

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
LOUISIANA STATE MUSEUM
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Monday, November 14, 2016
12:30 PM – The Old U.S. Mint
New Orleans, Louisiana**

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Louisiana State Museum was called to order by Dr. Lawrence N. Powell at 12:30 PM at the Old U.S. Mint in New Orleans. A quorum was present.

Members Present: Madlyn B. Bagneris; Julie F. Breitmeyer; Rennie Buras II; Tamra Carboni; Mary C. Coulon; Rosemary Upshaw Ewing; Sharon Turcan Gahagan; D. Lee Felterman; Janet V. Haedicke; Harry S. Hardin, III; George A. Hero, III; Kevin Kelly; Aleta Leckelt; Lawrence N. Powell; Anne F. Redd; Melissa D. Steiner; Gary N. Wheat; and William Wilton

Members Absent: Fairleigh Cook Jackson; Carolyn K. Morris; and Lana Sonnier Venable

Also Present: Ruth Burke, President of the Friends of the Cabildo; and Jason Strada, Executive Director of the Friends of the Cabildo

LSM Staff Present: Maria Burns; Patrick Burns; Timothy J. Chester; Yvette Cuccia; Cassandra Erb; Greg Lambousy; Marvin McGraw; Yvonne Mack; Kyle Neff; William Stark; Faith Troxler; Celestine Washington; and Stacey Wilson

Call to Order

The LSM Board of Directors meeting was called to order by Dr. Powell.

Adoption of Agenda

Ms. Bagneris MOVED, seconded by Ms. Steiner, to adopt the agenda. No public comment.

Unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the September 12, 2016 meeting were distributed in advance for the Board's review. Mr. Felterman MOVED, seconded by Ms. Steiner, to approve the September 12, 2016 LSM Board minutes. No public comment. **Unanimously approved.**

Chairman's report

Dr. Powell advised that Robby Cangelosi and Michael Toups have agreed to let their names be submitted to the Mayor's Office for possible appointment to the Vieux Carré Commission. The LSM Board is allotted one seat on the VCC. Mr. Cangelosi and Mr. Toups have vast experience in historical preservation, plus close familiarity with the Quarter.

Introduction by Interim Director Tim Chester

Dr. Powell introduced Tim Chester to the board. Mr. Chester said he used to work at the museum 30 years ago. He has been charged with two tasks: 1) to transition from the previous administration, and 2) to get the museum in a better place before searching for a permanent director. Mr. Chester will apply the AAM standards he has learned over the years. He has also been asked to analyze the LSM system and benchmark it against other state museums in the U.S.

Mr. Chester said he is in support of public/private partnerships, similar to what Audubon and NOMA have done.

Ms. Chester feels warmly welcomed by board members and staff alike and looks forward to working with everyone.

Update on Jazz Museum and exhibit - Greg Lambousy

Ms. Lambousy said he is working on getting the Solomon contract complete and hope to have the Master Plan in place by December. In addition, he will apply for grants in January related to the jazz exhibit. Ms. Lambousy is currently updating the Music at the Mint website. He has been busy establishing contacts with the communities in Louisiana and around the U.S.

Irby/Finance Committee report

Fund reallocation requests

Ms. Breitmeyer said \$285,000 was transferred out of Irby as a loan for the Jazz Museum. Since the plan/exhibit has been upgraded and reconfigured, she advised that Irby would like to get those funds back and re-distribute them.

The Committee recommends rescinding the \$285,000 loan previously made by Irby to the LSM for Capital Outlay Project No. 06-263-07B-03, Part 03. Seconded by Ms. Ewing, the motion was **unanimously approved.**

The Committee recommends that LSM appropriate and budget out of Irby funds, \$150,000 for museum projects.

The Committee recommends that the LSM appropriate and budget out of Irby funds, \$30,000 for the New Orleans Jazz Museum and authorize deposit of said funds with the La. Museum Foundation. This \$30,000 expense will NOT be a loan from the Irby/Finance Committee.

The Committee recommends that the LSM appropriate and budget out of Irby funds, \$105,000 for the colonial documents digitization project, and authorize deposit of said funds to the La. Museum Foundation.

Ms. Ewing MOVED that the LSM implement the rental rates proposed by the Geoffrey Lutz rent study for the two current and available residential apartments. Breakdown is as follows:

<u>Apartment</u>	<u>Base Rent</u>	<u>Balcony</u>	<u>Total per month</u>
535 St. Ann Street, 2 nd floor	\$3,260	\$400	\$3,660
539 St. Ann Street, 2 nd floor	\$3,222	\$400	\$3,622

Approval of prospective residential tenant

Ms. Washington advised that Ms. Julie Simpson has agreed to lease 539 St. Ann, 2nd floor. Her credit has been checked, and found acceptable.

The Committee recommends approving Julie Simpson to be the residential tenant at 539 St. Ann Street, 2nd floor.

Deposits for residential tenants

Ms. Washington advised that, as the residential rental rates change, LSM will require each tenant to match their rental deposit with the current base rent. Inasmuch as the rent increases won't take effect until July 1, 2017 due to a square footage update, Ms. Washington asked the Committee whether tenants should be required to augment their deposits whenever the base rent increases, so as to ensure the two figures are always equal at the start of every leasing period.

The Committee recommends requiring the residential tenants to submit deposits to match base rents.

All of the above recommendations/motions were **unanimously approved** by the Board.

FOC presentation to the Board

Robby Cangelosi gave an overview of the history of the FOC, which was incorporated in 1956.

Walking tours started in 1969. Since then, the FOC has done publications, architectural series, lectures, tours, a newsletter, and their Hidden Treasures series. Currently, they sponsor yoga at the Cabildo, which is a great success. Lastly, they have concerts at the Mint.

Ruth Burke then gave a PowerPoint presentation on the FOC's mission and current activities. The presentation is attached.

Collections Committee report

The Collections Committee report was sent to the board in advance of the meeting. Ms. Carboni recommended approval of report. Dr. Haedicke approved the motion, which was **unanimously approved**.

New business

Dr. Powell made the case for converting the new Ad Hoc Committee on Madame John's Legacy (MJL) into a permanent standing committee. Robby Cangelosi will play a leading role on the new head up committee. His architectural firm, Koch and Wilson, wrote an initial report on MJL, which is attached to the minutes. Mr. Cangelosi said water poses the largest threat to the building. He has prepared a cyclical maintenance plan for the building, some of which can be done in-house.

Dr. Powell MOVED that LSM take steps to transition the Committee on Architectural Historic Preservation into a standing committee, which necessitates changing the LSM bylaws. Seconded by Dr. Haedicke, the motion was **unanimously approved**.

Public Comment

Michael Cochran of *Monty's on the Square* introduced himself. He is the Manager of Monty's. He stated that sales have been increasing since they have change management and their menu. He invited board members to come eat at the restaurant.

Ms. Ewing MOVED, seconded by Ms. Carboni, to adjourn.