                                  LOUISIANA STATE EXHIBIT MUSEUM

                                      REGIONAL GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES

Meeting July 30, 2020

**12:08**

Chairman Nell Shehee called the Governing Board Meeting to order.

Cindy Grogan called roll - Governing Board Members present at museum: Richard LeBlanc, Peter Ramsey, Paul Strickland, Nell Shehee, and Thomas Carmody.

Governing Board members present via teleconference: Rosalind Glover Bryant, Chris Brown (late), Jeff Girard, Ann Reid Mills, Catherine Newsome and Nancy Walker.

Guest: Karen Witter, Peer reviewer for AAM grant. A quorum was present.

Oath of Office: Thomas Carmody swore in the board members present - Nell Shehee, Richard LeBlanc, Peter Ramsey, Paul Strickland, Rosalind Glover Bryant, Ann Reid Mills, Nancy Walker and later Chris Brown. Jeff Girard, sworn in at the museum 7/31/20. Thomas passed out a certificate to each of the members present at the museum.

As Secretary of State designees, Thomas Carmody and Catherine Newsome do not take the Oath of Office.

Election of Officers: Nell Shehee asked for nominations for Board Chair (2 year term). Thomas Carmody nominated Nell Shehee and Rosalind Bryant seconded the motion. No other nominations were made, voted and the motion carries. Nell Shehee will be the Chair.

Nell Shehee asked for Vice Chair nominations (2 year term). Nancy Walker was nominated but unable to serve this term. Peter Ramsey nominated Paul Strickland for Vice Chair, Ann Mills seconded the motion, voted and motion carries. Paul Strickland will be the Vice Chair.

Approval of Minutes: Nell Shehee asked for a motion to approve the May 27, 2020 board minutes. Peter Ramsey made motion to approve the minutes and Nancy Walker seconded the motion, voted and motion carries. Minutes approved.

Amendments to Bylaws: Nell Shehee and Thomas Carmody explained that the board needs to approve the amended By-laws but are unable to vote on them at this time. There is a 30 day period between receiving the By-laws and voting on them. Everyone has a copy and the vote will be at the next meeting.

Nell asked Nita Cole to report on the budget and funding to support exhibits and educational programs for AAM accreditation. An exhibit/educational budget for the balance of the year was sent to the Friends Board on request of the Treasurer.

Appointment of Standing and Special Committees: Nell Shehee asked for volunteers to fill positions on the Standing Committees (2 year term).

According to Article VII, Sections 3-4, the Executive Committee members are Chair: Nell Shehee, Vice Chair: Paul Strickland and Secretary of State designee: Thomas Carmody.

Accession and De-accession Committee members are Paul Strickland, Richard LeBlanc Jeff Girard and Chris Brown. Catherine Newsome (?)

Strategic Planning Committee members are Thomas Carmody and Peter Ramsey.

(Need to have an odd number of members.)

Building & Grounds Committee members are Peter Ramsey and Nancy Walker.

(Need to have odd number of members)

Education & Exhibits Committee members will be Rosalind G. Bryant, Jeff Girard and Ann Mills.

Nominating Committee (when needed for board vacancies) members are Ann Mills, Paul Strickland and Richard LeBlanc.

Nell Shehee asked Richard LeBlanc to serve as Chair of the Accessions Committee and he agreed. Peter Ramsey volunteered to serve as Building and Grounds Committee Chair. Rosalind Glover volunteered to serve as Chair of the Education/Exhibits Committee. Chairs are still open for Strategic Planning and Nominating Committees.

When all the Chairmanships are filled, the Board will vote to accept the entire slate.

Nell Shehee asked for a motion to approve a resolution to appoint Nita Cole, Curator as Consultant for Collections Management. Thomas Carmody made a motion, Paul Strickland seconded the motion, it was voted and motion carries.

The Chair also asked for a motion to approve a resolution to appoint Cindy Grogan, PIO II as Consultant as Corresponding Secretary. Ann Mills made a motion, Thomas Carmody seconded the motion, voted and motion carries.

Old Business: There was some explaining by Thomas Carmody, Nell Shehee and Nita Cole regarding the Resolution to the Friends for the Archives building FF&E passed at the last meeting. The Friends have agreed to fund $109,423 for the movable shelving needed in the Archives building. This was not all of the requested amount, funds will still be needed. The state funded the building but no furniture, shelving or other equipment needed to finish. The shelving has been ordered and should be delivered by mid August. A ribbon cutting event will be scheduled in early December.

The Hamilton book collection that was to be donated to the museum is too large and most of it does not adhere to the museum’s mission. The collection was not to be split. Paul Strickland, who is a trustee of the Hamilton Trust, said they are transitioning it to the Noel Collection on the LSUS campus. The Noel Foundation can house the whole collection, where the museum was not able to store all of it.

New Business: Nita Cole stated that the museum has a student intern position open. Archaeologist David Jeane has volunteered his skills cataloging the McKinney collection including pottery from the Haley site. McKenzie Curtis is an intern who has been skillfully piecing together pottery pieces and an asset to the project. Nita would like to hire her in some capacity.

The Chair’s Report: Nell Shehee thanked all board members for the service, hard work and dedication to the museum and this board.

State Museum System Director’s Report: Thomas Carmody reported on the Archives Building status. The keys to the building should be turned over in mid-August. The contractor has 45 days to repair items requested.

He also stated that the state budget is intact. The fiscal year runs from July1 – June 30. If there are mid-year budget cuts, the Friends may need to be petitioned for operational costs, if necessary. During Covid Phase II, all the smaller museums are closed.

AAM Grant: Nita Cole stated that we have received a grant of $2,500 to proceed with the museum accreditation process. Karen Witter is our Peer Reviewer and will do a follow up before the end of the year. She is also attending this meeting by teleconference.

A welcome video from SOS Kyle Ardoin was played for the board members thanking them for their service and dedication.

Peter Ramsey made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Richard LeBlanc. Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting date has not been determined yet.