

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
Executive Committee of the Louisiana State Museum Board
New Orleans Jazz Museum
Thursday, October 20, 2022
9:30 A.M.**

Members Present: Jay Batt, Ruth Burke, Wendy Lodrig, Melissa Steiner and Suzie Terrell

Members Absent: Madlyn Bagneris, Malcolm Hodnett

LSM Staff Present: Angelena Jones, Dariane Lewis and Susan Maclay

DCRT Staff Present: Julia George Moore

- I. **Call to Order:** Suzie Terrell called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
- II. **Adoption of the Agenda:** Suzie Terrell asked for a motion to adopt the Agenda. Wendy Lodrig moved to accept the agenda with one change. Wendy requested that item VII (Irby/Finance Committee Report) be moved after item V (Chairman's Report) so that the presenter, Dariane Lewis, could leave early. Melissa Steiner seconded.
- III. **Adoption of the Minutes from the September 12, 2022 meeting:** Jay Batt motion to accept the minutes from the September 12, 2022 meeting. Melissa Steiner seconded.
- IV. **Introduction of Angelena Jones:** Susan Maclay introduced Angelena Jones as the new Assistant to the Interim Director and gave a brief description of her background with the Louisiana Museum Foundation.
- V. **Chairman's Report**
 - a. **Discuss Potential Legislation (revising R.S. 25:349)** – Julia George explained that 25:349 was a poorly drafted statute. A non-controversial cleanup statute which can become fire for political reasons during an election year. This statute will be revisited again when the time is right.
 - b. Suzie Terrell also reported that the family of a donor to the Mystery in Motion exhibits requesting the return of the item. The family is suing the newspaper for improper use of photo taken of the item. Dr. McKnight is currently taking care of this matter.
- VI. **Irby/Finance Committee report:** Wendy introduced Dariane Lewis. Dariane reported:
 - a. **Approve Timeline for 507 and 517 St. Ann St.** – both are up open for new leases. An application for 517 St. Ann was accepted.
Discussion ensued – Dariane will be updating the rental application. Dariane will be advertising to lease 507 St. Ann. There was discussion regarding tenant who lives in 511, Ms. Wall, who has requested that her rent is reduced from \$3,700 to \$3,500. Request will be denied. There is suspicion that she has an animal living in the apartment which is against all rules.
 - b. **Status of Vacant Apartments** – 6 apartments are vacant and are not ready to be rented.
 - c. **Irby Financials** – Irby approved \$25,585 to be used to update vacant apartments.
 - d. **Investment Fund** – Dr. McKnight was not present to give to give update.

Discussion – need to bring apartments up to standard living. There is over \$4M in the Investment fund

- e. **Update on Irby Manager** – Michael Ince is the new Irby Manager but a start date has not been announced as of yet.
- VII. **Governance Committee Report:** Ruth Burke gave an update on the governance laws and statutes. She stated the Museum has not had a permanent director since 2016. There was discussion about increasing the salary for the next permanent director to \$300 in order to attract a qualified candidate.
- VIII. **Irby/Finance Committee report:** Wendy introduced Dariane Lewis. Dariane reported:
 - f. **Approve Timeline for 507 and 517 St. Ann St.** – both are up open for new leases. An application for 517 St. Ann was accepted.
 - g. **Status of Vacant Apartments** – 6 apartments are vacant and are not ready to be rented.
 - h. **Irby Financials** – Irby approved \$25,585 to be used to update vacant apartments.
 - i. **Investment Fund** – Dr. McKnight was not present to give to give update.
 - j. **Update on Irby Manager** – Michael Ince is the new Irby Manager but a start date has not been announced as of yet.
- VII. **Governance Committee Report:** Ruth passed out the Governance PowerPoint and discussion ensued. Which included discussion on timeline about when the Governance laws changed. There was discussion about museum staffing issues, \$300K to get a qualified director, salary supplement.
- VIII. **Old Business** there was no old business.
- IX. **New Business**
 - a. **Status of Attorneys** – Suzie Terrell explained that the CRT is paying for 2 attorneys currently. Julia George attends the meetings because Chad, one of the attorneys, is not attending meetings unless it is for something specific.
Discussion: What are Irby’s legal needs? Should Chad be working on revising the commercial lease?
 - b. **Addition of Agenda items:** If a Board member would like to add an item to the agenda a motion was made that a policy needs to be in place that all request should be submitted in writing to Suzie Terrell, Susan Maclay and Angelena Jones. Motion was seconded by Melissa Steiner. A timeline to submit is 14 days before meeting.
 - c. **Louisiana Museum Director** – will be on next agenda.
- X. **Architectural Committee** – Suzie Terrell reported that the wall at Madame John’s Legacy was being rebuilt.
Discussion ensued – Robby Cangelosi wants to see the building reflect an 1860 period style. Rob Judice is hoping that MJL can be returned to its original state.
- XI. **Adjourn** – Suzie Terrell called meeting to an end at 11:01 a.m. The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, December 14, 2022.**