

ST. BERNARD TOURIST COMMISSION MEETING

MARCH 20, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance

Present from the Tourist Commission: Jenifer Heintz, Chairman, Lena Nunez, Phyllis Diecidue, Gary Huettmann, Claire Henderson, Jessica Reab, and Dorothy Hills.

Present from the Office of Tourism: Katie Tommaseo, Samantha Meyer, and Faith Moran.

Guests: Amber Prattini with The St. Bernard Voice

Public Comment: None

6. A motion was made by Jessica Reab, seconded by Phyllis Diecidue to approve the minutes. Jenifer Heintz, Lena Nunez, Phyllis Diecidue, Gary Huettmann, Claire Henderson, Jessica Reab, and Dorothy Hills voted yea; no nays. Motion passed.

7. Treasurer Lena Nunez gave the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made by Phyllis Diecidue, seconded by Claire Henderson to accept the Treasurer's Report. Jenifer Heintz, Lena Nunez, Phyllis Diecidue, Gary Huettmann, Claire Henderson, Jessica Reab, and Dorothy Hills voted yea; no nays. Motion passed.

8. Tourism Director, Katie Tommaseo, gave a report on the State of the Parish. She stated that she and Samantha Meyer will be in Baton Rouge next week for the Louisiana Entertainment Film Conference. The following week she will be in Baton Rouge again for the LACVB Conference. Katie stated she would like for Gary Huettmann to attend also and asked the Tourist Commission to pay for him to go. Katie spoke about increasing the 2% tax; the Queens coming to St. Bernard in June, and the Irish, Italian, Islenos Parade. Katie mentioned the Crawfish Festival is this weekend. There were 300 goody bags distributed in March. The Marina Motel again requested 200 for their guests coming in for Mardi Gras this year. The St. Bernard Visitors Guide has been proofed.

9. The Bayou Terre Aux Boeufs Project was tabled.

10. A motion was made by Lena Nunez, seconded by Phyllis Diecidue to purchase a table for \$400 at the State of the Parish event which will be held on April 24, 2019 at the Civic Center.

Jenifer Heintz, Lena Nunez, Phyllis Diecidue, Gary Huettmann, Claire Henderson, Jessica Reab, and Dorothy Hills voted yea; no nays. Motion passed.

11. A motion was made by Phyllis Diecidue, seconded by Jessica Reab to approve up to \$4500.00 for Visitor Guide Brochures. Jenifer Heintz, Lena Nunez, Phyllis Diecidue, Gary Huettmann, Claire Henderson, Jessica Reab, and Dorothy Hills voted yea; no nays. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Phyllis Diecidue, seconded by Jessica Reab to add 11-A to the agenda. Jenifer Heintz, Lena Nunez, Phyllis Diecidue, Gary Huettmann, Claire Henderson, Jessica Reab, and Dorothy Hills voted yea; no nays. Motion passed.

11-A. A motion was made by Phyllis Diecidue, seconded by Jessica Reab to pay Instant Replay \$1484.50 for throws for the float in the Nemesis Parade. Jenifer Heintz, Lena Nunez, Phyllis Diecidue, Gary Huettmann, Claire Henderson, Jessica Reab, and Dorothy Hills voted yea; no nays. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Dorothy Hills, seconded by Lena Nunez to add 11-B to the agenda. Jenifer Heintz, Lena Nunez, Phyllis Diecidue, Gary Huettmann, Claire Henderson, Jessica Reab, and Dorothy Hills voted yea; no nays. Motion passed.

11-B. A motion to pay for Gary Huettmann's room and mileage to attend the LACVB Conference in Baton Rouge was made by Dorothy Hills, seconded by Lena Nunez. Jenifer Heintz, Lena Nunez, Phyllis Diecidue, Claire Henderson, Jessica Reab, and Dorothy Hills voted yea; no nays. Gary Huettmann abstained. Motion passed.

12. A motion was made by Gary Huettmann, seconded by Jessica Reab to give a \$250.00 sponsorship to the First Lady Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for April 14, 2019. Jenifer Heintz, Lena Nunez, Phyllis Diecidue, Gary Huettmann, Claire Henderson, Jessica Reab, and Dorothy Hills voted yea; no nays. Motion passed.

13. Computer for the Visitors Center was tabled.

14. The Financial Disclosure Form is due by May 15, 2019. All Tourist Commission members are required to fill out this form.

The parish legal department approved the MOU with the Old Arabi Neighborhood Association. The Sheriff's Department stated that 2 deputies are required for the Sippin' in the Sunset Event. Barry Lemoine, President of the Association, wants the Tourist Commission to sponsor the Sippin' in the Sunset Event and pay for the extra deputy. A request form needs to be filled out and since the event is next week, it is too late for this.

15. The next meeting of the Tourist Commission will be Wednesday, April 17, 2019, 4:30 p.m. at the Visitors Center.

16. A motion was made by Lena Nunez, seconded by Dorothy Hills to adjourn. Jenifer Heintz, Lena Nunez, Phyllis Diecidue, Gary Huettmann, Claire Henderson, Jessica Reab, and Dorothy Hills voted yea; no nays. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.