**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LOUISIANA STATE MUSEUM**

**NEW ORLEANS JAZZ MUSEUM at THE OLD U.S. MINT**

**400 ESPLANADE AVENUE**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2023**

**10:30 AM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Phillip Albert, Madlyn Bagneris, Ro Brown, Ruth Burke, Ben Dupuy, Thelma French, Julio Guichard, Malcolm Hodnett, Florence Jumonville, Wendy Lodrig, Suzie Terrell, and Christopher Tidmore

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Tiffany Adler, Jay Batt, Lloyd Bourgeois, Suzanne Perlis, and Ken Pickering

**LSM STAFF PRESENT**: Patrick Burns, Rodneyna Hart, Angelena Jones, Greg Lambousy, Susan Maclay, Michael McKnight and Tom Strider

**Office of Lt. Governor:** Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser

**A quorum was present. Executive action was taken.**

1. **Call to order**

Suzie Terrell called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

**II.**  **New Board Members**

New Board members Sandra Shilstone and Benjamin A. Dupuy were sworn in by Julia George Moore.

**III. Adoption of the Agenda**

Suzie Terrell asked for a motion to adopt the agenda with one change to move item #10 to item #5. Christopher Tidmore seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**IV. Adoption of the Minutes**

Suzie Terrell asked for a motion to adopt the minutes from the December 12, 2022 meeting of the Board of Directors of the Louisiana State Museum. It was so moved by Florence Jumonville with the addition of a statement regarding guests’ attending meetings. Florence asked that it be noted that guests should be very specific when filling out the Public Comment cards. Wendy Lodrig seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**V. Governance Committee Report -** Lt. Governor Billy Nungesseraddressedthe board regarding his intention to introduce legislation in the upcoming Legislative Session to merge the Secretary of State’s museums into the Louisiana State Museum system under the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism and to make changes to the Museum’s governance structure based on recommendations from the Lord Study, which had been commissioned to assess the Museum and to make recommendations to improve the system. In addition to consolidating the Secretary of State’s museum system into the Louisiana State Museum system, highlights of additional proposed changes would include dividing the system into three regions-one for North Louisiana, one for New Orleans and one for Baton Rouge and surrounding areas; each region would have its own board, appointed by the Lt. Governor from names submitted by various constituencies pertinent to the museum properties within those regions, and other stakeholders, such as mayors; each region would have its own director hired by the pertinent regional board; there would be a nine member Board of Governance to include representatives from each region, the Lt. Governor, the Secretary of State and other elected officials who are in a position to advocate/further the state appropriations for the State Museum, and thus make for a better funding scenario for the museums; the Board of Governance would meet once a year for the purpose of reviewing the yearly budget requests from the regions; collections and the Irby Trust would remain with the New Orleans region. At the conclusion of questions and discussion, **it was moved by Ruth Burke and seconded by Christopher Tidmore to support the concept of merging with the Secretary of State’s museums and to make changes to the governance structure as presented. The motion passed unanimously.**

**VI. LSM Interim Director’s Report**

Susan Maclay reported that she had made several media appearances, largely due to the start of the Mardi Gras season. She noted that new promotional signage had been installed on the Cabildo to encourage visitation to the *Creole New Orleans, Honey!* exhibit. She mentioned that she had toured 1000 Chartres St. to assess various activities and the needs of the Collections Department. She closed with an update on the audit being conducted by the Legislative Auditor on the Museum’s performance and that it would be released soon and that it did not appear that there would be any surprises.

**VII. Architectural Preservation Committee** – Malcolm Hodnett reported that Susan Maclay and

Steven Maklansky had reviewed the credentials of several possible consultants to be hired

to provide an assessment of the issues at Madame John’s Legacy. They had narrowed the

list to four finalists, who would be vetted by the Committee at its 3 p.m. meeting that

would take place today. He also noted the Committee would determine whether any

of the proposed work could be recommended on the basis that it would not be affected by

the work of the consultant. **Suzie Terrell asked for a motion to authorize the Architectural**

**Preservation Committee to act on behalf of the board in selecting and hiring a consultant**

**and on recommendations of work that possibly could proceed. Ruth Burke so moved.**

**Thelma French seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

**VIII. Chairman’s Report**

Suzie Terrell introduced new board members Sandy Shilstone and Ben Dupuy and informed members that Phillip Albert and Malcolm Hodnett’s terms were renewed. She then discussed the board members touring the Collections at 1000 Chartres St. and the Regional museums. Mrs. Terrell said she would present the board with some potential dates and times in the future. She also mentioned to members about the challenge of achieving quorums at committee meetings and if members agreed to serve, they needed to make a commitment to show up for meetings. She said she will be contacting board members about serving on committees and will be sending a calendar of meeting dates.

