

Minutes
Louisiana State Exhibit Museum
Regional Museum Governing Board
Thursday, January 10, 2013, 12:00 noon

Members present: President Mrs. Margaret Green, Betty Black, Tari Bradford, Marcia Calhoun, William Cawthorne, Jean Doerge, Jim Gregory, Jud. Gayle Hamilton, Delton Harrison, Hedy Hebert, Ken Hickman, Richard LeBlanc, Betty McDonald, Geoff Perego, Markey Pierre, Andy Taylor, Evelyn Valore, Nancy Walker, Jud. Mickey Prestridge and Chris Giordano, from the State Fair. LSEM staff present: Wayne Waddell – Director, Nita Cole - Curator and Cindy Grogan – Public Information Officer. There was a quorum present.

12:06 pm Chairperson Green called the meeting to order. Margaret thanked the new board members for their support of the museum. Margaret asked if everyone had a copy of the roster and to make any changes to Cindy. She asked if everyone received a copy of the agenda; Delton Harrison made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Tari Bradford. Voted and agenda approved. Chairperson Green asked if everyone received a copy of the minutes and if there were any corrections. Marcia Calhoun made a motion to accept the minutes; seconded by Gayle Hamilton. Motion carries and minutes approved.

2013 Committee Assignments were announced and a copy is attached to these minutes.

After discussion there was a motion made by Evelyn Valore to nominate Jud. Mickey Prestridge to fill Gloria Cook's vacancy on the board. made a motion and it was seconded by Delton Harrison. There was a vote and motion carries. Jud. Mickey Prestridge is a new board member and sat in for the rest of the meeting.

Standing Committee Reports:

Executive Committee – No Report

Accessions and De-accessions Committee – No Report.

Building and Grounds Committee – No Report.

Education Committee – No Report.

Long Range Planning Committee – No Report.

Nominating Committee – No Report.

State Fair Report- Chris Giordano reported that was a good year for the fair. They had new entertainment and a new carnival ride company with some nice weather. The last day of the fair was a very special Veterans Day event. Chris also reported that the fairgrounds will host a National Boat & RV Show on 1-19-13.

Friends of LSEM – Nancy Walker reported that the 2013 membership drive is in progress and that the membership letters were mailed out in December. Smithsonian magazines will not be included in the membership any longer, so all the donations received will stay with the Friends. Even though it is a Glitz & Grits year, she would like the membership to increase from the present 193 members to 500 members.

Old Business: Ken Hickman said the by-laws are still a work in progress – there are some cosmetic changes that have been authorized to be modified; like the 10 parish board members, membership levels, etc.

Wayne Waddell stated that the Landscape and Grounds Board has become more an advisory/consulting committee. There are only 5-6 active members and only a few of them do any physical work needed. You may have noticed some of the changes in the Rotary Garden (in front) as it becomes a more manageable area that the contracted landscape crew can work on. Due to recent state budget cuts, the landscape crew contract will be modified before it goes out for bids next time.

Legislative Update: No report.

Board Vacancies: No report.

New Business:

Chairman's Report: Margaret Green thanked everyone for their attendance at the luncheon given in her honor.

Ms. Green gave the members an update on Glitz & Grits. The date is Friday, Sept. 27th and the theme is "Let Them Eat Cake" and will be celebrating 75th birthday of the museum. The ticket price is \$150 per ticket with an open bar. The band Windstorm will be returning with one of the following being a star attraction who will play the "Rodrigue Blue Dog Piano" - Dr. John, Mickey Gilley or Kix Brooks. This will be the only Shreveport appearance for the Rodrigue piano.

Director's Report: Wayne reported that the West Wing Galleries have been finished and dedicated at the end of last year. The crew from CCC have been wonderful! They have been working in the auditorium painting and plastering.

The Clyde Connell artwork will have a special case built on the breezeway to exhibit the piece. The state has also approved a digital street sign for the museum. This will be visible to people driving by and can have museum exhibit information posted on it. In addition, a coffee table book about the museum authored is scheduled to be published by May.

Since the last meeting we've had over 4,424 visitors (that have signed in). That doesn't include the visitors from the State Fair which is a percentage of their total numbers (45,000). In 2012 there were 71,000+ visitors to the museum. In addition

The 25th Annual Greening of the Museum and had 20 schools attend (approximately 700+ students and a great turnout of the Caddo Parish School board members). The trees were on display all month.

We've held that last election class that was well attended. After the Dr. John Sibley and the Exploration of the Red River Exhibit closed, we had the Webb Native American Gallery dedication/reopening and the Cenac Oyster Exhibit. Both opening receptions and educational program had about 200+ people in attendance. Plus the Friends had a pre-party on the Thursday evening before the public opening on Saturday. Travis Whitfield's "Further on Down the Road" exhibit opening reception (Nov. 15th) had over 300 people in attendance and the poster sales were good. We've had 6 Aunt Tilde productions and another two scheduled in the next couple of weeks. Ayers College December 1st graduation had over 350 people in attendance. Attendance was good for the Friends Annual Meeting on Dec. 12th. Advocare's I Bowl party on Friday 12-28-12 was a big hit even though it rained (again).

A gospel play is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 19th. Dr. Warren and the Fairfield Historic Society scheduled a Gardening Forum with P. Allen Smith for a community garden being built in Shreveport on March 9th.

Evelyn Valore made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Betty Black.

The meeting adjourned at 1:06 pm

Next meeting date will be Thursday, April 11, 2013 @ 12:00 noon.