

ST. LANDRY PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION  
MONTHLY MINUTES  
November 14, 2018

St. Landry Parish Tourist Commission met on Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 5:30PM, in Opelousas at the St. Landry Parish Visitor Information Center.

Present

Wil Giron, Treasurer  
Suzanne LaHaye, President  
Ginger Lecompte  
Yvonne Normand, Secretary  
Kelly Pitre, Vice President  
John Slaughter  
Celeste Gomez\* Ex. Director  
Sarah Wise\* Marketing Director

Not Present

Mary Doucet

Guest Present

Francine Hughes, Eunice Chamber of Commerce  
David Dalhquist, Bayou Teche Project

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS / ACTIONS	FOLLOW-UP
<b><u>Call to Order</u></b>	<p>President Suzanne LaHaye called the November meeting to order.</p> <p>Ms. LaHaye asked that the presentations be moved to the top of the agenda.</p>	<p>The minutes for the October monthly meeting were accepted as presented. Approved unanimously.</p> <p>*Note – Public comment was called for and none was heard.</p>	Concluded.
<p><b>Financial Report</b></p> <p>General Fund</p> <p>St. Landry Parish Special Projects Account</p> <p>Visitor Center Debt Service</p>	<p>Parish Occupancy tax for the month of September totaled \$51,788.28. The current balance in the General Fund, following payment of bills, totaled \$178,020.33</p> <p>Washington State Bank Account balance stands at \$194,190.75. A deposit of Visitor Enterprise Funds for FY18-19 was made in amount of \$144,638.09.</p> <p>Current balance \$707,500.00.</p>	<p>A motion was made by Ginger LeCompte accept the financial report as presented. John Slaughter seconded. Unanimously approved. (Motion is not necessary, only acceptance as presented)</p>	Concluded.

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<p><b><u>Staff Reports</u></b></p> <p>Sarah Wise Marketing Director</p> <p>Celeste Gomez Executive Director</p>	<p>Reports had been emailed prior to meeting for review. With numerous items on agenda no discussion was entertained.</p>		<p>Concluded.</p>
<p><b><u>Unfinished Business</u></b></p> <p>Executive Director Search Committee</p>	<p>*Kelly Pitre voluntarily left the meeting as the remainder of the agenda dealt with the open positions on staff, since she has submitted an application for Communications.</p> <p>An update on the search for a new Executive Director was given by Ms. LaHaye. The deadline for applications has past and the Committee has narrowed the list to five of which all will be interviewed. The proposed dates are November 27 or 28. An email will be sent to confirm once candidates have been contacted. Commissioners to provide questions.</p>	<p>No Action Needed.</p>	<p>Pending.</p>
<p>Sales &amp; Use Tax Commission Update</p>	<p>Chris Granger is working with School Board attorney and a draft of agreement will be emailed to us by end of the month. The remittance forms have been revised to include Hotel Motel Occupancy Tax.</p>	<p>No Action Needed.</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>
<p><b><u>New Business</u></b></p> <p>Bayou Teche Project</p>	<p>David Dalhquist, member of Bayou Teche Project Committee, made presentation on the Informational Kiosk being installed at 13 sites along the National Waterway, Bayou Teche. The two sided 4 x5.5ft tall fiberglass embedded exhibits for the Leonville boat launch has been partially funded by SLEMCO. A request was made for the remainder to be funded by the SLPTC in the amount of \$3,750 (half of \$7500). Should the TC agree, payment would be made in 2019 after the installation. The need for cross promotion of events centered around Bayou Teche was also discussed.</p>	<p>It was moved by Yvonne Normand and seconded by Ginger LeCompte that the SLPTC invest \$3,750 for the Leonville Information Kiosk on Bayou Teche.</p>	<p>Concluded.</p>

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS / ACTIONS	FOLLOW-UP
Communications Manager Search	Celeste Gomez reported that the job description and application had been posted with a deadline of November 12. Applications are being reviewed with interviews to be set. Caitlin Bussey's last day was November 9, 2018.	No action required at this time	Pending
Proposed 2019 Budgets	A proposed budget for 2019 was presented for review. Current job offerings and tonight's pledge for Kiosk will be reflected.	Suggested adjustments will be made	Pending
<b><u>Grant Application</u></b> 34 <sup>th</sup> Crawfish Etouffee Cookoff.	Francine Hughes, Eunice Chamber of Commerce Director, presented a request for funds for the 34 <sup>th</sup> Annual Crawfish Etouffee Cookoff in Eunice on March 31, 2019. 2018 saw good attendance, with hotels being 85% booked and numerous out of state attendees as indicated on survey.	The motion was made by Ginger LeCompte to award the recommended amount of \$1500 and the reward amount of \$250 for a total of \$1750 for the 2019 Crawfish Etouffee Cookoff.	Concluded.
<b><u>Meeting Adjourned</u></b>	<b><u>Next Meeting Wednesday December 11, 2018 at Visitor Information Center at 5:30PM</u></b>	Wil Giron moved that with no further business to discuss, the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Ginger LeCompte. Unanimously approved.	Concluded.