fact that your year was cut short, it is obvious that you all still, uh, benefitted from the experience and that in itself is useful as you move forward and that the both of you who spoke are able to serve again. You can bring those previous experiences to the table this year and better influence this –, the '20-'21 group in a favorable direction. And, I encourage all of those new members who have been selected to, ah, recognize the tremendous opportunity you have to, uh, one, become more informed about matters that are important to you and to your community and to our state and to recognize the power you have to make a difference.

Judge Manning: Thank you, Mr. Butler. Ms. Davis?

Ms. Davis: Yes, thank you, guys, so much. Uh, I'm interested in hearing more about the Purple Star Schools that you mentioned. If anybody could speak to that, that would be great. But I also want to invite you all to take note of the press release that came out yesterday about, uh, Strong –, Strong Starts Schools from the LDE. And, there's also some opportunities within that press release to participate in some Zoom meetings. We would love, the depart–, I don't speak for the department, from the BESE side, we would love, uh, the students' point of view about the start of the school year. We did get some feedback. But it would be great to have some of the leaders, uh, student leaders in our state participating, give their thoughts on this –, this –, uh, about starting school again. And, uh, we needed much feedback for the department and BESE needs as much feedback as possible.

Judge Manning: Thank you, Ms. Davis. Any other questions or comments from the commission members directed towards the representatives? Representative Carter?

Rep. Carter: Thank you. I just want to echo the comments of the remarks so the students who are attending and those who have previously served and the ones that are coming to serve –, serving –, uh. One, it's good to hear the enthusiasm and some are excited to serve. So, you know, we're glad to have you part of it. It's good to have the enthusiasm. It makes us optimistic about the future. And, thank you for the commitment. Thank you for trying. Thank you for the dedication and thank you for being here today. So, uh, please keep up the good work. I can't tell you how imperative that is. Thank you. Just wanted to say that, Mr. Chair.

Judge Manning: Thank you Mr. Carter. Mr. Butler? Did you have another –? It –, it was indicating. Okay. Any other comments or questions? Mr. Gautreaux? And, Mr. Gautreaux,

would you please leave your mask on at the mic? We've been told by the sergeant-at-arms, we can't-, we're not supposed to spray that stand-up mic so they asked us to please leave our masks on as we address that, uh.

Mr. Gautreaux: Sure. Uh, again, Kevin Gautreaux with LPB. Uh, we've been working with the LYAC members, um, on a program that I produce every month called "Louisiana Public Square" probably since, ah, oh, 2006, '07, somewhere in there and, uh, it's been a great experience for us. We're able to bring in, uh, a younger point of view, perspective. The show that I produce -, it's a round table discussion about a topic that affects all Louisianians and then we bring in a panel of experts. Ah, for instance, some recent shows we've done is the value of teachers, talking about teacher pay raises, the death penalty, um, youth and guns. But, uh, it's been a great experience for us to bring in, uh, a younger demographic that we normally don't reach and also it's given them a platform to have their voices heard and along -, uh, back when -, like the BESE member said. We're doing our episode in July. It's going to be called "Reopening Education" and we're hoping to, ah, kind of answer questions from the general public about, you know, what -, what the next school year might look like. And, I encourage, uh -, Megan has already sent out an e-mail to all the -, the current members and hopefully it'll go to the new members as well because we are hoping for them to go ahead and submit some questions by video or written form that we'll attempt to get answered during the show. So, uh, I just -, but I did want to just thank the members who do participate on "Public Square" over the years. They've been, uh, a big help to the show and, uh, it's really helped with the content. So, appreciate it.

Judge Manning: Thank -, thank you, Mr. Gautreaux. Now moving on with our agenda. Before the officers, uh, from LYAC leave, please make sure you fill out a white comment card. A white comment card for our officers for LYAC. You'll see the sergeant-at-arms. They'll get you one of the cards. Again, thank you for your hard work and looking forward to a very exciting year to come.

WITNESSES PRESENT:

Information Only:

William Bartle, LYAC, Shreveport, LA
Ashton Lee, LYAC, Loranger, LA
John Garrett Patrick, LYAC, Vidalia, LA

C. Receive Legislators Back to School Program update: Lauren Russell

Judge Manning: Uh, our next item on the agenda is Legislators Back to School Program update from Lauren Russell. Lauren?

