**Minutes**

Louisiana State Exhibit Museum

Regional Museum Governing Board

Thursday, October 15, 2015, 12:00 noon

Members present: President Mrs. Margaret Green, Betty Black, Marcia Calhoun, Bill Cawthorne, Jim Gregory, Judge Gayle Hamilton, Richard LeBlanc, Geoff Perego, Judge Mickey Prestridge, Jack Sibley, and Evelyn Valore. LSEM staff present: Wayne Waddell - Director of Northern Region of Museums, Nita Cole - Curator and Cindy Grogan – Public Information Officer. No guests were present.

12:34 pm Chairperson Green called the meeting to order. Cindy Grogan called roll. Margaret Green asked for a motion to approve of agenda, Richard LeBlanc made the motion and seconded by Evelyn Valore. Motion carries. Margaret asked for a motion to approve the minutes as written. William Cawthorne made a motion and seconded by Geoff Perego. Motion carries.

This was a joint meeting with the Friends board.

**Standing Committee Reports:**

**Executive Committee – No report.**

**Accessions and De-accessions Committee – No report.**

**Building and Grounds Committee – No Report.**

**Education Committee – No Report.**

**Long Range Planning Committee** –**No Report**

**Nominating Committee –** No report but will have to meet and determine officer nominations for next year (Maxine Sarpy, Mickey Prestridge and Marcia Calhoun).

**State Fair Report-** Chris Giordano was not here but Wayne Waddell reported the State Fair is opening in less than 2 weeks. The museum will be open the weekends during the fair from 12 noon to 6 pm.

The coliseum roof has been replaced and work is being done to fit it for the Mudbugs hockey team.

The Independence Bowl only had the Duck Commanders as sponsors for one year; Camping World is the new I-Bowl sponsor. The Independence Bowl game is Saturday, December 26th.

**Friends of LSEM** – Mickey Prestridge stated the Friends did not meet in September. He thanked the board for their efforts in supporting the museum and staff during pending budget cuts and threatening layoffs.

**Old Business:** SOS Tom Schedler brought a check to G&G and refunded the Friends the $51,000.00 paid during the budget cut/layoff period.

**New Business:** The book is here**.** We have received the museum books and Dr. Galvan is signing copies. The cost is $39.99 per book.

**Chairman’s Report**: Margaret Green gave a Glitz & Grits update – she thanked everyone who volunteered and helped out before and during the event. She thanked everyone who purchased a table, auction item or ticket. The artists were a big draw, especially the Raku potter, Bruce Odell. The crowd just would shift from the dance floor and bar, over to his demonstrations all evening long. He sold a lot of pottery pieces too. Jim Tweedy signed prints and sold his posters in the rotunda. Everyone loved the tee shirts that he designed and that the staff wore.

We have $71,722.34 in expenses so far. There are 2 outstanding invoices that we have not received. $111,505.00 was raised by sponsorships with $12,655.00 in ticket sales (only about 80 tickets). More sponsors but less tickets than previous years. Approximately $21,860.00auction item sales have been collected. There are still some items for sale in the lobby if anyone would like to shop. Over $1,093.00 in tee shirt sales and $3,027.50 in books, bells, posters & prints sales. $150,140.50 gross income with about $80,000.00 net income so far.

G&G is a massive undertaking and in the future, there have been discussions for a scaled down the event or have more frequent, intimate dinners/receptions with maybe an artist, etc.

**Director’s Report:** Wayne Waddell discussed the capital outlay plan for $2.5 million for the archives building and $2.1 million for the courtyard enclosure. The museum has been “shovel ready” several times but monies were reallocated elsewhere. The courtyard would have a waterproof but transparent covering. All the grass would be taken out, the concrete leveled and there would be large containers of plants and trees.

The glass portico enclosure has been completed. This will help protect the fresco from the elements and vandals. The fish/fountain has been moved and several koi fish have been added. This is a big draw for children; they love the fish that will come up to the surface looking for food when they are standing there. The storage shed and ramp by the auditorium has been completed, this will house some objects that were previously kept in an offsite storage rental.

 **LSEM had over 12,504 visitors since the July Governing Board meeting.**

**July-October Events**

* Sunday, July 12th was the opening reception for **“Excellence in Art** by Caddo Educators and it is always well attended with approximately 220 attending and Chanel 6 TV coverage. A lot of pottery pieces were sold at the exhibit opening that the Friends receives a commission from. The exhibit was on display until July 31st.
* The Shreveport Art Club had an exhibit opening reception on Sunday August 9, 2015 from 2-4 pmwith a crowd of over 300 meeting & greeting the artists**.** Also, several pieces of artwork were sold. **“A Celebration of Louisiana”** exhibit was on display until September 16th. Jim Tweedy’s exhibit was on display during G&G and will be in the West Wing Gallery until October 31st.
* Schools are back in session and we have started to schedule some classroom tours.
* Cindy met with Caddo Parish art teachers regarding The Greening of the Museum and student tours. It will be the 28th Annual Greening and it is on Wednesday, Dec. 2nd but due to testing in schools, we are not getting the participation we have in the past and may not continue this tradition.
* There was a Legislative Appreciation Luncheon at the museum on Thursday, September 10th at the museum. Wayne thanked all board members for attending and their continued support.
* Glitz & Grits was Saturday, September 26th from 7-11pm. Great, great, great, - response, food, band, artists and crowd. We had nothing but praise and compliments. The valets said they had 600 sets of car keys at one time.
* LSEM will host the State Fair Ag brunch/cotton auction on Thursday, Oct. 29th.
* We have 2 pageants, one concert and one graduation scheduled before the end of the year.
* The I-Bowl is Dec. 26th. We may be asked to host an event by one of the participating schools. (rental)

**We have 361 memberships for the 2015 year and have collected $46,632.50** **in donations**.

Next meeting date will be Thursday, January 14, 2016 @ 12:00 noon