

RIVER PARISHES

TOURIST COMMISSION

MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting

July 20, 2023, 5 pm

1720 LA Highway 44, Reserve, LA 70084

I. **5:00pm** Call to Order / Roll Call – Elizabeth Joseph / Denise Burrell

TS RS NB EJ RT KP CL TJ SB (6 - 3)

Attorneys Henri Dufresne and Keith Green in attendance

*Kevin Patel entered the meeting – 5:07pm; Recognized by Chairwoman Joseph – 5:09pm

*Ricardo Smith entered the meeting – 5:10pm; Recognized by Chairwoman Joseph – 5:15pm

II. Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance Prayer TJ Pledge CL

III. Approval of Current Agenda – *Action*

- o Motion to suspend the rules and amend the current agenda of July 20, 2023 to add the names of the candidates to be interviewed on item XI of the agenda, Ms. Denise Burrell and Mr. Craig Howart.

APPROVED M: TS 2: TJ
TS EJ RT CL TJ SB (6 - 0 - 0)

- o Motion to approve the current agenda of July 20, 2023 as amended.

APPROVED M: TS 2: TJ
TS EJ RT CL TJ SB (6 - 0 - 0)

IV. Public Comment

No Public Comments START 5:04pm END 5:04pm

V. Approval of Minutes

- June 2023 Interview & Selection Committee Special Meeting Minutes – *Action*
 - o Motion to approve the minutes of June 22, 2023, Interview & Selection Committee Special Meeting.

APPROVED M: RT 2: SB
TS EJ RT CL TJ SB (6 - 0 - 0)

- June 2023 Special Board Meeting Minutes – *Action*

- o Motion to approve the minutes of June 22, 2023, Special Board Meeting.

APPROVED M: CL 2: SB
TS EJ RT CL TJ SB (6 - 0 - 0)

VI. Financial

- June 2023 Monthly Financials – *Action*

*Kevin Patel entered the meeting – 5:07pm; Recognized by Chairwoman Joseph – 5:09pm

*Discussion was had as to the reason for the decrease in hotel stays. Mr. Patel shared all hotel destinations are struggling nationwide.

*Ricardo Smith entered the meeting – 5:10pm; Recognized by Chairwoman Joseph – 5:15pm

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- o Motion to approve the monthly financials for June 2023.

APPROVED M: TS 2: KP
TS RS EJ RT KP CL TJ SB (8 - 0 - 0)

VII. River Parishes Tourist Commission Report

- Operations
- River Region Cruise Terminal Monthly Update
- Louisiana Steam Train Association Update
- Sales Report
- Marketing & Public Relations Report

VIII. Conferences/FAM Tours

- o Southeast USA Spotlight - Mobile, AL (July 10-12)

IX. Community Engagement

- o Partner Quarterly Luncheon – 2nd Quarter - Lafon Performing Arts Center, Luling (June 29)
- o Sponsorship - Summer Concert – Cultural Blast at St. Charles Parish Independence Day Celebration – Luling Bridge Park (July 3)

X. Chairman's Report

- Next Regular Board Meeting – August 17, 2023 @ 5pm
- Contract Review Committee

XI. Interviews for the Executive Director position

- Candidates:
 - o Denise Burrell – interviewed by the Commissioners.
 - o Craig Howart – interviewed by the Commissioners.

XII. Selection of the Executive Director position – *Action*

- Chairwoman Joseph called for a 10-minute recess – 6:25pm – 6:35pm.
- Motion to nominate Denise Burrell as the Executive Director position.

APPROVE M: TJ 2: RT
TS RS EJ RT KP CL TJ SB (8 - 0 - 0)

- Unanimously, our Executive Director contingent upon the signing and agreeing of the contract is Denise Burrell.

XIII. Adjourn – *Action*

- Motion to adjourn.

APPROVE M: SB 2: KP
TS RS NB EJ RT KP CL TJ SB (8 - 0 - 0)