Ms. Russell: Alright. Uh, it's going to be a pretty brief update, uh, for many reasons. The obvious is COVID-19's school closures. We haven't been able to get into schools. Ah, and then we had a big turnover. A lot of our senators and representatives left after last session. We had a brand new group come in, ah, and it was a pretty large group. So, with everything, session, special session, and everything else, we haven't quite got our bearings about us about how we're going to handle Back to School not knowing what's going on with this upcoming school year. Ah, I did speak with Morgan. She did say they managed to get two Back to School visits in before the craziness. We had five representatives go as well. So, we still got some of it done. Ah, so, now it's just to see if we need to pivot it a diff-, different direction or if we'll be able to get back in -, in the Fall. (Inaudible). So, any questions?

Judge Manning: Any questions? Lauren? We do have a question. Uh, Representative Carter?

Rep. Carter: Thank you. I can wait. If it -, since I have the mic -, just very briefly. So, you're still planning, uh, Back to School events this Fall?

Ms. Russell: If they're there. Yeah. Um, yeah, we're ready to go assuming everything does go back to normal and if it doesn't, like if we -, we can always figure something out. Um, I'm open minded. I don't want to bog ya'll down with new stuff right now with everything going on.

Rep. Carter: Yeah.

Ms. Russell: Once session is over.

Rep. Carter: You know, that's what I was going to ask. Because many of us have been wondering if we were going to do our Back to School events.

Ms. Russell: Yes.

Rep. Carter: So just tell the House members to just stay in touch with you?

Ms. Russell: Yeah, absolutely, uh, and I'll try to send out another big e-mail to everybody just so you can have my information.

Rep. Carter: Give me your e-mail.

Ms. Russell: It's, uh, r-u-s-s-e-l-l-l. A third "l".

Rep. Carter: A third "l"? Okay.

Ms. Russell: Um, hm. There's three. Uh, @legis.la.gov.

Rep. Carter: Thanks.

Ms. Russell: Sure. Yeah.

Judge Manning: Any other questions for Lauren? Yes, sir.

Mr. Wright: Thank you. Uh, have you considered using technology for any of the Back to School visits?

Ms. Russell: Yeah, and that's another thing, um, because working in the Communications Office, I have a lot of access to stuff like that. Um, as far as setting up a meeting, that will be pretty easy. With the way they are doing Zoom in school right now seems to be going well for them. Um, I can –, it's really easy to get a representative on a meeting like that. Uh, I've also considered doing video snippets with individual members about what it's like for them –, is to serve and things like that we can just get into the classroom without having to actually be there. So, yeah, it's definitely on the table.

Mr. Wright: Great. Thanks.

Ms. Russell: Yeah.

Judge Manning: Any other questions of Lauren? Yes, Mr. Butler?

Mr. Butler: Uh, yes, Lauren, I just ask, uh, that as you all consider your options, you recognize some of the challenges particularly to the rural areas that may not have access to certain technology. So that as you, ah, consider the best way to go about getting the information out, keep that in mind.

Ms. Russell: Absolutely and, uh, a personalized letter from a representative can go a long way and, um, be just as effective as a video or something like that. So, there –, we do have a ton of options.

Judge Manning: Any other questions or comments? Lauren, thank you for your hard work and we look forward to hearing more from you in the Fall as we resume hopefully the school year.

**D. Receive Civic Education Events Calendar update and approve trial use/procedures:
Peggy Cotogno**

Judge Manning: Alright, moving next to our item, our next item is –, we're going to receive a report from the work group on –, Civic Education Events Calendar update. Peggy Cotogno, chair of the work group. We want to thank her. Also Shan Davis and Beth Courtney for their work in this endeavor. So I'll turn it over to Peggy.

Ms. Cotogno: I apologize –, I apologize for getting here late. Um, the plan was to get here early and have the calendar up there. Do we –, is it up? Do we have it anywhere? Okay. Um.

Judge Manning: No, it's not.

Ms. Cotogno: Can I? Do I have access to a laptop that I can get online and pull it up?

Judge Manning: Just one second. Let's pause for just a moment and we'll get the House IT and see if they can help us.

