

Advisory Board of the Louisiana State Archives

MINUTES

May 8, 2025 | 1:00pm | Louisiana State Archives Admin Conference Room

I. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm

II. **Roll Call**

Present: Catherine Newsome, Ann Boltin, Melanie Montanaro, Brandon Abadie, and Amanda Gross-Thies, Faye Phillips

Not Present: Amy Louviere, Doug Harrison, and Dr. Robert René

Others Present: Ashley D. Simmons

III. **Order of Business**

1. **Approval of Agenda** - On motion of Catherine Newsome and seconded by Melanie Montanaro, the board approved the agenda. **Motion Passed.**
2. **Approval of Minutes** – On motion of Brandon Abadie, seconded by Amanda Gross-Thies the board approved the February 13, 2025 minutes. **Motion Passed**
3. **Update from the Louisiana State Archives – Melanie Montanaro**
 - a. The Archives roof project on the back section of the building is complete.
 - b. The Gala was very successful; we raised funds for the Southeastern Archives and Records Conference in October.
 - c. Our exhibit “Beyond the Frame” will be open until the end of May.
 - d. The Kay Wallace Collection is currently in the gallery and will be up until July 25th.
 - e. The planetary scanner has been installed in Imaging, staff is still undergoing training on how to utilize all of the features.
 - f. A new disintegration shredder was installed a couple of weeks ago and will reduce long-term disposal cost.
 - g. The vinyl floors have been replaced throughout the Archives building.
 - h. Collections is continuing work on the records from Governor John Bel Edwards term.
4. **Update from Friends of the Louisiana State Archives**
 - a. The Friends Annual meeting is going to be scheduled for a date in July.
5. **Other Programs/Discussion**
 - a. Ann Boltin attended the GenFest in New Orleans on April 5th and was impressed by how the event was organized. She noted there was a very large turnout of attendees. She requested the Louisiana State Archives and the Advisory Board consider participating next year or coordinating a similar event in Baton Rouge. She suggested possibly the summer or fall of 2026. Melanie Montanaro was intrigued by idea and said she would research it and speak with staff.

6. Call for Items of Discussion

Ann Boltin informed the Board members that the next scheduled meeting on August 28th conflicted with the Society of American Archivists Conference and requested a new date. Ashley Simmons reviewed the Archives calendar and noted August 20, 2025 was available.

On motion of Catherine Newsome, seconded by Amanda Gross-Thies the board rescheduled the August meeting for August 20, 2025 at 1:00 pm. **Motion Passed**

IV. Adjournment

On motion of Catherine Newsome, and seconded by Amanda Gross-Thiess, the Board voted to adjourn at 2:05 pm. **Motion passed.**

The next meeting is scheduled for August 20, 2025 at 1:00pm.

	<u>8/20/2025</u>
Ann Boltin, Chairman	Date