

November 21, 2019

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Attendance

Present: Peggy Joseph, Elizabeth Joseph, Garret Monti, Tracey Smith, Paul Aucoin, Camella Landry

Staff: Rena Jackson, Buddy Boe, Willma Harvey, Denise Burrell, Andre Watkins

Absent: Michelle Jenkins

1. **Call to Order** – Peggy Joseph
2. **Prayer** –Elizabeth Joseph
3. **Pledge**- Paul Aucoin
4. **Public Comment** – Mary Becnel asked for support of the River Region Arts and Humanities Council grant request.
5. **Agenda** – A motion was made by Tracy Smith and seconded by Garret Monti to approve the agenda. The motion was unanimously approved.
6. **October 2019 Minutes** – A motion was made by Camella Landry and seconded by Elizabeth Joseph to amend the minutes to remove Dolores Florent from the list of Absent Commissioners. The motion was approved unanimously. A motion was made by Garret Monti and second by Paul Aucoin to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was approved unanimously.
7. **Financials** –

**October 2019** - A motion was made by Garret Monti and seconded by Camella Landry to approve the October 2019 financials comparing budget figures to actuals. The motion was unanimously approved.

* **Resolution 19-27 – 2019 2020 Budget Amendment**
  + A motion was made to approve by Garret Monti and seconded by Tracy Smith. The motion was approved unanimous.
* **Resolution 19-28 – Vehicle Use Stipend**
  + A motion to approve was made by Tracy Smith and seconded by Paul Aucoin. The motion passed unanimously.
* **Resolution 19-29 – Amend Resolution 18-40, 457B Plan Adjustment**
  + A motion to table was made by Garret Monti and seconded by Elizabeth Joseph. The motion passed unanimously.

1. **Executive Director’s Report**

Operations

* Digital Content Manager -Mr. Boe introduced Andre Watkins to the Commission.
* Payroll Administration – Mr. Boe discussed the separation of payroll services from St. James Parish to begin in 2020.

Community Engagement

* River Region Cruise Terminal – Mr. Boe stated no developments had occurred since the last meeting but a meeting with the St. Philip’s church leadership was scheduled.
* **Resolution 19-30 – 2020 River Parish Tourist Investment Grant Awards**
  + A motion to approve was made by Garret Monti and seconded by Camella Landry. The motion was approved 4-0 with Tracy Smith and Paul Aucoin abstaining.
* Manchac Green Way FAM Tour – Willma Harvey discussed the upcoming event and invited the audience and commission to attend.
* Bonfires 2019 – Mr. Boe updated the board on the efforts of the commission to highlight bonfires throughout the state.

Destination Promotion

* **Resolution 19-31 – Creative, Public Relations, Product Development, and Strategic Planning Contract Authorization -** 
  + A motion to approve was made by Garret Monti and seconded by Tracey Smith. The motion passed 5-1 with Commissioner Joseph voting against.
* DestinationNext Survey Update – Mr. Boe stated the results would be put on the website and a summary would be provided at a later meeting.
* River Reel Video – deferred until December.

Garret Monti left the meeting.

St. John Center / River Parishes Film Commission

* St. John Center Bookings Report – Ms. Harvey updated the Commission on the activities at the Center.
* **Resolution 19-32 – St. John Center Management CEA** 
  + A motion to TABLE was made by Elizabeth Joseph and seconded by Tracey Smith. The motion passed unanimously.

Communications –

Sales/Business Development

* Sales Report – Ms. Harvey updated the board and provided the most recent sales report for the region and St. John Center

**VIII Chairman’s Report**

Elections – Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary/Treasurer – Nov 21st - ***Action***

CHAIRMAN - A motion was made to nominate Peggy Joseph as Chairman by Paul Aucoin and seconded by Tracy Smith. The motion passed unanimously.

VICE CHAIR - A motion was made to nominate Garret Monti by Tracy Smith and seconded by Camella Landry. The motion was approved unanimously.

SEC/TREAS A motion was made to nominate Camella Landry by Tracy Smith and Paul Aucoin. The motion passed 4-1 with Elizabeth Joseph voting against.

Next Board meeting –December 19th @ 10am

Mr. Gary Watson addressed the board regarding the RFP process and the DestinationNEXT Survey conducted earlier this year.

1. Adjournment – A motion was made by Camella Landry and seconded by Tracy Smith. The motion was unanimously approved.