LOUISIANA STATE EXHIBIT MUSEUM

                              REGIONAL GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES

April 21, 2022

**12:00 pm - Governing Board Members**

Nell Shehee (Governing Board Chair) called the meeting to order - it was determined a quorum was present.

Cindy Grogan called roll. Present were Chris Brown, Jeff Girard, Annie Reid Mills, Nell Shehee, Paul Strickland, Katherine Newsome, Rosalind Glover Bryant, Richard LeBlanc, and Thomas Carmody. Proxy from Nancy Walker to Jeff Girard and Peter Ramsey to Nell Shehee. Cindy Grogan and Nita Cole - LSEM staff were present.

Nell asked if there were any corrections to the Gov. Board Meeting Minutes of December 9, 2021. Made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by:

Standing Committee Appointments -

Executive Committee report: Nell Shehee requested that the Strategic Planning Committee to meet in January.

Accession and De-accession Committee report: Richard LeBlanc

Strategic Plan Committee report: Jeff Girard

Building and Grounds Committee report: Peter Ramsey was absent. Thomas Carmody’s report will follow.

Education & Exhibits Committee - Rosalind Glover Bryant reported on past and upcoming events.

**Past Events**

* Don Edwards, Animal Artist “The Wild Side of Nature” Exhibit had lots of attention and visitors. The exhibit closed on March 11th. He sold 3 artworks with $750.00 in commissions going to the Friends.
* National History Day was Saturday, March 5, 2022. There were only 2 projects this year due to so many other events going on. We already have a class commitment for next year so as not to have the same result.
* The Boy Scouts fundraising event on Thursday, March 17, 2022 was canceled due to low ticket sales and various other reasons. They plan on rescheduling in the fall.
* Creative Art Connection Exhibit Opening Reception was Sunday, March 20, 2022. It was a beautiful day and there were over 110 visitors.

**Upcoming Museum Events**

* Bill Gingles “Paintings from the Inside” Exhibit Opening is Sunday, April 24, 2022 from 2-4 pm.
* Springfest (State Fair) is April 28, 2022 thru May 8, 2022. The museum will be open Saturday, April 30, 2022 from 12 noon - 4 pm.
* Project Talent - Caddo Parish Student Art Exhibit will have an Opening Reception on June 7, 2022 from 5-7 pm.
* Please note this will be the sixth weekend or night event we will have hosted since the beginning of 2022 - with refreshments provided by the Friends. Thank you for your continued support and please make plans to attend

**SOS Museum System Director's Report** - Thomas Carmody reported LSEM had 2,689 visitors in 2022.

**Building Repairs:**

1. The state has approved a fencing project for the museum. The wooden fence along the west property line will be replaced with a composite fence. The fence color will be sandstone and match the building color. The bid opening for the new fence was on 02/15/22 but we have been notified the materials are not available until August 2022. Approximate cost for the fence project is now $23,000 updated from $17,500 since Oct. 2021.

2. We are looking into restoration and polishing of the terrazzo flooring, throughout the museum. First bid we received for the interior and exterior flooring was $131,000.

3. The courtyard walls have been power washed and cleaned this year. The work is complete and cost $5,600 which was paid for by the state.

4. The state is getting bids for repairing the damaged asphalt on the parking lot across the street.

5. The carpets in the auditorium, the front 2 offices and other heavy traffic areas were cleaned. However, the heavy rains a couple of weeks ago flooded the front two offices.

6. We are getting estimates for repairing damaged veneer around the rotunda. Woodshapers will be coming to LSEM to test some of the damaged areas. It is a quarter sawn oak and will be hard to match.

7. The state is paying $2,700 for extending the Wi-Fi into the Archives Building. We are waiting for the contractors to install repeaters.

8. The Friends had approved $4,000 for additional security cameras to be installed in the Archives Building. Brown Security installed 3 of them, and we are waiting for parts for the fourth camera.

9. The state is paying $4,000 to Glass Services for rain glass light covers which are period correct to the building. They are being installed on the breezeways by the auditorium and gallery.

**Archives:**  We moved into the Archives building in January - the offices are occupied, artifacts are on the shelving and artworks hung. If you haven’t walked through, please feel free to take a look. A big thank you for the financial support from our Friends.

The sink hole along the Archives building has been semi-repaired. The downspout has been replaced but more dirt is needed to fill the hole. The cost has risen to approximately $25,000 now.

**Old Business:**  The Secretary of State’s Internal Auditor is done. The Friends of LSEM Board audit’s exit report was completed last month. Auditor Alex Levy reviewed his report with the Friends Executive Committee and Director Thomas Carmody.

**New Business:** Resolution to approve an Annual budget for 2023 for exhibits and educational programs.

The state has paid $793,431 in actual expenses; operating costs, repairs, building and grounds maintenance, for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

**Report from the Friends President** - Ted Roberts gave a report from the Friends Board.

Meeting adjourned at 1:06 pm

**NEXT MEETING –**