

Sabine Parish Tourist Commission
MINUTES
Tuesday, June 12, 2018
12:00 pm

Board Members Present:	Not Present:	Public Present:	Staff Present:
Kyle Martinez Martha Henderson Geri Alford Bonnie Fox-Miles Edith Palmer Bobbie Jackson	Randy Ziegler, III	George Miles	Linda Curtis-Sparks Wanda Rivers Whitney Hart

Kyle Martinez, President, called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Sabine Parish Tourist Commission to order.

The prayer and pledge were led by Linda Curtis-Sparks.

Martha Henderson thanked the Tourist Commission for their assistance in Zwolle's 120th Anniversary celebration that took place on June 9, 2018.

Action #1: Geri Alford made a motion to approve the June 2018 agenda of the Sabine Parish Tourist Commission Board meeting. Edith Palmer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

No public comment.

Action #2: Edith Palmer made a motion to approve the April 2018 minutes. Bonnie Fox-Miles seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mrs. Sparks presented the April and May 2018 financials. She informed the Board that there would be some changes in the budget in marketing and staff is planning on doing Facebook RV and Vacation Home Rental promotions later this year. She stated that the letter to the 3,700 camp and second home owners encouraging rental of their properties would be mailed out in the next week or two.

Action #3: Geri Alford made a motion to approve the April and May 2018 financials of the SPTC. Martha Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Action #4: Edith Palmer made a motion to approve the treasurer, Geri Alford, as a check signer. Bonnie Fox-Miles seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mrs. Sparks presented her Director's Report to the Board. She made the Board aware of a 12.4 lb lunker that was caught and is the biggest the Lunker Program has had in over 2 years. The art fish are in need of restoration and that the Tourist Commission would be working on 6 of the fish to start with.

Mrs. Sparks updated the Board on the parish wide water meeting being rescheduled for August 9th, due to the upcoming special session. She gave the Board an update on the TBLA grant. She will be seeking a

grant from the Master Gardeners for additional plants and irrigation materials. Mrs. Sparks showed pictures of the condition of the buildings at Ft. Jesup and stated that they are in need of repair. There were plans for Ft. Jesup to host the upcoming No Man's Land Celebration, but that there will need to be improvements before that can happen.

Mrs. Sparks showed the Board pictures of the signage issue on the lake. Businesses are displaying unpermitted or illegal signs all along the highways and at entrances to neighborhoods and it has become unsightly and a big issue. She stated that DOTD has advised that they will be taking action. She stated that a majority of the signs are not displayed for directional purposes, but for advertising. She showed the Board a mockup of uniform signage that she would like to have in place of these signs. She informed the Board that she has not gotten word from BASS on the possibility of a 2019 Elite tournament on Toledo Bend and also that their list of top lakes should be coming out soon. She gave an update on the Zwolle/Toledo Bend museum and consideration of funding the establishment of a Friends Group for the museum. She thought it would be a good idea for businesses or individuals to sponsor a wall in the museum as a means of funding the exhibits. She stated that she felt there should be a group responsible for the content of the museum and one for the fundraising. She asked Kyle Martinez to appoint Martha Henderson and Edith Palmer to the content group, and they were so appointed. She will also be writing an article for the Sabine Index asking the public for any donations of items or information they would like to make to the museum.

Action #8: Edith Palmer made a motion to accept the March 2018 Director's Reports which also included the following:

1. 120th Anniversary/Celebration for Zwolle
2. Louisiana Office of Tourism Webinar
3. Sabine Parish Leaders Against Litter Update
4. Occupancy Tax and Website Update
5. Louisiana Office of Tourism to Visit Toledo Bend
6. Occupancy Taxes Increased to 4 cents in Lafourche Parish
7. Parish Wide Water Committee Meeting Scheduled for August 9th
8. Toledo Bend RV Resort & Cabins Update on Opening
9. Louisiana Rural Conference
10. Encore Louisiana Commission Meeting
11. Lt. Governor's Tourism Summit
12. Webinar – Segmenting the Millennial Traveler
13. Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame
14. Louisiana Public Service Commission

Geri Alford seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Action #7: Bonnie Fox-Miles made a motion to adjourn. Martha Henderson seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

President, Kyle Martinez

Date

Witness

Date