Ms. Cotogno: Yeah, I checked with them yesterday and this morning and everything seemed to be fine. It's just there was a bad accident apparently, uh, right outside of Gonzales. Uh, and Jamie Staub, who's the Project Citizen commission member, she always gets to every place early and she was able to call me and tell me to go up Airline instead of staying on I-10. And, uh, she, uh, just a few minutes ago, she texted me that she had to turn around. She couldn't get here. You know, so, um, that's why I was late. Um, I have some handouts that I'd like to give to everyone and then I'd like to show you the calendar if we can get it up there.

Judge Manning: Alright. Just one second.

Ms. Cotogno: Let me hand out these.

Judge Manning: Thank you.

Mr. Bullock: You're welcome.

Ms. Cotogno: One of the things that I'd like to, um, you know, maybe have some input on is, you know, what kind of events and things do we –, we want to put on our calendar. And you're going to be receiving a list of things that – literally I put everything I could think of on there – um, so that, you know, can get some input on. What you think should be on there and maybe what shouldn't be on there. Um, so you'll get those lists and then I can show you how that will look on the calendar.

Judge Manning: Excuse me, Peggy. Would the commission members in the audience please raise your hands so that we make sure that we have enough that at least all commission members receive the copy of the handouts? And, if we have any extra, we can share those with the, uh, audience members, but the commission members definitely need one handout. So, we'll pause just a moment. We also have -, Peggy, uh, Mr. Long is present with House, uh, IT. He's here so if you want to talk with him just for a moment. He can help you with that IT need. Mr. Long? Uh, Ms. Cotogno needs some assistance getting something to display with regard to, uh -. We're going to pause. We are going to pause for just a moment, uh, while we get this all set up. Okay. Thank you. We, we can see it now.

Ms. Cotogno: Yay.

Judge Manning: Alright.

Ms. Cotogno: Alrighty. I started this back in November and, uh, so if you want -, well, I'll show you. Right up here at the top, you go to "Previous Months" and this is what we did for November. Here's our own meeting right here and, uh, there's, uh, for instance, we have the Louisiana Council for the Social Studies annual conference was last November. Uh, pull that up and it gives your information, um, and there's a link. There's the link. And that's the registration form and really of the information anybody needed to attend the Louisiana Council for Social Studies conference. So that would be one thing, you know. Then I want to show you -, you can, uh, you can see this as an agenda. This also has, um, links and the other way you can see it is a pin board. It goes like that. And so, that's basically what it looks like. We're going to move up to March, oh, and by the way, this is not a real calendar. It's a mock calendar. Not all of the information is accurate. Some of it, I totally made up.

Judge Manning: Peggy? Peggy, could you return to the original slide showing the traditional layout of the calendar so that the members -, commission members in the audience can see that? Uh, the screen was not down yet, so.

Ms. Cotogno: Oh, okay, yeah. This is, this is the main one. This is the one I would probably default to. Um, and so this is showing the month of March, uh, 2020. Um, here's the U.S. Senate Youth Program which I believe the Department of Education is one of their programs and all I did was put a link there. But it gives you this wonderful brochure and every -, any piece of information you might want. Now, I have not checked with the Department of Education to see if they want this on this calendar. And so that's -. that's something, you know, that we need to dis-. Oh, I would not put anything up there unless I knew it was, uh, if the organization sponsoring it wants it. Uh, but I have to tell you, this is a fabulous program. I didn't even know about it until I ran across this on the internet. Uh, okay, so let's go back. And I can show you a

few more, um, but basically that's it. You've got three different ways of looking at it. And the only real thing that I think we need today is to decide what to put on there and, you know, if the commission approves.

Judge Manning: Do you want to review, uh, Peggy, this outlined proposal with us line by line or item by item?

Ms. Cotogno: I didn't bring it –, I didn't bring it up with me.

Judge Manning: Here's an additional copy.

