

Minutes

Louisiana State Exhibit Museum
Regional Museum Governing Board
Thursday, July 9, 2015, 12:00 noon

Members present: President Mrs. Margaret Green, Betty Black, Marcia Calhoun, Bill Cawthorne, Jim Gregory, Richard LeBlanc, Geoff Perego, Markey Pierre, Mickey Prestridge, Jack Sibley, Andy Taylor and Evelyn Valore. LSEM staff present: Wayne Waddell - Director of Northern Region of Museums, Nita Cole - Curator and Cindy Grogan - Public Information Officer.

12:07 pm Chairperson Green called the meeting to order. Cindy Grogan called roll. Margaret Green asked for a motion to approve of agenda, Bill Cawthorne made the motion and seconded by Markey Pierre. Motion carries. Margaret asked for a motion to approve the minutes as written. Evelyn Valore made a motion and seconded by Markey Pierre. Motion carries.

Standing Committee Reports:

Executive Committee - No report.

Accessions and De-accessions Committee - No report.

Building and Grounds Committee - No Report.

Education Committee - No Report.

Long Range Planning Committee -No Report

Nominating Committee - No report but will have to meet and determine officer nominations for next year (Maxine Sarpy, Mickey Prestridge and Marcia Calhoun).

State Fair Report- Chris Giordano was not here but Wayne Waddell reported that a new roof was going on the coliseum. The old copper roof was sold and the new roof is a bronze color. They have a few large events scheduled and of course the LA State Fair is coming up soon. They lost the basketball team - not a lot of fan support, but the Mudbugs ice hockey team would like to come back to coliseum not Century Tel.

The Independence Bowl only had the Duck Commanders as sponsors one year but Camping World is the new I-Bowl sponsor.

Friends of LSEM – Mickey Prestridge stated the Friends did not meet in June. He thanked the board for their efforts in supporting the museum and staff during pending budget cuts and threatening layoffs.

Old Business: Wayne Waddell discussed that Sen. Tarver was requesting \$1.7 M additional funds to museum budget. The museum will still receive a hotel/motel tax funds dedicated for LSEM only. The NW Louisiana legislators have been extremely supportive of the regions museums.

New Business: There was some discussion regarding an “Appreciation/Recognition Luncheon” for the areas legislators and for all their efforts on the museums’ behalf. The date was set for Thursday, September 10, 2015 at 12 noon here at the museum.

There was also some open discussion regarding how the Louisiana’s museum system is split between Lt. Governor’s office and Secretary of State’s office. Should all museums be under one office? Should they all be under Lt. Governor’s office?

Chairman’s Report: Margaret Green stated that the Margaret gave a Glitz & Grits update – G&G will be held on Saturday, September 26th and the theme is Louisiana Saturday Night. Silver Star will be the caterer. The Valet will remain the same as in the past years and music will be provided by the Lafayette Bayou Boys. There will also be a DJ during down times. The event will be on the backside of the museum, under giant tents. There will be food and bars indoors along with the auction items on the cases (which works very well). Travis Whitfield will help with decorating greenery. The rooms for Jim Tweedy & Bruce Odell (the Louisiana artists) and the Lafayette Bayou Boys are being donated by Boomtown Hotel and Casino.

Director’s Report: Wayne Waddell discussed the glass portico project. The museum is to receive brick & mortar funding from a local foundation. Some of the funds will be used to glass in the front portico and move the front doors outward.

The museum book is being edited and will be at the printer soon. It may even be printed and available for G&G. It will be a very affordable book.

May - July Events

- Tuesday, May 5th, Give for Good was a huge success. We received the **Most Improved Prize** and the **Grow the Grassroots Prizes**.
- Saturday, May 9th from 2-4 pm was the opening reception for the student artist exhibit – Project Talent which had over 200 people attending.
- Saturday, May 16th - Ayers Business College had their spring graduation in the auditorium. There is standing room only for their graduations.
- June 6th was the 14th Annual Goddess of Beauty Pageant in the auditorium and they had a full house.

- The **Art of Hospice: Grace Before Dying** Exhibit opening was June 7th, 2015 with a modest opening.
- This Sunday, July 12th from 2-4 pm, we will have an opening reception for "**Excellence in Art**" by Caddo Educators. The exhibit will be on display until July 31st.
- The 2014-2015 school year has ended. We already have a lot of daycare and summer camps signed up to tour the museum.

LSEM had over 7,884 visitors in attendance since the last meeting

Next meeting date will be Thursday, October 8, 2015 @ 12:00 noon