

ST. LANDRY PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION
MONTHLY MINUTES
Feb. 13, 2019

St. Landry Parish Tourist Commission met on Wednesday, Feb. 13 at 5:30PM, in Opelousas at the St. Landry Parish Visitor Center.

Present

Mary Doucet
Yvonne Normand, Secretary
Wil Giron, Treasurer
Suzanne LaHaye, President
John Slaughter
Ginger Lecompte
Herman Fuselier* Executive Director
Sarah Wise* Marketing Director
Mary Hawkins* Communications Manager

Not Present

Kelly Pitre, Vice President

Guest Present

Wilken Jones, Rural African-American History Museum

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS / ACTIONS	FOLLOW-UP
<u>Call to Order</u>	President Suzanne LaHaye called the February meeting to order.	The minutes for the January meeting were approved. (Motion is not necessary, only acceptance as presented)	Concluded.
<u>Financial Report</u> General Fund St. Landry Parish Special Projects Account Visitor Center Debt Service	Parish Occupancy tax for the month of December totaled \$16,636.51. The current balance in the General Fund, following payment of bills, totaled \$185,089.42. Washington State Bank Account balance stands at \$234,848.21. Current balance \$707,500.00.	A motion was made by Wil Giron to accept the financial report as presented. John Slaughter second. Unanimously approved.	Concluded.

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<p><u>Staff Reports</u></p> <p>Herman Fuselier Executive Director</p> <p>Sarah Wise Marketing Director</p> <p>Mary Hawkins Communication Manager</p>	<p>Reports had been emailed prior to meeting for review.</p> <p>Parish President Bill Fontenot searching for local appointment to Atchafalaya Trace Commission. Organizers have discontinued the Experience Louisiana Festival in Eunice. Shawna Joseph of Washington hired as weekend travel counselor, replacing Carli Esters.</p> <p>Wise detailed redesign work on Sunset and Washington billboards.</p> <p>Hawkins noted 30.3 percent of website users are from India. Bounce rate is 1 percent, down 55 percent from January.</p>	<p>John Slaughter suggested billboard design changes. Wise will proceed with proof changes for both billboards for further review.</p> <p>No other action needed.</p>	<p>Concluded.</p>
<p><u>Unfinished Business</u></p> <p>Commission appointments</p> <p>Washington billboard</p> <p>Zydeco Capital Jam</p> <p>St. Landry Sounds update</p>	<p>Commissioners reminded deadline to re-apply for seats is Feb. 19. Applicants can address the SLP Council at its Feb. 20 meeting, when reappointments will be approved.</p> <p>Herman Fuselier detailed meeting with Washington mayor Jim Olivier, who would like to continue billboard. Town made more than \$1,500 in late payments.</p> <p>Fuselier reported first jam held Feb. 9 with 75-80 people attending, media coverage. Lawrence Ardoin will be featured guest for St. Landry Sounds debut March 9, which will also mark one year since Amede Ardoin statue unveiling.</p>	<p>No action needed.</p>	<p>Concluded.</p>
<p><u>New Business</u></p> <p>Patio area maintenance</p> <p>Amede Ardoin statue lighting</p>	<p>Herman Fuselier reported that wood beams in Visitor Center patio area continue to deteriorate. Area has little use due to safety concerns.</p> <p>Fuselier proposed lighting for the Amede Ardoin statue. Conduit already present, but electricity and lighting never connected.</p>	<p>Commission members advised Fuselier to contact architect about repairing wood and preventing further deterioration. John Slaughter seconded the motion. Wil Giron approved.</p> <p>Commission members advised Fuselier to contact Torrey Andrepont of SLP Government maintenance about completing the lighting.</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS / ACTIONS	FOLLOW-UP
<u>Meeting Adjourned</u>	Next Meeting <u>Wednesday March 13, 2019 at Visitor Information Center at 5:30PM.</u>	Yvonne Normand moved that with no further business to discuss, the meeting be adjourned. Mary Doucet second. Unanimously approved.	Concluded