Ms. Cotogno: Oh, okay, thanks, Judge. Alright. Name of the calendar. You know, we just put in there Louisiana, well, what I have is Louisiana Commission on Civic Education Events Calendar. Um, what do you think about that? I don't –, it kind of sounds like these are events put on by the Louisiana Commission on Civic Education so we're open for a better name. Um, anybody have any suggestions? So, um, uh, we'll stick with that for now. Um, alrighty, um, I volunteered to go ahead and do the initial work on, uh, the calendar. For submissions, uh, this calendar gives us the option of having –, we can allow people to –, to put up their own events. Um, and what it would do is, they would put it –, like, they would go in and place something, you know, let's say for, you know, the second of –, of June. It would not go on air. It would not be on the internet until the committee approves it, but it is all –, it would be very simple. You know, they would get an e-mail and, uh, take it from there. Um, so that's how events would be put on the calendar. Um, and I jumped already to the –, gen–, general public would be able to view only, uh, to click an icon. Oh, okay, the icon which I don't have yet. Um, what we are proposing is that, uh, get all of yall's websites if you have one to have an icon – a little circular icon – is what I'm viewing, uh thinking of. And Louisiana State Bar Association has agreed to make one for us, but they, they haven't gotten it yet, but, uh, haven't given it to me yet. Uh, but we would hope to have one, like, um, the LCLCE's website. Uh, everybody that's on the commission, you know, the –, um, you know, if they want to could do that. That way it would –, um, you know, when you go to somebody's website you would see the link to civic events or related civic events. And, um, if look up here, it's "visit our website". Right now it's going to my website, but we will change that to where it goes to the commission's website. Uh, so there's that. Any questions?

Judge Manning: Peggy, could you review with us how would the information, – I have "E." – how's the stuff being populated on the calendar? Since you said organizations. We have twenty-six member organizations on the commission. How would they be able to get their items on the calendar? If you would take us step by step.

Ms. Cotogno: Yeah. That's just the thing. We would be –, give them the, um, the information on how to do it. They would basically go log-in to this calendar and put it –. This is, this is one way it can be done. It can also, you know, there's other ways. But, if they wanted to do it this way, they could actually put it on the calendar, but it would not go live until the committee approved it. Okay. If you don't want to do that, send us an e-mail and we'll put it up there for you.

Judge Manning: Alright. Go over the –, what you want in an e-mail if it's sent to you. It's the items that you have here on this – ?

Ms. Cotogno: Yeah. It's important that, you know, besides the title, name and the date and the time, uh, location if that's appropriate, it has to be very brief. This is really a few words and you –, and, if possible, a link, uh, no more than two sentences. Um, I have one item on here –, that I put in five sentences and I did it just to show you what I don't want, you know, but, uh, so be very brief. Um, then there's the –, the thing about if –, if it's open to the general public or not. Uh, I checked with the people –, the top of our people that are the ones that are –, uh, they made this calendar and they basically, you know, they basically said that, um, if they've got a website or if its publicly –, if its on the internet anywhere and its public, there, there shouldn't –, that's –, it's just not going to be a problem. Um, but still I feel very much that at least in the very, very beginning that we –, we check with everyone before we put them on the calendar. Um, I asked them if there's any issues with it and they came back and said 99.9% of the people would, in their opinion, okay, uh, will –, will like the fact that you put their event on the calendar. They don't anticipate that being a problem, but they said they're not attorneys who give you legal advise. So, uh, let's see, you have that. Um, it's interesting. A couple of things that I have on here, it's like –, uh, like for instance, I wanted to put, uh, Lawyers in the Class Room where the lawyer goes to the school and talks to a class. It's not a public event and I know the public schools won't let anybody in. You know, so it's a private event. But (inaudible) just say that – private event, or, you know, no public, not allowed or you can say public welcome, you know, depending on the circumstances. So we will address the –, uh, that –, you know, and each individual, uh, uh, event, you know. Ah, alright. And then we –, it definitely gives me a link which means the –, the URL –, the internet address. That –, that's what people want. They want to see the whole ball game and –, and they only way we can give it to them is by connecting to it. And, that finishes the –, um, yeah, and there is one thing, this –, I –, please don't not give me this information because that just means more work for me and I think the most accurate information will come from the party that wants to have their event, uh, posted. I know I have, uh, on this list that I made up, I have several of the Department of Education events. I haven't spoken to anyone. Is Ryan here?

Mr. Gremillion: Right here.

Ms. Cotogno: Oh, okay. So I really hope you look at this and –, and, uh, give me some input as to whether or not you want anything there or –, or not. I just was blown away with that U.S. Senate program and I didn't know anything about this, so. You know, so ya'll are doing really good things. This is another way to advertise that ya'll are doing really good things.

Judge Manning: Alright.

Ms. Cotogno: So –.

Judge Manning: Questions or comments? Ms. Davis?

