**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE**

**LOUISIANA STATE MUSEUM**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Monday, April 14, 2014**

**12:30 PM – The Presbytere**

**New Orleans, Louisiana**

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Louisiana State Museum was called to order by Chairman Michael M. Davis at 12:30 PM at The Presbytere in New Orleans. A quorum was present.

Members Present: Jerry F. Adams; Madlyn B. Bagneris; Robert A. Barnett; Michael M. Davis; Rosemary Upshaw Ewing; Allen J. “AJ” Gibbs; Janet V. Haedicke, Ph.D.; Thomas Frère Kramer, M.D.; Aleta Leckelt; William J. Perret, M.D.; Lawrence N. Powell, Ph.D.; Anne F. Redd; William J. Wilton, Jr.; Philip Woollam; and Diane K. Zink

Members Absent: Myrna B. Bergeron; Charles R. Davis; Jeffrey Pipes Guice; E. Ralph Lupin, M.D.; H. Wayne McCullen; and Donna Winters

Also Present: Mark A. Tullos, Jr., Director, Louisiana State Museum

Robert E. Wheat, Deputy Director, Louisiana State Museum

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the March 10th, 2014 LSM Board meeting were sent to the Board in advance of the meeting. Dr. Perret MOVED, seconded by Ms. Ewing, to approve the minutes. **Unanimously approved.**

**Chairman's Report**

Chairman M. Davis said he feels that LSM staff does not get recognized. Mr. M. Davis selected three (3) staff members he wanted to recognize. The first person is Emmy Hicks, who is the new Events Coordinator. She did a great job with the reception for the national meeting of the Pontifical Mission Societies held recently. The event was sponsored by the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Mr. M. Davis wanted to thank her publicly. The other employee is Mrs. Linda Keelen, who is a Laborer and has been employed at the Museum for 14 years. She does all of the lunches and clean-up.

Mr. M. Davis reminded Board members that they all must submit a Tier 2.1 Financial Disclosure report by May 15th.

Mr. M. Davis asked Dawn Hammatt to give an update on the request for the Napoleon Death Mask for an exhibit in Montreal. Ms. Hammatt said LSM was asked to loan this object to the Basilica but the Collections Division felt like we could not proceed in good faith due to inconsistent answers about insurance and transportation issues. Therefore, at this time, the staff cannot recommend we loan the Death Mask. Final recommendation will be given to the Accessions Committee at their May 7th meeting, at which time they will make a final decision.

Mr. M. Davis said he is creating an Ad Hoc Marketing Committee to work with the new Marketing Director, Marvin McGraw, and he asked Jeffrey Guice to be Chair of this Committee. He also asked LSM Board member William Wilton to serve on the Committee. This Committee would be active for a minimum of 3 months to brainstorm with Mr. McGraw.

Mr. M. Davis introduced the new Marketing Director Marvin McGraw. Mr. McGraw thanked everyone for the kind welcome. He comes from the LSU Health Care Sciences Division as Director of Communications for the public hospital system. He was also in broadcast news for 20 years in Baton Rouge. Mr. McGraw said he has been impressed by the calm demeanor and dedication of the staff.

Chairman Davis said Bill Curl, former LSM Board member who resigned, is here today. He was instrumental in getting the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and Northwest Louisiana History Museum in operation. At the last meeting, the Board approved a proclamation in his honor. Secretary of the Board, Dr. Haedicke, read the framed proclamation. It was presented to Mr. Curl by Chairman Davis, Board Secretary Haedicke, and Museum Director Tullos. Mr. Curl thanked the Board and staff on behalf of himself and the Louisiana Sportswriters’ Association and said this means very much to him personally.

The next Accessions Committee meeting will take place on May 7th at 1 PM and the Irby/Finance Committee meeting will be on May 12th at 10:30 AM, and the LSM Board meeting will begin at 12:30 PM, with lunch at noon.

Chairman Davis said he is not sure how the summer meeting schedule will be laid out, but he asked for e-mail suggestions from the Board.