**IX****.** **Irby/Finance Committee Report**

a. OSM received an application from Gerry Stevens for 507 St. Ann. Staff reviewed the application and business concept.  Staff recommended denial of the application based on the menu being to similar to Waffle Time’s menu.  Sarah Stiehl, on behalf of Vieux Carre Gallery (current tenant of 507 St. Ann) expressed her interest in petitioning the board for a month-to-month extension on her lease. Staff recommendation was to accept the current tenant’s request. **Ruth Burke so moved. Thelma French seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

b. Comprehensive Plan of Usage – The Irby/Finance committee is reviewing a change to the wording in the Comprehensive Plan of Usage that would allow the committee to award an amendment with new lease terms under certain situations.  Wendy Lodrig asked to table this item until the next Irby/Finance committee meeting.

c. Motion to amend lease for 801 Decatur St. - Monty’s on the Square whose lease expires September 2023. This item was tabled until the next meeting.

          d.  Motion to amend lease for 547 St. Ann – Stanley’s. This item was tabled.

e.  Monthly CAM fee – Wendy Lodrig asked for a motion to add $25 to replace A/C filters in the monthly CAM (Common Area Maintenance) fee going into effect July 2023.  **Phillip Albert so moved. Malcolm Hodnett seconded and the motion passed unanimously**.

f. Cooperative Endeavor Agreement re: Irby Apartment – In response to the 2020 LLA audit an agreement was drafted which includes Interdepartmental use of the Irby Apartment and keeping records on who uses the apartment through a log. This document will be reviewed and recommended for adoption at the next committee meeting.

g. Irby Financials were reviewed.

**X**. **Louisiana Civil Rights Museum Advisory Board -** Madlyn Bagneris gave a brief report on

the status of the Civil Rights Museum. She noted they were waiting on the contract to be

signed with Solomon Group and on a plan being put together from Gallagher and Associates.

**XI. Collections Committee –** In the absence of a Chairman, Tom Strider presented a brief

Collections update. He requested one action item which was for the acquisition of a SUNO

dancing dolls costume donated by the owner of the costume**. It was so moved by**

**Christopher Tidmore and seconded by Florence Jumonville. Approval was unanimous.**

**XII. New Orleans Jazz Museum -** Greg Lambousy said that the Improvisation Gala was held in

December. Wendy Lodrig and her husband were co-chairs of the auction. The revenue

exceeded $500k. He also noted that the Jazz Museum would be participating in the

Galatoire’s table auction this year.

**XIII. Capitol Park and Regional Museums Report –** Rodneyna Hart reported that she had hired

new staff members which included a curator, educator and a maintenance person. In

February 2023 Ms. Hart mentioned that they will have a 225(BR area code) Day. She is also

working on increasing the HBCU representation in Baton Rouge. A potential exhibit for the

20-year anniversary of the Baton Rouge boycott is coming up in June and Education as a Civil

right. Ms. Hart is planning to hire a staff person for Thibodeaux. They are also planning the

Easter Egg Hunt again this year. Last year they had over 1,000 kids in attendance. The

Capitol Park Museum has also seen an increase in rentals.

**XIV. Friends of the Cabildo** – Jason Strada reported that they sponsored Mardi Gras Sensory Day

and it was a sellout. They also sponsored a Historic Costume tour and Headdress craft class

for Seniors. They will have classes on the origin of Carnival, Washington Mardi Gras and Gay

Carnival.

**XV. Louisiana Museum Foundation** – Kristin Shannon announced that she has just completed

her 90 days as the Executive Director of the LMF. Founders Ball IV was a great success and

Founders Ball V will take place on 11/17/2023, and will be called Hunt Slonem Year of the

Rabbit. The Foundation’s audit was successful and LMF had an increase in revenue. She

noted that copies of the audit were included in today’s board packets. LMF and FOC are

planning some strategic alignments, one being a staff appreciation event for LSM staff.

**XVI. Old Business –** Suzie Terrell asked for a motion to approves the changes to the bylaws that

had been circulated by email prior to the meeting. **Ruth Burke moved to accept the**

**amendments to the bylaws as presented. The motion was seconded by Madlyn Bagneris**

**and passed unanimously.**

**XVII. New Business –** There was no new business.

**XVII. Adjourn –** A motion was made by Thelma French to end the meeting at 12:31 p.m. and Ro

Brown seconded. Motion passed unanimously.