Ms. Davis: Yes, I wanted to thank Peggy for taking on this responsibility and to give the folks maybe tuning in background. Uh, the statute that created this mission required that we create a clearing house that includes a calendar for the public to be able to tune in and see what's going on in our state. So, just to give that foundation. But, I wondered, and that kind of brought me to the question, if –, if it's not a public event, what would be the purpose then of putting it on the calendar? Just to let folks know that's going on in our state? Or what? What would be the purpose if it's not a public event?

Ms. Cotogno: Yes, yes. Well, for instance this U.S. Senate program that I didn't know anything about. Maybe there's a teacher out there that doesn't know about it. And this isn't a public event, but it's something –, if they have –, if they –, if it gives them knowledge of a program that they didn't know existed then they could use – then, then they can look into it. It's an informational calendar as well as an events calendar.

Ms. Davis: Okay.

Ms. Cotogno: It –, it's the way I'm seeing it right now. That's we need to, you know, discuss today if we want it to be that way.

Judge Manning: If –, if I might add too, uh, Ms. Davis, as to her question. Speaking on behalf of the District Judges Association, the judges would like the public to know the efforts they've made to develop their, uh, lesson plans and their curriculum guides, and the opportunities that the students might have and the schools might have to invite them to come into their classrooms and help supplement the academic or augment the academic instruction. Those events are not generally, uh, they're not open to the public because they are specific to certain classes, but still they would like the public to know that that's going on.

Ms. Cotogno: Yeah. And I also –, you know, we took this –, discussed it briefly, I think, last year about the senators' program –, the legislators' program and, uh, I even put it on here and it says, "Senator John Doe will visit the sixth graders at Catholic High School. Invitation only." You know, uh, the reason I wanted to put this up here is through our Lawyers and Judges In The Classroom Program that my organization does –. I have also asked, uh, legislators to go visit the kids. And on not a whole lot of –, of occasions but on several, they've asked, um, to have –, send out the equivalent of a press a release to their local media so that their constituents know what they're doing. You know, so, um, so I mentioned that because I'm thinking maybe the senators and the House representatives might be interested in that as well. That would be on an individual basis, you know, whether or not you –, we post it. It has to be requested, you know, and, um, so we'll take it from there. I know that the Lawyers In The Classrooms – just because I work with them all of the time – they love it. You know, they would love it.

Judge Manning: Representative Carter?

Rep. Carter: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And, thank you for your good work on working with the calendar. This is very informative and I like the good work and the partners going into it. Uh, at the appropriate time, I'd like to move favorably before we move –, uh, before we lose a quorum. I know I have another meeting to go to.

Judge Manning: Yes, sir.

Rep. Carter: I know the conversation is going to continue. So, but in the event we have the vote, I wanted to be present for that.

Judge Manning: May I make a suggestion too, Representative Carter?

Rep. Carter: Yes.

Judge Manning: We –. We had talked about it within the framework of the work group that this would be on a trial basis.

Rep. Carter: Excellent.

Judge Manning: And we would revisit this in November or in the Spring meeting to see how it's progressing.

Rep. Carter: Excellent. So no vote is needed?

Judge Manning: It –. It is. But we would like –, we would still like the motion. If you –, you'll accept that friendly amendment that this be done on a trial basis –

Rep. Carter: Absolutely.

Judge Manning: – so we can re-evaluate it at both the Fall and Spring meetings.

Rep. Carter: Move favorably as reported –, as amended.

Judge Manning: Thank you. Is there a second?

Mr. Butler: Second.

Judge Manning: Mr. Butler has seconded.

Judge Manning: Any further discussion? Mr. Butler?

Mr. Butler: Oh, I just wanted to find out if it is possible to –, if there's a registration requirement for any of the events that can be listed as, uh, maybe an option for registration: yes, no. If so, if there's a suspense date for that registration. That it'd be quick. Have maybe, uh, anything (inaudible).

Ms. Cotogno: Are you saying that if there's an event that requires registration that –? That would be the link that you would furnish me if you –, if you're doing an event like that. We'd give information on how to register. We'd give information even without the program usually.

Mr. Butler: Okay. And, the question I was asking is –, and this is basically a summary of the event and it says –, if a power –, if there's not a link. Or, the person providing you the information is required to either state whether registration is necessary and if so what the suspense date is for someone who just briefly reviewed the calendar, they can see that the event is taking place on one date, but if you intend to participate you must register by another date.

