

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

**February 18, 2016
10:00 a.m.**

CALL TO ORDER

The State Library Board of Commissioners meeting was called to order by Chair, Georgia Brown. Additional members in attendance included Dr. Argiro Morgan, Evelyn Valore, and Louis Covington. Also, in attendance on behalf of Lt. Governor, Billy Nungesser, was Guy Laigast, the Lt. Governors' Chief of Staff. Absent from the meeting were Tony Clesi, Patricia Preis, Paulette Holahan and Rebecca Hamilton, State Librarian, who had to attend a last minute committee meeting in House Appropriations with the Lt. Governor at the State Capitol.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Georgia Brown called for a motion to approve and adopt the agenda as presented. Motion was offered by Evelyn Valore and seconded by Louis Covington and unanimously carried.

MINUTES

On a motion offered by Louis Covington and seconded by Dr. Argiro Morgan, minutes were approved.

BOARD MEETING DISCUSSION

Chair, Georgia Brown began by informing the board that Lt. Governor, Billy Nungesser and State Librarian Hamilton, would not be in attendance for the board meeting as planned due to the recently scheduled committee hearing on CRT's budget at the Capitol. The Lt. Governor's Chief of Staff, Guy Laigast was in attendance in their place.

Brown introduced Laigast and asked him to share some things about himself since they were meeting him for the first time. Laigast shared he was very fortunate to be there and how he and the Lt. Governor had grown up together. Among other things, Laigast shared that during Nungesser's 8 years as Plaquemines Parish President, he managed to move the parish forward and make a lot of great changes.

Brown thanked Laigast for coming and sharing, not just about himself, but about their new Lt. Governor so graciously. For the remainder of the meeting the board went around the table at the request of Laigast to introduce and share a few things about themselves as well.

Brown emphasized to Lagaist that she wanted the Lt. Governor to get to know the board and understand the value of libraries and what the State Library has been through under the last administration so that we can hopefully begin to make progress again.

Laigast responded to Georgia Brown saying he appreciated all they were doing with what little that they had. He said he believed what the Lt. Governor would expect from them is to make sure to keep him informed of all issues. He said that he did not believe they needed to ever worry about Lt. Governor not being informed because State Librarian Hamilton was very vocal about the needs of the State Library. He said that he had the opportunity and privilege to meet Hamilton during the transition and she told him exactly what the needs of the State Library were. He said the Lt. Governor appreciated Hamilton's passion about libraries and joked that she would not allow the Lt. Governor not to jump in with two feet on their behalf.

A short discussion was held about the current budget situation and what was currently being discussed at the Capitol in House Appropriations. Laigast said the meeting concerned the possibility of CRT's budget being cut another 10% across the board but that the Lt. Governor was aware of our budget and staffing issues and would do all he could to not let this happen. Laigast ended this discussion by saying that they were all a team and that working together was what was going to fund libraries and other CRT agencies.

The departmental quarterly reports were reviewed and discussed. It was noted again how the State Library is operating with 46 staff members doing the work of 78 positions and doing a great job under difficult circumstances.

NO OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

NEXT MEETING DATE

June 9, 2016 10 a.m.

5th Floor Capitol View Room, State Library of Louisiana

ADJOURNMENT

Georgia Brown made the motion to adjourn at 11:02 a.m. and Evelyn Valore seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Hamilton, Secretary
State Library Board of Commissioners

Georgia Brown, Chair
State Library Board of Commissioners

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

July 12, 2016
10 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The State Library Board of Commissioners meeting was called to order by Chair, Georgia Brown. Additional members in attendance included Dr. Argiro Morgan, Evelyn Valore and Louis Covington. Absent from the meeting were Tony Clesi, Patricia Preis and Paulette Holahan. Rebecca Hamilton was present as Executive Secretary.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Georgia Brown called for a motion to approve and adopt the agenda as presented. Motion was offered by Louis Covington and seconded by Evelyn Valore and unanimously carried.

MINUTES

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

QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

Hamilton began by going over the departmental quarterly reports and highlighting those areas of high importance. She noted that the staff are able to accomplish an extraordinary amount of work for an agency that is so critically short staffed and underpaid. As usual, she asked the board to carefully review each department's quarterly report which clearly shows the level of work being accomplished by her staff regardless of any funding and staff shortages. She said they are "real troopers" and their productivity and hard work towards fulfilling the mission of the State Library and serving our clients has not wavered at all. She said she could not imagine having a more dedicated team to work with during such trying times.

A discussion was held about the high attendance at the Louisiana Book Festival even though there was torrential rain and flooding. Nearly 9,000 people still attended and gave rave reviews. This shows the devotion and love citizens have towards the book festival.

Hamilton asked board members affiliated with local parish libraries for updates on new directors and/or any issues because there are several new library directors statewide. A discussion was held regarding St. John the Baptist Parish Library and DeSoto Parish Library Systems.

NO OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

NEXT MEETING DATE

July 12, 2016 11:30 a.m.
5th Floor Capitol View Room, State Library of Louisiana

ADJOURNMENT

Georgia Brown made the motion to adjourn and Evelyn Valore approved. There was no further business to discuss and the meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Hamilton, Secretary
State Library Board of Commissioners

Georgia Brown, Chair
State Library Board of Commissioners