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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**State of Louisiana**  
**OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**  
**DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM**  
**OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**  
**DIVISION OF THE ARTS**

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DEPUTY SECRETARY

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ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Louisiana State Arts Council Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, October 13, 2016  
9:00am – 9:45am  
Capitol Park Museum – Culture 2020

Council Members Present: Missy Crews Howard, Jacques Rodrigue, Gerri Hobdy, Michael Robinson, Rex Alexander, Darryl Carruth, Margie Camardelle, Rep. Michael Kirk Talbot, Mary Lee

Council Members Absent: Marguerite Anderson, Waynette Ballengee, Sheela Plater, Patrick Widhalm, Barbara Motley, George Marks, Patti Nelson

LDOA and CRT Staff Present: Cheryl Castille, Paula White, Danny Belanger, Maida Owens, Gaye Hamilton, Kristin Sanders – OCD Deputy Assistant Secretary

**I. Call to Order and Welcome**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am by Chair Mary Lee.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved. Gerri Hobdy motioned to approve. Jacques second. Motion approved.

III. Mary Lee welcomed everyone to the 2016 Culture 2020 indicating we would have an abbreviated meeting today.

**IV. LDOA Director's Report:**

1. "Creative Relief" flood relief initiative. LDOA worked with the RDAs in the affected regions. A PSA was created in partnership with the Lt. Governor. RDAs will take the lead on PSA distribution since the end of the PSA directs to donation efforts. Renee Chatelain, with Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge, has been very involved with daily community briefings and shelter efforts for the Baton Rouge area. She also represented the state in a flood relief meeting with the NEA and FEMA. Gerri Hobdy indicated she was attending a conference for first responders and discussed past efforts that could serve useful for this current situation.

2. OCD held the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting bringing together RDAs and Main Street directors at

Destination Downtown in Ruston. LDOA received positive feedback from attendees. LDOA will continue to encourage partnerships between the two entities.

3. LDOA is working to encourage non-traditional partnerships with the RDAS and community partners. Looking more often at placemaking opportunities. i.e. planning commissions.

## V. LDOA Staff Reports

**Grant Programs:** Paula indicated that award letters and grant agreements have been sent out. LDOA is working with the new GO system. The Houma region served as a pilot program. The plan is to continue to move forward with getting all the regions online and create a more streamline program.

**Cultural Districts Program:** Gaye testified before the Sales Tax Streamline Commission. One of the options recommended by the commission, was elimination of the cultural districts boundaries and to look at tax-exempt status statewide. Rep. Talbot indicated it was very important that Gaye was present to testify. She provided the necessary information so that individuals could understand the focus and effectiveness of the program. Geri suggested that Gaye present information on the program at next year's CPEX conference.

**Folklife:** Maida Owens reported that she is finishing work on the Baton Rouge Traditions project. She will partner with the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge to look at options for rolling out the project findings.

She has begun work on the Music Instrument makers project. One of the outcomes will be to produce an interactive map of active instrument makers and repairers. Maida has also been compiling history of LDOA.

**Percent for Arts:** Dana has been out of work due to illness. Danny has been assisting with continuation of projects with the awareness of the legislation going into effect on October 1<sup>st</sup> setting a cap limit. He has been in contact with artist Juanjo Novella regarding the LSU Union project as well as completion of the Lin Emery piece at New Orleans University Medical Center.

**Arts and Education:** Jacques Rodrigue reported on the Louisiana A+ program. Louisiana A+ has been approved by the IRS to be its' own public entity. There are now 18 schools. Gerri indicated it might be helpful for Jacques to meet with Jada Lewis, District 8 BESE member.

**Poetry Out Loud:** Danny is preparing the program for this school year. The Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge is the lead partner working with all state regions to implement the program.

- VI. LPA / LCA Report: there were no representatives of either organization at the meeting.
- VII. New Business  
Mary indicated that LDOA continues to work on the new strategic plan, compiling information that was gathered through regional meetings. The outcomes of Culture 2020 will also be utilized within the plan. Mary also indicated that the Lt. Governor has submitted names to the Governor for LSAC appointment.
- VIII. Public Comment  
No public comment at this meeting.
- IX. Meeting Adjournment  
Gerri motioned to adjourn the meeting. Rep. Talbot 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion passed.