Ms. Cotogno: Okay. Yeah. I can answer that question. If you all could see the whole thing right now, you would see that I have deadlines for events, you –, way –, you know, on the deadline date and then the event was usually on six-months later or something like that. So, we're definitely –, we're going to include nomination or event deadlines –, registrations. That's one of the –. Yeah. That was definitely in my mind that we should have on there and I've already done that on this mock.

Mr. Butler: Okay.

Judge Manning: Mr. Erwin?

Mr. Erwin: Um, yeah. Thanks. Ah, Fredell actually had the same --, done the same question I had that you was talking about. The other one that I had was --, like on this list that you've given us, are these already on the calendar or these just kind of examples of the things? I guess, you need to repopulate the calendar, you know, for later in the year or that type of thing.

Ms. Cotogno: Most of these --. Many of these --. Most of these are on there at one place or another. Uh, I couldn't get in touch --. The 4-H Club people isn't there because we were playing phone tag and with all the quarantines. But, I'm interested in what they --. I'm not sure if it's all related to the group, but if it is I hope to give them an opportunity to be on the calendar. Uh, but then I have questions, um, if you get them. Pretty much all of these are on there. I think I got them all there. Like for instance the Baton Rouge Bar Law Day event. I haven't --. I need to check with, you know, them to see if they want it on there, but it's a fabulous program that I've been a part of. And I think --. And it's --, you know, I think people should know about it. Um, then.

Mr. Erwin: My --, my wife, uh, works and runs the Old State Capitol and they have, like, the youth legislature program and those types of things there.

Ms. Cotogno: Yeah.

Mr. Erwin: And, I was just wondering if that was already on there and I guess the deadlines or the application dates where those students need to apply to participate, all of that will be on there? You don't need to have it re-, uh, you know, um, submitted to you or if this should be good?

Ms. Cotogno: Yeah. Is this the YMCA Youth and Government Program that you are talking about?

Mr. Erwin: Yes, I think it is.

Ms. Cotogno: Well, you see up there?

Judge Manning: They've taken it down.

Ms. Cotogno: Oh, I've been showing you all stuff the last ten minutes. Anyway, I just pulled it up.

Mr. Erwin: Oh, okay.

Ms. Cotogno: They have several great programs.

Mr. Erwin: Yeah.

Ms. Cotogno: And yeah, definitely.

Mr. Erwin: (Inaudible). Week after week they (inaudible).

Ms. Cotogno: Yes, yes. And there's deadlines and submissions of papers and, and announcements of who, who won or whatever.

Mr. Erwin: Right.

Ms. Cotogno: Yeah, and I would have all that on there if it's up to me, you know.

Mr. Erwin: Yeah. Okay.

Ms. Cotogno: That's --

Mr. Erwin: That's great. Thank you.

Ms. Cotogno: Sure, I know. You got Model United Nations as the first ones on the list, so.

Mr. Erwin: Yeah.

Judge Manning: Other questions or comments? Hearing none, we will proceed to vote on the motion. We've already stated the motion. The motion moved by Rep. Carter and seconded by Mr. Butler is to approve the proposed Louisiana Civic Education Events Calendar. You have a written proposal outline. It will be re-evaluated on a trial basis both at our Fall meeting and our Spring meeting. Any further discussion? Hearing none, all in favor say aye.

Members: Aye.

Judge Manning: Any opposed? Any abstention. The motion carries unanimously.

Rep. Carter offered a motion to approve the trial use of the Commission on Civic Education Events Calendar. There being no objection, the motion passed.

Judge Manning: Thank you, Peggy. Thank you, uh, Ms. Davis. Thank you, Ms. Courtney for your hard work on the working group.

E. Receive Updates from Commission member organizations regarding their initiatives for Civic Education programing and outreach in light of COVID-19

Judge Manning: We'll move now to the remaining item we have on our, uh, agenda and that is we would like to receive any updates from commission members briefly. Brief updates from commission members and their organizations they represent regarding initiatives that they are planning for civic education programming and outreach in light of COVID-19. I understand that, Mr. Gautreaux, you have an update you want to provide? Is that correct? I'd understood from Ms. Courtney that you had an update from LPB. Mr. Gautreaux?

Mr. Gautreaux: Ah, no. I wasn't given anything, but I'll –.

Judge Manning: Oh, I'm sorry. I was advised that you might have something to –.

