**REGIONAL GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**

**Louisiana State Exhibit Museum**

**Thursday, April 14, 2016**

**LSEM had over 5,451 visitors since the February18, 2016 Joint Governing Board meeting.**

Margaret Green called the meeting to order at 12:10 noon.

Jack Sibley called roll.

Members present: William Cawthorne, Chris Giordano, Margaret Green, Jud. Gayle Hamilton, Ken Hickman, Richard LeBlanc, Geoff Perego, Mickey Prestridge, Rocky Rockett, Maxine Sarpy, Jack Sibley, and Andy Taylor. LSEM staff present– Wayne Waddell, Director, Nita Cole, Curator and Cindy Grogan PIO. Proxies received from Marcia Calhoun and Evelyn Valore. Guests: Dr. Ragan Green.

Motion to approve proposed agenda by Rocky Rockett, 2nd by William Cawthorne. Motion to approve minutes of the last meeting by Ken Hickman and 2nd by Mickey Prestridge.

**Committee Reports: -** no report

**Executive Committee:** no report

**Accession and De-accession Committee:** no report

**Building and Grounds:** no report

**Education Committee**: no report.

**Long Range Planning:** Ken Hickman stated that the Long Range Planning Committee meeting will be next Thursday, April 21, 2016.

**Nominating committee:** The Nominating Committee selected nominees for officers for 2016 – Margaret Green – Chairman; Betty Black - Vice Chair and Jack Sibley – Secretary. Maxine Sarpy motioned for a vote; seconded by Richard LeBlanc. Unanimous – new slate of officers approved. Margaret Green thanked the board and stated she would like Betty Black to take over next term – that this was her last.

**State Fair Report:** Chris Giordano stated that the fairgrounds is having an RV Rally. The Hirsch is being fitted for an ice rink. The public will be able to ice skate and there will be a NHL team this fall. The state fair will run Oct. 27th –Nov. 13th this year and he’s hoping for better weather than last year.

**Friends Report**: Mickey Prestridgereported on the Friends Board meeting, mostly regarding the state’s budget woes. Louisiana Secretary of State’s budget will be cut deeply and the only monies to cut would be the museum funds, much like the situation last year. There was some discussion regarding the museum being transferred to the Lt. Governor’s CRT system like it was at one time. The new Lt. Governor has been at the museum and attended events but his funding will also have major cuts. The Friends may have to support the shortage like they did last year.

**Director’s Report:** Director Wayne Waddell expanded on the budget cuts. Some smaller museums may be returned to the city, parish or original owners since there isn’t enough funds to maintain them all. You can’t just shut the doors to LSEM – there will be building and lawn maintenance, security, insurance and utilities even with it closed. The object would be to cover expenses and keep the staff in place.

Wayne also mentioned that the museum was closed due to rain and flooding in March. There was a minor roof leak into the fishing lure case. The basement stayed dry though. The projection room has been finished. There is an actual dressing room with a door, shelving, one way glass and some storage. Also the portico plaque has been re-brassed.

**February- March –April Events**

• Sunday, February 21, 2016 the museum hosted the opening reception for the new exhibit Art of NW Louisiana: City & Country Art. Local artists Jessie Pitts, Jr. and MC “5 Cent” Jones and the Creative Art Connection of Bossier Parish with 200 in attendance.

• Monday, February 29th election classes were held in the auditorium all day.

• Had 3 days where the state closed the museum due to flooding weather.

• Saturday, March 19th 2016 we hosted the Regional Competition of National History Day sponsored by the WWII Museum. There are 11 students continuing on to the state competition.

• Sunday, March 20, 2016 hosted “Alpha & Omega” Exhibit Opening Reception by Artists Emily Cameron Pressly and Catherine Pressly Herring with over 200 in attendance.

**•** Fair Park Alumni Meeting on Tuesday, April 5th, 2016 from 6-8 pm in the gallery.

• Shreveport Green’s Media Event–Louisiana Leaders against Litter on Friday, April 8th in the auditorium with about 60 people in attendance. Litter collection/weight in was Saturday on the fairgrounds parking lot.

**Upcoming Events:**

• Community Foundation Annual Membership Meeting Tuesday, April 26, 2016 4-5:30 pm in the auditorium.

• Give for Good – Tuesday, May 3rd, 2016 from 4:30 -7:00 pm

• Saturday, May 21, 2016 from 8:30 – 11:30 am Ayers Business College Graduation in the auditorium.

• Friday, July 15, 2016 the museum will host Fair Park’s Class of ’66 50 year class reunion.

We have 289 memberships for 2016 and have collected $30,987.50 in membership dues. A 2nd membership drive has been mailed.

**Chairman’s report:** Margaret stated that the Friends need to start the beginning planning for 2017’s G&G. It needs to be determined whether a major 1 time event is to take place or if 2 smaller, more intimate events should be planned. There was some open discussion about this.

**New business:**  No new business reported.

**Curator’s Report:** Curator Nita Cole stated that Give for Good is May 3rd. This will be the 3rd year the museum has participated. The Friends received $7,951.36 last year with donations and 2 category prizes we won. This is a 1 day only event and can only be done online. In this case, it is more the amount of donations more so than amounts of the donations.

Nita also mentioned that Don Edwards & the Animal Artists would like to sponsor a diorama painting/drawing event for students sometime during the next school year.

RL made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Margaret Green. Meeting adjourned.

**THE NEXT GOVERNING BOARD MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR JULY 14, 2016**