

LETA EXECUTIVE AND FINANCE BOARD MEETING

◆ March 9, 2023 ◆ 12:00 PM ◆

LPB Board Room/Zoom ◆ 7733 Perkins Rd ◆ Baton Rouge, LA

Members Present: Conrad Comeaux, Sonny Cranch, Dr. Laura Lindsay, Shauna Sanford, and Chris Wegmann.

Members attendance via Zoom: Eartha Cross and Newt Dorsett

Members Absent: Dr. Tina Holland

Employees Present: C.C Copeland, Matt Tessier, Terri Crockett, Kimberly Ducote, and Marlesha Ross.

Call to Order: Conrad Comeaux, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM, and asked if there were any public comments. There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes: Shauna Sanford, Secretary, asked for the minutes from the 1-12-23 LETA meeting to be approved if there were no questions, comments, or concerns. There being none, a motion to approve was made by Chris Wegmann and was seconded by Dr. Laura Lindsay. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Chris Wegmann, Vice Chair, presented the Financial Report on behalf of Dr. Tina Holland, Treasurer. Conrad Comeaux asked for a motion to approve the Financial Report. A motion to approve was made by Sonny Cranch and was seconded by Chris Wegmann. Motion carried.

Friends Report: Newt Dorsett gave the Friends of LPB Report that included financial highlights for the month.

FUNDRAISING

Pledge

- Current revenue - \$91,509
- Pledge continues through Sunday, March 12
- *Why Louisiana Ain't Mississippi...* did very well in its March Pledge airing, raising \$12,000 so far.

Legends Gala and Silent Auction - Thursday, April 27, 2023

- Current revenue: \$279,000
- The Legends Gala is officially sold out.
- With the huge demand for tickets and limited space, a waiting list has been created. Any available tickets will be available on a first come first-serve basis.
- Online auction goes live on Friday, April 7 and will close on Sunday, May 14 at midnight.
- Featured auction items: Clementine Hunter painting: Watermelon on Wood donated by former honoree, Tommy Whitehead from his personal collection, and an autographed Joe Burrow Helmet thanks to FLPB Board members, Cathy Seymour and Bo Harris.

Antiques Roadshow

- 215 tickets
- Revenue: \$43,215
- VIP tickets include a cocktail reception on Monday, May 1 at the LSU AgCenter Botanic Garden and two appraisals on Tuesday, May 2 at the LSU Rural Life Museum.
- Ticket lottery closes on Monday, March 13

- 84 volunteers secured, still need 26 volunteers to assist throughout the day,
- Volunteers must be 18 years of age, have government ID, all positions require standing or walking throughout the entire shift (6am – 6pm), must attend a training session on Monday, May 1 from 4:30 – 6:30pm, and must meet COVID policies at the time of the event. Includes breakfast, box lunch, snacks, Antiques Roadshow shirts and baseball caps, identification badges and two verbal appraisals.

• **FINANCIALS – JANUARY 2023 FINANCIALS**

Revenue

At the end of January, membership revenue for the month was \$213,666.82. Overall revenue was \$1,770,254.22.

Expenses

Expenditures for the month totaled \$149,753.55.

Items of Note

Renewal revenue \$1,000 and above is up 24%

Raffle revenue is down 58%

Terri Crockett, Executive Director of Friends of LPB, explained that Antiques Roadshow is covering all expenses related to their production costs in Baton Rouge, and FLPB is incurring the costs for the May 1 reception. Terri gave an overview of the reception. FLPB is currently fundraising to cover all associated costs. C.C Copeland, LPB President and CEO, added that LPB is filming for a behind-the-scenes special and detailed Antiques Roadshow policies for filming day. Antiques Roadshow is identifying promising entries for early-bird appraisals. LPB aired the Antiques Roadshow: Baton Rouge program from their 2013 visit as part of the current Pledge Drive.

President's Report: C.C Copeland gave an update that included that the final bid for the WLPB guywire replacement was received for state consideration. There has also been progress with the transmitter; it has new pumps and a new heat exchange system. C.C Copeland and Matt Tessier, LPB Deputy Director, traveled to the Pointe-aux-Chênes community for a screening for the Pointe-au-Chien tribe of the LPB documentary, *The Precipice*. The film follows the tribe's plight for federal recognition. The community is still trying to recover from Hurricane Ida. LPB's Baton Rouge screening of *The Precipice* is this evening in the auditorium. C.C Copeland attended the APTS summit in Washington D.C. Topics covered at the summit included diversity, equity, and inclusion. The purpose of the trip was to ask Louisiana's congressional delegation to support funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the entity that provides major funding to LPB. C.C had productive meetings with the staff of Louisiana delegates, and met personally with Senator Cassidy. He left a one-sheeter detailing the work of LPB with all those with whom he met. LPB is working with CABL on a debate between candidates running for Governor on September 28.

Chairman Report: Conrad Comeaux reported that the next full board meeting will take place April 13.

Other Business: C.C Copeland reported that architect, Buddy Ragland, is working within the allocated state funding on the upcoming roof repair that will begin after the lobby remodel. Board members Conrad Comeaux, Chris Wegmann, Sonny Cranch, and LPB Deputy Director Matt Tessier crafted a letter in support of remote participation by the LETA Board. Senator Hewitt is chairing the committee to consider the issue that is of interest to many public agencies relative to remote participation for their boards.

Adjournment: Conrad Comeaux adjourned the meeting at 12:40PM after a motion by Dr. Laura Lindsay and a second by Chris Wegmann.

Minutes submitted by Kathy Scherer.