

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
Board of Directors of the Louisiana State Museum
Monday, September 16, 2019
12:30 p.m. – Old U.S. Mint
New Orleans, LA

Members Present: Anne Redd, William Wilton, Kim Abramson, Kevin Kelly, Larry Schmidt, Aleta Leckelt, Mary Coulon, Faye Phillips, George Hero, Fairleigh Jackson, Ann Irwin, Melissa Steiner, Madlyn Bagneris

Members Absent: Rosemary Upshaw Ewing, Sharon Gahagan, Holly Haag, Christen Losey-Gregg, Suzie Terrell, Lee Felterman, Vicki Riser

Also Present: Susan Maclay, Jason Strada, Veronica Gonzales, Julia George Moore, Ruth Burke, Bill Sherman, Emma Espervan

LSM Staff Present: Yvonne Mack, Madison Bonaventure, Steven Maklansky and Bridgette Thibodeaux

A quorum was present.

Anne Redd called the meeting to order at 12:33 p.m. She announced that Richard Hartley is no longer with DCRT and a new Deputy Secretary has not yet been appointed.

Aleta Leckelt made a motion to adopt the agenda. Melissa Steiner seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

George Hero made a motion to adopt the minutes from the Louisiana State Museum Board of Directors Meeting held June 10, 2019. Kim Abramson seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Governance Study Update - Steven Maklansky introduced Veronica Gonzales of Lord Cultural Resources. Veronica Gonzales provided an overview of her background, Lord's business background, and the study progress. She requested input from the Board throughout the process. The Board will be asked to review the implementation strategy. The study encompasses a wide variety of topics from the authorities of the LSM Board, the Lieutenant Governor, how the Office of the State Museum is structured, and its financing.

Board Action Items

Irby Committee: Will Wilton presented the Irby/Finance Committee report. The Irby/Finance Committee reviewed and discussed the current residential tenants and vacancies in their committee meeting.

Action Items:

Larry Schmidt made a motion to approve the Irby motion as stated: A budget (beyond the yearly budget) shall be set and not exceed \$200,000 to be used to update the current vacant 2nd floor apartments at the Pontalba apartments (519 2nd and 511 2nd). The motion was **unanimously approved**.

There was a discussion in regards to the proposed Museum apartment swap from 806 Chartres, 2nd floor to 535 St. Ann, 2nd floor and the apartment's usage. George Hero made a motion that we move to adopt the swap of the museum apartment (806 Chartres, 2nd floor) with 535 St. Ann, 2nd floor and that it should continue to be used for museum purposes only. Madlyn Bagneris seconded the motion and it was **unanimously approved**.

Collections Committee: Fairleigh Jackson presented the Collections committee report.

Action Items:

Accessioning - Fairleigh Jackson, on behalf of the committee, moved to approve the accessions as outlined. The motion was **unanimously approved**.

Deaccessioning - Fairleigh Jackson, on behalf of the committee, made a motion to approve the deaccessions recommended by the committee. The motion was **unanimously approved**.

Incoming loans - Fairleigh Jackson, on behalf of the committee, made a motion to approve the incoming loans for upcoming exhibitions: Le Ker Creole and Chasing the Butterfly Man. The motion was **unanimously approved**.

Incoming loans not heard by Collections - Fairleigh Jackson presented loans for an upcoming Arsenal exhibition: Louisiana Aerial photography. Fairleigh Jackson made a motion to approve the loans and Melissa Steiner seconded the motion. The motion was **unanimously approved**.

Conservation treatment: Fairleigh Jackson, on behalf of the committee, made a motion to approve all recommended conservation treatments. The motion was **unanimously approved**.

Collections Manual/Policy changes regarding outside advisors: Fairleigh Jackson, on behalf of the committee made a motion to approve the following statement for addition to the Collections Manual and for advisors to be set as:

"Members of the Collections Committee may appoint up to eight outside advisors to the committee who will serve 2-year terms."

The motion was **unanimously approved**.

Language changes governing rights and reproductions - Fairleigh, on behalf of the committee, made a motion to change the current permissions form to indicate that the borrower is responsible for securing copyright clearance. The motion was **unanimously approved**.

Interim Director's Report: Steven Maklansky gave an update on past events and exhibitions and upcoming offerings at all of the museum properties. He provided a handout for all members of all upcoming events.

Report from Friends of the Cabildo - Ruth Burke and Jason Strada presented the report for the Friends of the Cabildo. The report included information on a new book in the architectural series. LSU press will be publishing a book on the Carrollton neighborhood and finishing up one on the French Quarter neighborhood. Also a report was given on the NEH Grants for MJL and it was reported that 98% of the funds have been spent. Included in the grant were hosts workshops, survey of the public to get information about what visitors are looking for, and site visits occurred by LSM historians, and other staff members.

Report from Louisiana Museum Foundation - Susan Maclay presented the report for LMF. Ms. Maclay discussed the upcoming exhibition "Chasing the Butterfly Man" and their associated upcoming Gala to be held November 22, 2019. She described projects with LSM including partnering with Sara Lowenburg on the "Letters Read" on September 25th and with Cassandra Erb on the "Baroness Undressed" (October 3rd is the last performance). LMF is working to produce a video for the "Chasing the Butterfly Man" exhibition. Other activities included Downriver Festival.

Report from Friends of E.D. White - Aleta Leckelt presented the report for E D White. She discussed some repair work which is needed at the House, including porches, railings and steps. LSM is considering doing this with in-house New Orleans staff. She also mentioned upcoming programs at E D White.

Old Business -

New Business - CDs for sexual harassment training were distributed to all Board members.

Adjournment - Melissa Steiner made a motion to adjourn at 2:08 p.m. Madlyn Bagneris seconded the motion and it was **unanimously approved**.