ST. MARTIN PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2023

The St. Martin Parish Tourism Commission met at 4:51 p.m. on Wednesday, June 14, 2023. The meeting was held at Bonne Terre Vacation Rentals, 1109 B Lawless Tauzin Drive, Breaux Bridge, Louisiana.

The meeting was called to order by Tourism Executive Director Laci Laperouse.

The following members were present: Christine Friedman, Fred Foti Jr., Karlos Knott, Laura Huval, Marel Thibodeaux and Tonia Peltier. The following member was absent: Carole Lancon (excused). Also present: Assistant Director Megan LeBlanc.

A motion was made by Laura Huval and seconded by Tonia Peltier to approve the minutes of the St. Martin Parish Tourism Commission Meeting held on Wednesday, May 17, 2023.

This motion having been submitted to a vote; the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Christine Friedman, Fred Foti Jr., Karlos Knott, Laura Huval, Marel Thibodeaux and Tonia Peltier.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Carole Lancon (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 14th day of June 2023.

A motion was made by Fred Foti, Jr. and seconded by Karlos Knott to approve the Tourism Monthly Report for the month of May 2023.

This motion having been submitted to a vote; the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Christine Friedman, Fred Foti Jr., Karlos Knott, Laura Huval, Marel Thibodeaux and Tonia Peltier.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Carole Lancon (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 14th day of June 2023.

Executive Director Laci Laperouse introduced Ms. Jennifer Gray, owner of Bonne Terre Louisiana Vacation Rentals. Ms. Gray provided everyone with the history and tour of her unique vacation rental. Her property includes a cottage, studio, and farmhouse for visitors to choose from. Ms. Gray mentioned she is the only farm stay in the State of Louisiana which offers guests to interact, if they choose, with her many animals such as a mini cow named Ethylene, geese, chickens, bunnies, horses, and turkey just to name a few. Executive Director Laci Laperouse and the Tourism Commissioners thanked Ms. Jennifer for hosting today's meeting.

Executive Director Laci Laperouse provided updates to the St. Martin Parish Hotel/Motel Tax, including the recent findings of short-term rental properties that are now in compliance with the tax collector, St. Martin Parish School Board. Also discussed was the Annual Report from Louisiana Office of Tourism pertinent to St. Martin Parish. Commissioner Karlos Knott announced that he had been chosen to compete for the second year in a row in the 2023 Louisiana Seafood Cookoff which will be held June 27, at the Golden Nugget, Lake Charles.

Prior to adjournment, Executive Director Laci Laperouse reminded commissioners of the next meeting date and location which will be held Wednesday, July 19, 2023 – 4:30 p.m., at Crawfish Town USA, 2815 Grand Point Highway, Henderson, Louisiana. Commissioner Laura Huval mentioned she will not be able to attend the upcoming meeting.

A motion was made by Fred Foti, Jr. and seconded by Marel Thibodeaux that the St. Martin Parish Tourism Commission Meeting does hereby adjourn. Motion was unanimously approved.

I hereby certify the foregoing to be exact and true:

Laci Laperouse, Executive Director

St. Martin Parish Tourism