



State of Louisiana
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM
OFFICE OF TOURISM

BILLY NUNGESSER
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

DOUG BOURGEOIS
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Louisiana Development Commission
March 26, 2018
Capitol Park Welcome Center
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

In Attendance:

Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser
Allison Clark
Alana Cooper
Bandy Evans
Linda Curtis-Sparks
Ben Berthelot
Paul Arrigo
Celeste Gomez
Mark Bernard
Shelley Johnson
David Floyd
Alice Scarborough
Janice Delerno
Maurice LeBlanc

Doug Bourgeois
Jeff Harlan
Mike Prejean
Megan Ryburn
Lynn Coxwell
Rosie Lawson
Barry Landry
Connie Silva
Marlene Curcio
LeAnne Weill
Jason Miller
Jill Kidder
Josh McNemore
Marion Fox

Chairman Alana Cooper opened the meeting at 11:40 am. A quorum was present. Ben Berthelot made a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting and Linda Curtis Sparks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously and minutes were accepted.

Lt. Governor Nungesser: Governor had all of his staff and tourism staff introduce themselves to the commission. He thanked everyone for coming and for serving on the board. He spoke about the possible budget cuts, but expected them to be similar to last year's cuts, but may be a little deeper. He expressed his enthusiasm in partnering with companies and our state parks to bring additional businesses in to make additional revenue.

The Lt. Governor talked about how successful the Dick Clark New Year's Eve Production was this year. He thinks we can get much better coverage by partnering with events in different parishes around the state and featuring them on the Dick Clark New Year's Eve Celebration in New Orleans. This year we plan on looking at other options throughout LA to hit many more viewers.

He mentioned that we are looking into putting a state park in the New Orleans French Quarter. It is only in the talking stages at this point, but could benefit the state by having security 24 -7 in the Quarter and making it much safer for visitors and our citizens.

Doug Bourgeois: Doug introduced himself as the Tourism Secretary and that his experience & working with a great team will benefit Tourism and looks forward to working with all of his staff and industry partners. Doug had each of his executive staff introduce themselves and give an update with a power point presentation on each of their departments. The presentation is being sent to all of the commission members.

Lynn Coxwell with the Historical Markers division let everyone know that the applications for historical marker are being applied for now and that the deadline is May 16th. The commission will approve them at the next commission meeting in August at the Lt. Governor's Summit meeting.

Doug mentioned that the China Mission will take place over the Labor Day weekend. It is still being negotiated.

Alana Cooper asked if Lynne Coxwell could send all of the Research press releases to all of the CVB's in addition to having them put in the Lt. Governors monthly updates.

Alana Cooper also asked if there were any bills on the radar in tourism that they needed to be aware of. The Lt. Governor said that a Wildlife and Fisheries bill is scheduled for Wednesday that they are looking to increase fees and that he is against it and thinks it would be bad for Louisiana.

Alana Cooper told the commission to mark their calendars for August 21st, 2018 for the next commission meeting at the Lt. Governor's Tourism Summit at The Golden Nugget in Lake Charles, LA.

There being no other business a motion was made to close the meeting. Maurice LeBlanc motioned and Ben Berthelot 2nd and the meeting closed at 12:53 pm.