

Sabine Parish Tourist Commission
MINUTES
Tuesday, June 9, 2020
12:00 pm

Board Members Present:
Edith Palmer
Martha Henderson
Bobbie Jackson

Not Present:

Public Present:

Marion Hall

Staff Present:

Linda Curtis-Sparks
Wanda Rivers
Marjorie Hogan

Via teleconference:
Daniel Bennett
Bonnie Fox-Miles
Lance Rivers
Lauren Moore

Action #1: Wanda Rivers read the resolution to hold meeting via teleconference.

Daniel Bennett, President, called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Sabine Parish Tourist Commission to order.

Daniel Bennett, President, asked for a Calling of the Roll. Members present were Martha Henderson, Edith Palmer and Bobbie Jackson. Members in attendance via teleconference were Daniel Bennett, Lance Rivers, Bonnie Fox-Miles, and Lauren Moore. Also, in attendance were Sabine Parish Tourist Commission staff, Linda Curtis-Sparks, Wanda Rivers and Marjorie Hogan.

Action #2: Edith Palmer made a motion to approve the June 2020 agenda of the Sabine Parish Tourist Commission Board meeting. Bobbie Jackson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Action #3: Lance Rivers made a motion to approve the May 2020 minutes. Lauren Moore seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Linda Curtis-Sparks stated the 2019 Audit Report is complete. Copy of audit was submitted to the board along with budget comparison. She also mentioned that the auditor and accountant suggested the board consider moving monthly board meetings to later in the month to enable them to present full financials. After discussion, the board decided not to consider moving date of meetings.

Action #4: Edith Palmer made a motion to approve the May 2020 financials of the SPTC. Martha Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Linda Curtis-Sparks advised board that HB292/Airbnb passed in the House & Senate. This bill means all rentals will follow state requirement to pay state taxes and \$.03 occupancy tax.

Linda Curtis-Sparks updated the board on progress for Zwolle Museum. She met with an engineer to discuss plans. A museum consultant is coming within the next few weeks.

Mrs. Sparks has been working on the Resilient Louisiana Task Force. They are working on a report regarding re-opening outdoor activities, along with equality - ways to change & areas of improvement. They are also discussing broadband concerns in rural areas.

Mrs. Sparks discussed the 3-year process of a possible merger with Vernon and DeSoto Parish commissions. She composed a letter to send to Vernon Parish and Desoto Parish to appoint 2 board members from each parish to assess assets of each parish and how to utilize each other's assets. LTA is encouraging merger. The board decided to revisit the matter at the next board meeting.

Wanda Rivers presented a proposal to change internet service, phone services, IT service and internet security from CP-Tel to AT&T due to current internet issues and to increase internet security. Marion Hall with SatCom joined the discussion via teleconference to answer any questions pertaining to the new service and internet security.

Action #5: Martha Henderson made a motion to approve the change of service. Edith Palmer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Linda Curtis-Sparks received a request from Texas Forestry Country Partnership for a letter of support regarding the development of two recreation areas on Toledo Bend by Sabine River Authority of Texas.

Action #6: Edith Palmer made a motion to approve sending a letter of support. Martha Henderson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Action #7: Lance Rivers made a motion to accept the May 2020 Director's Report which also included the following:

- a. Discuss Occupancy
- b. State photoshoot and ad funding
- c. Channel 3 Morning show
- d. Channel 3 Zoom interview
- e. Video production by LOT
- f. Legislative update
- g. Resilient Louisiana Commission
- h. Webinars
- i. Sealy Outdoors
- j. Lunker Art fish update

Bobbie Jackson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Action #8: Martha Henderson made a motion to adjourn. Edith Palmer seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.



President, Daniel Bennett



Witness

7-14-2020
Date

7-14-2020
Date