**Director’s Report**

Mr. Tullos distributed handouts on the LSM structure, as well as a schedule of major events and goals for 2014-15. The LSM is developing great partnerships between the public and private sector. We are depending on the LMF to build broader partnerships as well. The LSM plans also to turn to Irby to help us out when the State is in a budget pinch. The FOC supports all of our New Orleans programming and supports for our exhibits. Mr. Tullos said when he first started he was surprised to find out that the Friends of the Capitol Park Museum did not know there were other museums in our system but now they realize the importance of supporting their museum. Mr. Adams said that Patterson has two support groups and he also asked that the two Foundation names be more accurate in publications, namely the Wedell-Williams Aviation Memorial Foundation and the Cypress Sawmill Foundation.

**Louisiana Museum Foundation Report**

Anne Redd gave the report as Ms. Susan Maclay, the LMF Executive Director, could not attend. Ms. Redd distributed a spreadsheet detailing the grants submitted and/or received by the LMF. Ms. Redd said that on May 12th at Ralph’s on the Park the LMF will hold its annual membership meeting and dinner. The cost of membership is $1,000 per year. The LMF is also gearing up for the Battle of New Orleans gala on January 9th. She asked for volunteers for Committee chairmen. So far, Mr. and Mrs. Rivers Lelong and Mr. and Mrs. Philip Woollam have agreed to chair. Membership letters have been sent out and the LMF is on target to meet goals.

**Friends of the Cabildo Report**

Jason Strada gave the report. Robert Freeland, FOC President, was unable to attend. The FOC’s Annual Meeting will take place on May 15th at the Mint. Volunteer hours for February were 466.

There were 278 adults for the February walking tours. 85 guests attended the Donald Harrison concert with an expected profit of $1,000.

Davell Crawford will be performing at the Old U.S. Mint on Friday, March 21st at 7 PM at the Old U.S. Mint.

Charles Chamberlain, Jason Strada, Karen Leathem and Joyce Miller have been working on a program to create an Adult History Program in May-June of this year. The program is themed around New Orleans neighborhoods, starting with the French Quarter. The 5-session class will consist of 2-hour classes and is scheduled for Wednesdays starting May 28th. The class will cost $200.

The most recent Hidden Treasures was a Spring Arts Edition on April 1st and 3rd with Curator of Decorative Arts Katie Burlison giving a presentation on items such as silver, ceramics, glass and metals that represent the coming of Spring.

**Irby/Finance Committee Report**

Dr. Powell gave the report.

There are two actions items.

The first item is Step 2 in the bid process for the commercial space at 808 Chartres Street. Only one bid was received and it is from the existing tenant. Dr. Powell MOVED that the Board accept the bid. Seconded by Ms. Leckelt, the motion was **unanimously approved.**

The tenant, Mr. Alan Fisher, at 503 St. Ann Street, 2nd floor, completed his walk-through of the apartment with the LSM maintenance and administrative staff and has accepted the apartment in its present condition. He will be moving in and signing the lease upon approval by the Board. Dr. Powell MOVED that the Board approve Mr. Fisher’s moving back into his apartment at 503 St. Ann Street, 2nd floor. Seconded by Ms. Bagneris, the motion was **unanimously approved**.

**New Business**

Dr. Kramer said he likes this meeting space at the Presbytere better than the Mint due to the poor acoustics at the Mint. Ms. Ewing agreed. However, Chairman Davis said the next meeting will be in the performance space at the Mint, which should provide better acoustics.

Ms. Leckelt said that LSM staff member Herb Adams gave a tour at E.D. White Historic House to a group of representatives from five of Russia’s national parks, and it went very well.

Mr. Adams said the Cypress Sawmill Festival was held recently and was successful.

Mr. Stark said on June 8th the Friends of the Capitol Park Museum will host a gala focusing on the cuisine of Louisiana and the intersection of our exhibits and food. Also, the sign for the Capitol Park Museum is nearing completion.

Chairman Davis said he talked to Dr. Lupin’s wife, Pam, and she said he is not doing well. He is now off a ventilator but is only semi-conscious.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.