Minutes

**Louisiana Civil Rights Museum Advisory Board Meeting**

December 06, 2022 – 1:00p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

* Meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m.
* Board Members Present:
* Brenda Williams, Chairman
* Ernest L. Jones
* Dr. Reginald Owens
* Madlyn Bagneris
* Priscilla Edwards
* Tyler Bruno
* Edward Ward Jr.
* Harry Rosenthal
* Angelena Jones
* Susan Maclay
* Steven Maklansky
* Karl Conner
* Thelma Harris French
* Paula Peer Dr.
* Dr. Terence Vinson

* Also Present:
* Angelena Jones
* Susan Maclay
* Steven Maklansky
* Michael McKnight – Director State Museums
* Julio Guichard – Advisor to Lt. Gov.
* Anna Cahill, State Museum Staff Member along with 4others who did not sign in
* Board Members Absent:
* Royce Duplessis
* Loyce Pierce Wright
* Blake Jones
* Quorum Present

1. **MINUTES OF AUGUST 16, 2022 MEETING WERE ADOPTED WITH CORRECTIONS**
2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
3. **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND BOARD ACTION ITEMS:**
4. Nominating Committee

* Training on LCRMAB mission since 2008 will be needed for the 6 new Board members and updates for others
* Nominated Board Members are suggested to be on the Board for an average term of two years of service.
* Binders being prepared for each board member will distribute additional information.

1. **Introduction of New Members**

* *Senator Royce Duplessis* – not able to be present today, however will be very helpful in advocating for statewide support as a new State Senator
* *Tyler Bruno* - has Bachelor degree from ULL in history. His grandmother was the 1st black student to integrate ULL in the 60’s. He started an app to locate historic landmarks in Lafayette. He currently does Marketing for a Lafayette based construction co.
* *Dr Owens* – retired writer/journalist who has provided scholarly content input in Angola museum. He wrote freelance stories throughout his career, including a series on “Black Tourism”.
* *Dr. Terence Vinson* – from Shreveport/Central LA – much experience in Civil Rights history.
* *Blake Jones* – attorney at law in New Orleans.
* *Paula Peer* – Principal of Trapolin-Peer Architects, a local architecture firm. They are currently working sq. ft the Jazz Museum and the Historic New Orleans Collection.

1. **LSM Update**
   1. Status of Feasibility Study

* Draft of the feasibility study was sent to all Board Members by Chairman Williams on 12/4/22.
* This document reflects work from all previous work-sessions from this Board.
* Ms. Williams needs all comments to this document by December 15th so that she can pull together comments and resubmit final revisions timely.

- focus on pages 5, 10, 22, 24, 25, 43, 59, and big idea (page21)

- Give feedback on how this temp museum will show core ideas/topics covered/Observation vs laboratory ideas

- Mr. Jones noted that focus was on 1960s movement instead of overall. Focus is not broad enough to include history before/after.

* 1. Status of Temporary Location for Exhibit
* Cooperative agreement to house temporary exhibit at Hall A of the Morial Convention Center has been signed
* Lt. Gov supports this as an important piece to the end of the civil rights trail.
* This 6,000 sq. ft. Space will replace the original recommended arsenal behind Cabildo.
* Solomon Group is currently doing Urban League Museum in New York and is slated to design both exhibits - temporary and final. Solomon is just waiting on content. The Gallagher document will relay content priorities to them (Hence the importance of getting full Board feedback).
* Aiming for July opening date to align with Essence festival.
* Need for a capital campaign to support and promote the museum was discussed.
  1. Next Steps
* Director State Museums advised that a search for curator will be initiated. State will provide job description.
* Lt. Governor requests that we take “Advisory” out of board’s name.
* Ms. French noted that the Feasibility Report, beginning at page 27, will need to be modified to reference the Convention Center site.
* Lt. Governor’s Gameplan:
* 1st phase - Civil Rights Trail as established by LSM
* 2nd phase - expansion of content for temporary exhibit
* 3rd phase - temporary museum up and running
* Solomon will be designing experiences in future museum as well – may use Amistad content. Interpretive exhibits (for example Environmental Justice) may be developed
* Committee lists will be issued by Ms. Williams to all. Committees will need to meet/deliver to get work completed.
* Dr. McKnight will advise on best practices, but planning meetings may not have to be public. Non board members “advisors” can attend and should be encouraged for contribution.
* Are there Tourism funds to cover travel and housing for out-of-town Board members who have to travel? Will they have to travel for monthly Board meetings and committee meetings, or will planning meetings allow virtual participation via zoom or other means?
* Interested Board members on the Solomon Content committee are: Ernest Jones; Karl Conner; Tyler Bruno; and Madlyn Bagneris.

1. **OLD BUSINESS**

* HB2 funds allocated change to HB1 will outline scope change for temporary museum
* Dr. McKnight described the 2 agreements out there;
* 1. Conv center/state drafted agreement - 10 years-will expand to new renovated Convention Center. is space open or closed?
* 2. 2017 document MOU between board and convention center referenced 5,300 sf and was signed by Friends of Louisiana Civil Rights Museum.
* 2021 document CEA is 1500sf space (mosaic room) signed is superseded by 2017 one because it is signed.
* Previously submitted CEA from the Friends of Louisiana Civil Rights Museum.was rejected per verbiage. The template used included references from other organizations.
* Board will need a new CEA (cooperative endeavor agreement) with Office of State Museums. Mr Jones will meet with McKnight to move forward. Template included things from other organization that included funds. Section 9 needs clarifications

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

* + Did convention center promise funds of $26 million for civil rights museum? Issue unresolved.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

* Ms. Bagneris moved to adjourn and by Mr. Ernest Jones

Minutes extracted with gratitude from notes taken by new board member Paula Peer.