



ST. TAMMANY PARISH TOURIST & CONVENTION COMMISSION
REGULAR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2018

Chairman Thomas J. Smith, Jr. called the **Regular Board of Commissioners** meeting to order on Tuesday, February 27, 2018, at 2:00 p.m. at the Northshore Harbor Center, 100 Harbor Center Boulevard, Slidell, Louisiana.

Mr. Smith delivered the Invocation.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Robert Cook
Bonnie Eades
Mark Myers
Susan Nuss
Marlaine Peachey
Thomas J. Smith, Jr.

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED

Sharon Lo Drucker

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

A quorum was present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A MOTION was made by Mark Myers and seconded by Bonnie Eades, to approve the December 12, 2017 Regular Board Meeting minutes and the February 6, 2018 Board Retreat minutes. **The Motion** carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mark Myers presented the Treasurer's Report for December 2017 and January 2018. **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Myers to file the Treasurer's Report for audit as presented. Bonnie Eades seconded, and **The Motion** carried.

STAFF REPORT

- Donna O'Daniels, President & CEO, Christina Cooper, Manager of Marketing and P.R and Tanya Leader, Vice President of Sales presented the Staff Activities Report.

OLD BUSINESS

▶ **VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS**

- Mark Myers made **A MOTION** to table the agenda item until Renee and Donna can work on it together. Bonnie Eades seconded, and **The Motion** carried.

NEW BUSINESS

▶ **EXTENSION OF CONTRACT WITH HANCOCK/WHITNEY BANK PER CONTRACT AND RESOLUTION DATED 4/21/2015**

- A resolution to enter a Fiscal Agent Contract with Whitney Bank was executed on April 21, 2015. The contract included the option to renew for a term of three additional years. A new Resolution is presented to extend the contract for another three year period including an option to renew. Bonnie Eades made **A MOTION** to accept the Resolution to renew the contract with Hancock/Whitney for three years. Mark Myers seconded, and **The Motion** carried unanimously with one absent.

▶ **LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS PERSONAL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE**

- Commissioners were reminded they must turn in a Tier 2.1 Personal Financial Disclosure form for calendar year 2017 to the Louisiana State Board of Ethics by May 15. Rae will forward a link to a fillable pdf version to the commissioners.

▶ **LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS TRAINING COURSE**

- Commissioners were also reminded they must take an online video Governmental Ethics Training Course. They were asked to please print the Certificate of Completion and provide the Tourist Commission office with a copy of it to place in their files.

► DISCUSSION OF GUIDELINES FOR BOARD MEMBERS

- Bonnie Eades made **A MOTION** to table this agenda item until the April meeting. Mark Myers seconded, and **The Motion** carried.

► AUXILIARY AGENDA

- While attending the Legislative Auditor’s workshop in January, Mary Anne found there are some new Best Practices rules that we have followed but which need to be written into our Financial Procedure and Internal Control handbook. A revised copy was presented to the board. Mary Anne reviewed the changes with them. The address on the Resolution was incorrect. Mark Myers made **A MOTION** to amend the Resolution to reflect the correct address. Marlaine Peachey seconded, and **The Motion** carried unanimously. **A MOTION** to adopt the Resolution as amended was made by Mark Myers and seconded by Bonnie Eades. **The Motion** carried unanimously.

► COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- Susan Nuss said the Northshore Lodging Association met on February 22 and adopted some key initiatives for 2018 for the organization. Susan also said they are seeing activity from Canada on their hotel website and she feels it is the result of the Tourist Commission reaching out to international travelers.
- Robert Cook said the Board Retreat came at the right time for him as a new board member. The information he gathered helped as it would have taken him six to eight months to acquire that much knowledge.
- Marlaine Peachey said she enjoyed the Retreat and that it wasn’t what she expected but so much more than she expected.
- Bonnie Eades said she seconded the previous comments about the retreat. She enjoyed the retreat and it thought it was well put-together.
- Mark Myers said he also enjoyed the retreat and that he thinks Judy Randall is a fountain of information and knowledge and appreciated her coming in for it.

► GUEST COMMENTS

- Kathy Lowrey said February was busy for the Northshore Harbor Center with Mardi Gras events and the Chamber’s Starry Starry Nights.
- Darrius Grey, President of the Northshore Lodging Association, said their goal is to keep their members up-to-date on local trends and he has been working with Ms. O’Daniels to see what information the Tourist Commission can share.
- Stanley Mascair of the Hampton Inn Slidell said he is disappointed to see empty chairs at the meeting that are not filled with hotel people.
- Shawn McManus, Director of the Tax Division of the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff’s Department, said short-term rentals in St. Tammany, such as those available through Airbnb, have been on their “radar” for a while. He said that at any given time there are between 100 and 200 of these rentals operating in the Parish. He has some questions about whether taxes are applicable and will be communicating with governmental agencies to determine if any action needs to be taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Marlaine Peachey made **A MOTION** to adjourn and Mark Myers seconded. **The Motion** carried and the meeting adjourned at 3:40 PM.

NEXT MEETING

The next Regular Board of Commissioners meeting will be a Budget Public Hearing followed by a Regular Commission meeting, held on Tuesday, April 24, 2018, starting at 2:00 PM, at the Tourist Commission office in Mandeville.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

S / Rae Shipley

Rae Shipley
Recording Secretary

S / Thomas J. Smith, Jr.

Thomas J. Smith, Jr.
Chairman