Mr. Gautreaux: Well, I know for –, for, uh, broadcasts, what we're doing, uh, it's related to COVID in that we're airing an education block every day. And starting in July, we're going to add to that, uh, map courses. So, these are for students who don't have access to the internet as a way to, uh, keep up during the summer slack where you lose, uh, some learning. And, anyway, and COVID's, you know, just exasperated the problem. But, uh, I think that might be what they are referring to. It's called "Bridging the Gap". Uh, we've been doing –. It's called –, uh, well, we started it right after COVID started. And it's, uh, at home, I think it's lpb.org/athome and there's several resources there. But, uh, again, the goal is for those folks who do not have internet access. And, you don't even need, you know, cable subscription to get LPB. It's over the air. And so, we're doing these daily blocks and, uh, they're divided by, uh, grade levels and different subject matter. And, we're going to have a big push on that and that will start in July. And, uh, we actually were in on a call with the new superintendent yesterday and he was encouraged enough to try to get the, uh, superintendents to come push it out to their teachers to get, uh, students on board. So, um, so that might be what, uh, what Ms. Courtney was referring to.

Judge Manning: Okay. Alright. Thank you, Mr. Gautreaux.

Mr. Gautreaux: Sure.

Judge Manning: Any other representatives, commission members that would like to speak? Please come to the mic and please state your name so that it's, uh, recorded in the verbatim minutes of the meeting.

Mr. Watson: Joel Watson, Louisiana Secretary of States Office. Obviously, uh, with the primary election coming up on July 11th, the office has been focused on that. With the, uh, first week of the two weeks of early voting we have wrapping up tomorrow and another week starting next week as well. Uh, the secretary has been pushing a lot for, uh, younger people to become engaged as poll workers. Uh, if you're seventeen years old and a high school senior, you could be a poll worker in Louisiana. Uh, we have the poll workers for this election, but we are still looking for those for, uh, the Fall elections and we hope that, uh, the young people of Louisiana who are perhaps a little less vulnerable to this –, the virus will, uh, consider applying to become a poll worker. Uh, we've also got an exhibit at the Louisiana State Archives called "Geaux Vote, Louisiana!" which is about the centennial of the 19th Amendment which gave women the right to vote. Uh, it's about the history of, uh, women's suffrage and about the history of women in politics in Louisiana. Um, our state museums that are under the purview of the department of state are practicing distancing and are open so we would encourage, uh, Louisiana citizens to check out, uh, that exhibit and all of our state museums. Thanks.

Judge Manning: Thank you. Thank you for that. Mr. Wright? Did you have something?

Mr. Wright: My glasses get fogged up. This is, uh, Jackson Wright with the Governor's Office. Um, I would just say that, uh, I would stress that, uh, we're focusing on, uh, communicating the message, uh, that right now, uh, with the new surge in COVID-19, our new cases are overwhelmingly growing the fastest in the young adults, uh, age 18 to 29 so we're thinking about how to communicate, uh, messages around wearing masks and social distancing to the younger population. And so among other things, that –, that is the important one right now.

Judge Manning: Thank you, Mr. Wright. Ms. Cloutet?

Ms. Taylor: Uh, Monica Taylor with the Louisiana Attorney General's Office. Um.

Judge Manning: Ms. Taylor. I'm sorry.

Ms. Taylor: Oh, that's okay. Uh, the mask. You can't tell who anybody is. Uh, not necessarily, uh, directed towards the COVID-19, but our office has done, uh, in the past to this board and to LYAC, we've done the opioid presentation and we are seeing an increase in, uh, overdoses during COVID. And so, we will also –, we are rolling out a new program that's going to cover counterfeit drugs, uh, and that is for highschool students and college students. A lot of them buy,

uh, Xanax and Adderall online or from each other and a lot of times those are homemade. They're not pharmaceutical made. And, they are cut with Fentanyl which means they are deadly. And so, we will be rolling out a program in, um, August, in -, and, uh, September on that particular thing. Uh, but we still have all of our other programs that we've done. We've also done the, uh, "Be Smart With Your Smart Phone" campaign as well and we've done that at a lot of schools and we've done it to the LYAC group as well.

Judge Manning: Thank you, Ms. Taylor. Any other commission members who would like to speak as to, uh, items they've implemented in the wake of COVID-19?

Mr. Shutt: (Inaudible).

Judge Manning: Yes. Mr. Shutt?

