

SWWM Governing Board Meeting, Monday, August 10, 2015

Attending:

All board members were present except Cathy Williamson and Russell Pedro.

Wayne Waddell was also present representing the Secretary of State's Office.

Minutes for April 28th meeting were approved unanimously.

Next SWWM meeting set for TUESDAY, Nov.10 @ 5 pm.

Wayne Waddell updated the board about HB1, which has been signed by Governor Jindal. \$1.7m was allocated for SoS/Museums and Senator Tarver passed an additional \$1.7m. Wayne alerted the board that there could be mid-year (December) cuts. There are still funding unknowns as there is the belief that the new governor will call a Special Session. In the meantime, it appears that the SoS office will reimburse the SWWM the \$3449 the Preservation Society spent to keep the doors open during spring and early summer budget crisis.

Dale talked about the hours the SWWM is open and the possible need to replace one part-time employee. Dale wishes to wait for additional clarification from that employee before looking for another.

Dale showed the daily breakdown of visitors. Discussion followed about the benefit adding a fifth open day and, if so, of being open Sundays rather than Tuesdays and the possible difficulty in finding an employee willing to work on Sunday afternoon. Marilyn Joiner suggested talking to Gary Joiner about a history student who might be looking for extra cash. Jeff Little said a history student would be a great fit for the part-time position.

Dale updated the ongoing repair projects. The lower cost of repointing the north boiler room wall about to be undertaken provides an opportunity to pay for other repairs. The board reiterated its desire to re-do a broken section of sidewalk and an extension of the walk to the deck. Jeff Little moved, Jim Van Hook seconded, unanimous.

Dale briefed the board on the \$2500 SBCTB grant for a new website. Dale will meet with the SBCTB's vendor from south Louisiana. Marilyn Joiner offered the name of another local website builder who has a good reputation working with non profits. Dale will hold initial meetings; report back to board.

Dale reported that the numbers of visitors are down over this time last year. Wayne Waddell stated that numbers across the board at SoS museums are down, likely due in part to the uncertainty of them being open and the media coverage about the state's money woes/museum funding.

It is time for SWWM board member reappointment; Dale asked if there were any who wished to come off the board. Gary Fox and Cathy Williamson have asked not to be reappointed, Russell Pedro is questionable. Liz Swaine asked to make certain there is a Shreveport RR Museum liaison on the board.

Jeff Little motioned to adjourn, Jim Van Hook seconded, unanimous.

By: *Liz Swaine*
Secretary