

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
Board of Directors of the Louisiana State Museum
Monday, November 9, 2020
12:30 pm
Video Conference via Zoom

Members Present: Anne Redd, Lee Felterman, Christopher Tidmore, Mary Coulon, Suzanne Terrell, Kevin Kelly, Christen Losey-Gregg, Ken Pickering, Kim Abramson, Fairleigh Jackson, Ann Irwin, Madlyn Bagneris, Suzanne Perlis, Melissa Steiner, Will Wilton, Florence Jumonville, Larry Schmidt, Julio Guichard.

Members Absent: George A. Hero III

LSM Staff Present: Yvonne Mack, Polly Rolman-Smith, Anna Cahill, Steven Maklansky, and Bridgette Thibodeaux

Others Present: Ruth Burke, Susan Maclay, Jason Strada and Julia George Moore

A quorum was present.

- I. Call to order**
Anne Redd called the meeting to order at 12:40 pm.
- II. Oath of office for Ken Pickering**
Julia George Moore conducted the oath of office for Ken Pickering to join as a new member of the Board of Directors of the Louisiana State Museum.
- III. Adoption of the Agenda**
Suzanne Terrell made a motion to adopt the Agenda. Lee Felterman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.
- IV. Designee for Minutes**
Anne Redd designated Anna Cahill as the minute taker for meetings of the Louisiana State Museum Board of Directors.
- V. Adoption of Minutes from the Louisiana State Museum Board of Directors Meeting on September 14, 2020.**
Madlyn Bagneris made a motion to adopt the Minutes from the meeting held September 14, 2020. Lee Felterman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.
- VI. Committee Reports and Board Action Items**
 - A. Architectural Preservation Committee Update:**
Larry Schmidt provided the board with an update on the progress of Madame John's Legacy. He also requested a meeting with Facility Planning.
 - B. Irby/Finance Committee:**

1. Updates and discussions:

i. Irby Budget

Bridgette Thibodeaux provided a brief overview and update on the Irby budget for the Board.

ii. Commercial Property Updates

a. Bridgette Thibodeaux notified the Board on updates of advertising for 521 St. Ann (PhotoWorks) and 808 Chartres (Violet's).

b. Julia George Moore provided an update to the Board on rent abatements discussed at the previous board meeting and the resulting lease amendments being prepared.

2. Action items:

i. Bridgette Thibodeaux discussed two new tenants up for approval by the Board:

a. Christopher Tidmore made a motion to approve new tenants for 531 St. Ann, 2nd floor (Marjorie McKeithen and Aimee Quirk). Suzanne Terrell seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Christen Losey-Gregg motioned to approve the requested updates to be made at 531 St. Ann, 2nd floor (installation of new bathroom, floor tile and kitchen cabinets). Christopher Tidmore seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

b. Christen Losey-Gregg made a motion to approve a new tenant for 519 St. Ann, 3rd floor (Terrence Ginn). Christopher Tidmore seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

ii. LLA Audit Update/Irby Policy Approval – Motion to approve the policy regarding use of the Museum Apartment.

Julia George Moore provided a detailed description on the wording update to the policy regarding use of the Museum Apartment. The new wording is as follows:

The Irby apartment in the Lower Pontalba Building was removed from commerce by the Board of Directors of the Louisiana State Museum (Museum) on October 2, 1996 for the exclusive use of the Museum to provide accommodations for public and museum-related activities as approved on a case-by-case basis.

Use of the Irby apartment (located at 535 St. Ann, 2nd) is limited to uses that are consistent with public purposes that comport with purposes the Museum, Office of Lt. Governor, and Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism are legally authorized to pursue. Examples of allowable uses include providing accommodations for experts, speakers, job applicants, contractors, staff, and LSM board members while engaged in their official duties, and providing a venue for meetings and events.

Melissa Steiner made a motion to approve the policy regarding use of the Museum Apartment. Kevin Kelly seconded the motion. Anne Redd called for a vote from the board. Anne Redd, Lee Felterman, Christopher Tidmore, Mary Coulon, Suzanne Terrell, Kevin Kelly, Christen Losey-Gregg, Ken Pickering, Kim Abramson, Ann Irwin, Madlyn Bagneris, Suzanne Perlis, Melissa Steiner, Will Wilton, Florence Jumonville, Julio Guichard, and Larry Schmidt each voted yes. The motion to approve the proposal presented to the board passes sixteen to one. Those who voted in opposition were: Fairleigh Jackson.

C. Collections (Summary report attached)

1. Proposed Acquisitions to Permanent Collections (donations and purchases) – Fairleigh Jackson discussed a few items with the board.

2. Transfer of “Found in Collections” to Permanent collection – Christen Losey-Gregg made a motion to accept the items discussed for transfer to the Permanent Collection. Christopher Tidmore seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
3. Proposed Deaccessions from Maps & Manuscripts, Music and Visual Arts to Permanent Collections – Suzanne Terrell made a motion to accept the items proposed for deaccession. Melissa Steiner seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
4. Transfer of “Found in Collections” Objects to Demonstration Collection – No motion needed.
5. Incoming loans – No motion needed, but items which are incoming for exhibitions were discussed.
6. Incoming loan extensions – No motion needed.

D. Civil Rights Museum

1. Motion in support of Arsenal installation
Madlyn Bagneris withdrew the call for a motion as they wait for more information on the progression of the exhibit space.

VII. Interim Director’s Report

1. Update on Museums – Steven Maklansky provided a brief report on upcoming exhibitions, collections updates, etc.
2. Next steps on Governance Study – Steven Maklansky notified the board that they are nearing the end of the study. Anne Redd said she hopes to be able to provide a presentation to the Board members soon.

VIII. Friends/Foundation reports

Jason Strada provided an update on Friends of the Cabildo events and thanked the Board for all of their support. Susan Maclay also provided an update of the Louisiana Museum Foundation.

IX. Old Business - There was no old business.

X. New Business – Anne Redd discussed the possibility of a special meeting in December to discuss rent abatements moving forward for commercial tenants.

XI. Adjournment - Christopher Tidmore made a motion to adjourn. Lee Felterman seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 2:41 pm.