**Governing Board Meeting Minutes:**

**February 14, 2019**

The meeting started without a quorum, a couple members arrived later. Meeting started with the Director’s Report.

**Directors Report:** Wayne Waddell reported that LSEM had over 54,221 (42,000 Fair Guests) visitors since the October 10, 2018 Board meeting**.** The museumwas open during weekends during the State Fair.

**Oct. – Dec. Events**

* Tuesday, Oct. 23, 2018 5-8 pm – Pinball Party for Friends with 110 attending.
* Friday, Nov. 16, 2018 8 am – 1 pm - Police Academy Graduation with 245 attending.
* Thursday, Nov. 29, 2018 8:30 am -12 noon - The Greening of the Museum with over 600+ students
* Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2018 annual meeting with 65 attending
* Sunday, Dec. 2, 2018 2-4 pm – Louisiana Society of Animal Artist exhibit opening with 125 attending.
* Thursday, Dec. 6, 2018 9 am – 2 pm - La Prep (LASERS retirement) forum with 140 attending.
* Saturday, Dec. 8, 2018 8:30 am – 12 noon - Ayers Graduation with 340 attending.
* Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018 5-9 pm - John Atkins Dinner – 31 guests
* Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018 – Dr. Goree Reception 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm with 200 guests

**Jan. – Feb. Events**

* Sunday, Jan. 6, 2019 2-4 pm – Fantasy Masks Exhibit Opening with 500+ attending.
* Wed., Jan. 16, 2019 10 am -4 pm Calumet Meeting in the Gallery with 15 attending.
* The museum is having a joint program with the education department from the Norton Gallery 10 dates during Jan. & Feb. this year.

The Friends have 242 memberships for 2018. The Friends have 101 memberships for 2019.

The Archives Building is becoming a reality. There have been numerous contractors through the museum and at a planning committee meeting. The first bid, all contractors had over bid so it goes out to bid again next week. When the contract is confirmed, they will have 30 days to break ground and 9-11 months to complete the project. There was some discussion about what the building will hold and events that can be held. Also stated that his office may become a gift shop after the new building is built.

The alligator exhibit should be finished in the next couple of weeks. It will be at the south courtyard door and will not be moveable.

SOS Kyle Ardoin was voted into his position but will have to run again next year. There was some open discussion about merging all the museum systems under the Lt. Governor’s office.

Nell Shehee asked for a roll call: Members present; Betty Black, Michelle Cavanaugh, Ken Hickman, Nell Shehee, Maxine Sarpy, Dr. George Bakowski (Friends) and Evelyn Valore. Proxies from Margaret Green, Chris Giordano, Jack Sibley, Andy Taylor, Bill Altimus, and Geoff Perego. Museum staff present: Wayne Waddell, Director, Nita Cole, Curator and Cindy Grogan, PIO and Recorder. No guests were present.

Nell Shehee asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ken Hickman made the motion 2nd by Maxine Sarpy.

Members should have received an email copy of the minutes from the Oct. meeting. She asked if there were any corrections. Ken Hickman made a motion to approve the minutes, 2nd by Betty Black. Minutes were accepted.

**Accession and Deaccession** no report.

**Building and grounds** no report.

**Education report**: no report

**Long Range Planning**: Ken Hickman would like continuing Long Range Planning Committee meetings to keep the plan updated and said he would schedule one for March and contact anyone who would like to attend

**State Fair**: Chris was not present but Wayne Waddell stated the State Fair had a good year, better than a couple of years ago. The weather was spotty which can make or break the attendance. Some discussion about the animal exhibits at the fair. The Pinball Exhibit ran here during the fair and was very popular. Next year there will be an arcade/video game exhibit runs during the fair.

**The Friends**: Dr. George Bakowski (newly elected Friends President) stated that the Friends had a meeting Jan. 31st, 2019. They have filled 2 board vacancies with new members Rachael Peters and Sabrina Walker. The discussion continued regarding the Glitz & Grits event. Dr. Bakowski stated Margaret Green is the chair for the event (?). There were many suggestions regarding the “draw” for the event; P. Allen Smith (too late for this year), George Bush and local author & historian Keith Melton with his spy exhibit.

**Old Business:** Read the mission statement that was approved:

“The mission of the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum is to engage and inspire guests to make positive connections to their own identities by researching and interpreting Louisiana’s diverse cultures through exhibits and educational programs to advance knowledge.”

**Chairman’s Report:**

Nell Shehee adjourned the meeting at 12:57

**The Next Scheduled Governing Board Meeting is April 11, 2019 at 12 noon.**