Mr. Shutt: Yes.

Judge Manning: Mr. Kenny Shutt.

Mr. Shutt: Uh, yeah, thank you. Kenny Shutt. Louisiana Press Association. Uh, he and, uh. Or, or I usually represent, uh, Will Chapman, our executive director. He is going to be retiring soon. He just made the announcement this week. So, one of the things I had thought about just listening, particularly with the calendar, uh, LPA offers a press release service that we offer to -, to clients mostly. We also do some public service stuff. So, uh, we disseminate this -, disseminate those messages to, uh, over two hundred news media outlets, broadcasts, print throughout the state. So I'm thinking in tandem with what you're doing, we could maybe offer that free for, uh, for this -, for the organization to work with the calendar as of the next (inaudible) in March.

Judge Manning: Yes, sir.

Mr. Shutt: Something to that effect. I'll work on putting something together to present.

Judge Manning: Great news. Thank you. Anyone else? Any other commission members who would like to report on any other mission? Mr. Erwin?

Mr. Erwin: Yeah and this isn't exactly an initiative, but I -, I did want to say I'm with the Council for a Better Louisiana and we do work a lot on education policy issues and that type of thing. And, uh, you know, usually we're pretty good on what we understand the policies to be, but when you're trying to switch and pivot in this COVID-19 thing, we ended up having to go

back to the drawing board on some of these things trying to re-look at some of the policies that we have, uh, you know, uh, promoted and advocated for over the years. And try to look at it from that lens of COVID-19 and put out in terms of some recommendations for schools and districts, uh, uh, and actually –, from early education through K-12 as well as higher education, uh, for –, for things that we felt like were important that we don't lose sight of and that we can continue to press hard going through this period. And so, we've put those out and have gotten –, and I think –, a good response from those. I think you are seeing some of those things show up in the, uh, Resilient Louisiana Commission's, um, studies or the recommendations that they're putting out. So, uh, I think a lot of our groups are trying to –, to figure out especially in education how we can continue to kind of move the ball forward, uh, you know, bridge those gaps that we know we have, uh, that have happened because of, uh, the loss of school time and school closures and help kids, you know, pick up as strongly as they can at the end of the year. So, we're trying to put that stuff out and hopefully we're seeing –, we're going to see some of that in terms of the results when, uh, a lot of these recommendations come out and when the school year finally starts, uh, hopefully in August.

Judge Manning: Alright. Thank you, Mr. Erwin. Anyone else?

Ms. Roshto: I'm Jill Roshto with Louisiana Association of Non-Profit Organizations. I came onboard as executive director at the beginning of the shelter at home so it has been an interesting time, but our goal has been during the time –, our non-profit organizations are very vulnerable right now. They are always vulnerable, but they are very vulnerable right now. So our education has been focused very much, particularly for our executive directors, on figuring out how to navigate COVID-19. From an event standpoint, I'll send you the information, our conference was cancelled. It's going to be virtual in September. It's going to be very much focused on educating, training the trainers and focusing on our executive directors to keep the non-profits viable, so.

Judge Manning: Thank you. Thank you for that update. Anyone else? Well, again thank you to all of our new members and the new designees who joined us today. Uh, before we adjourn, I do need to announce if any commission members are in the audience and were not present when the original roll was called, would you please come back up to the microphone and introduce yourself to make sure we've gotten all of the commission members captured for the purpose of our minutes. Anyone else?

V. CONSIDERATION OF ANY OTHER MATTERS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION

There were no other matters that came before the commission.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Judge Manning: I hope all of you have a wonderful weekend. At this time, the chair will entertain a motion to adjourn. Mr. Bullock, thank you for your help with everything here on the House side.

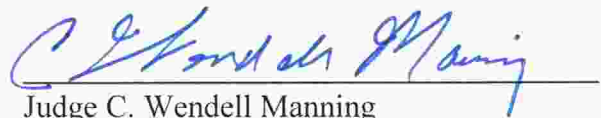
Ms. Taylor: So moved.

Ms. Davis: Second.

Judge Manning: Properly moved by Ms. Taylor. Seconded by Ms. Davis. Any opposition? Hearing none, we stand adjourned. Thank you.

There being no further business before the commission, Ms. Taylor moved to adjourn. Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Judge C. Wendell Manning
Chairman

November 20, 2020
Approval Date