

**STATE LIBRARY OF LOUISIANA
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

**August 1, 2019
Baton Rouge, La
10 am**

CALL TO ORDER

The State Library Board of Commissioners meeting was called to order by Vice Chair, Dr. Argiro Morgan. Additional members in attendance included Louis Covington, David Johnson, Evelyn Valore, and Gail Waters. Absent from the meeting was Chair Georgia Brown, and James Lee. Rebecca Hamilton was present as Executive Secretary. Special guest, Deputy Secretary Richard Hartley of Culture, Tourism, and Recreation, was also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Morgan called for a motion to approve and adopt the agenda as presented. Motion was offered by Waters and seconded by Johnson and unanimously carried.

MINUTES

On a motion offered by Covington and seconded by Valore, the minutes were approved.

QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

Hamilton introduced Hartley, who was present for the beginning portion of the meeting, to the board members. Hartley commended the board and State Library staff on their hard work and dedication to fulfilling the mission of the State Library under difficult circumstances, especially their work with the 340 parish libraries who rely so heavily upon the State Library.

Hamilton presented a status report on the 16th annual Louisiana Book Festival that will be held on Saturday Nov. 2 which included a list of the confirmed authors and a sample of the 2019 artwork. She explained that the artist, Rob Guillory was an award winning artist from Lafayette known for his work on Image Comics' CHEW.

Hamilton directed members to the departmental quarterly reports which highlighted key events and initiatives of each department. She discussed the latest positions being filled in the State Library, as well as the positions that have recently been vacated and will need to be filled. The latest loss of employee, Alise Wascom, has created an additional burden on staff as she performed many of the duties of the vacant Public Information Officer position, that, although funded and approved to be filled by the legislature this last fiscal year, has yet to be approved by the Lt. Governor's office.

Hamilton discussed the FY 16-17 request for a waiver of the State Library's maintenance of effort requirement what had been previously denied. Hamilton and her team wrote an appeal letter that is awaiting approval.

Hamilton presented the board with a state employee list along with contact information so that the board would be able to contact staff directly to commend them on specific outstanding accomplishments that they have derived from the quarterly report. Hamilton also stated that a key will be added to the Quarterly Report to help the board understand the meaning of acronyms within individual departments of the State Library.

The upcoming Trailblazers Meeting scheduled for September 27, 2019 was discussed and some names for a keynote speaker were presented for consideration.

OLD BUSINESS

The expiration of Georgia Brown's term and her reappointment was discussed. The board asked Hamilton to ask the Lt. Governor to speak to the Lt. Governor to let him know what an asset Georgia Brown is to the Board of Commissioners.

NEW BUSINESS

Johnson announced that the New Orleans Museum of Arts is closing their library. Board members discussed the State Library absorbing and cataloging at least some of the collection. Hamilton explained that requests like this come regularly and this is something that State Library staff is always happy to take on. She further explained that the only barrier to getting items cataloged and added to the collection is not having enough staff to get this done quickly.

The next meeting will be tentatively held Friday, November 1, 2019 at the State Library at 10 am.

ADJOURNMENT

Valore made the motion to adjourn and Johnson approved. There was no further business to discuss and the meeting adjourned at 11:13 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Hamilton, Secretary
State Library Board of Commissioners

Georgia Brown, Chair
State Library Board of Commissioners