

ST. MARTIN PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2022

The St. Martin Parish Tourism Commission met at 4:34 p.m. on Wednesday, September 14, 2022. The meeting was held at Cajun Heritage RV Park, 2026 Atchafalaya River Highway, Butte LaRose, Louisiana.

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

The following members were present: Carole Lancon, Christine Meche, Fred Foti Jr., Karlos Knott, Marel Thibodeaux (arrived at 4:44 p.m.), and Tonia Peltier. The following member was absent: Laura Huval (excused). Also present was Parish President Chester Cedars.

A motion was made by Fred Foti, Jr. and seconded by Christine Meche to approve the minutes of the St. Martin Parish Tourism Commission Meeting held on Wednesday, August 3, 2022.

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

YEAS: Carole Lancon, Christine Meche, Fred Foti Jr., Karlos Knott, and Tonia Peltier.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Laura Huval (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 14th day of September 2022.

A motion was made by Carole Lancon and seconded by Karlos Knott to approve the Tourism Monthly Report for the month of August 2022.

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

YEAS: Carole Lancon, Christine Meche, Fred Foti Jr., Karlos Knott, and Tonia Peltier.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Laura Huval (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 14th day of September 2022.

Executive Director Laci Laperouse welcomed guest speakers Shayne and Stacey Hollier, owners of Cajun Heritage RV Park. The Holliers gave a brief history of their life and career

leading up to owning Cajun Heritage RV Park. Their passion to provide a true Cajun and family-oriented experience is what is driving them to continue to improve and expand. The RV Park has 141 camp sites, with 5 cabins, and tent sites. Cajun Heritage hosts several cook-offs, entertainment, and holiday events through-out the year. (*Marel Thibodeaux arrived*) Mr. Hollier stated they are currently in the process of having a full-service general store which will offer local products. The Hollier's will be announcing some exciting news in the weeks to come. Executive Director Laci Laperouse along with Commissioners thanked Shayne and Stacey for their time and hospitality.

Executive Director Laci Laperouse provided updates and discussed several matters such as the year-to-date budget for event promotions, and the 2023 Budget. Parish President Chester Cedars also discussed budget, including but not limited to travel, department growth and other matters such as the move of Tourism and SMEDA offices to the proposed location at 601 East Bridge Street, Breaux Bridge. Parish President Chester Cedars stated the budget will be presented to the Parish Council at the October 4 Regular Meeting.

At this time Executive Director gave an update on the requests made by the Lion's Club for the Rice & Gravy Cook-off. Due to time constraints the Lion's Club will choose to promote through social media. Executive Director Laci Laperouse stated the Tourism office will still provide the event with social media, and website presence.

After a detailed discussion ensued amongst Commissioners and Executive Director Laci Laperouse regarding the request received by Rhona Wyche, Festival Committee Chairman, for the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church Annual Fall Festival. The following assistance was approved:

- Social Media promotion
- St. Martin Parish Tourism calendar of events website
- Country Roads events listing
- Lafayette Travel events listing
- Louisiana Office of Tourism events listing
- Radio Advertisement through the community calendars
- St. Martin Parish Tourism October Newsletter

- Payment to Positive Printing for the costs of the 3100 mail outs, and the (2) 3’x6’ banners.

A motion was made by Fred Foti, Jr. and seconded by Carole Lancon to approve the above-mentioned requests.

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

YEAS: Carole Lancon, Christine Meche, Fred Foti Jr., Karlos Knott, Marel Thibodeaux, and Tonia Peltier.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Laura Huval (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 14th day of September 2022.

After a detailed discussion ensued amongst Commissioners and Executive Director Laci Laperouse regarding the request received by Coatney Raymond, President of the Breaux Bridge Garden Club, for the Breaux Bridge Citywide Garage Sale. The following assistance was approved:

- Social Media promotion
- St. Martin Parish Tourism calendar of events website
- Country Roads events listing
- Lafayette Travel events listing
- Louisiana Office of Tourism events listing
- Radio Advertisement through the community calendars
- St. Martin Parish Tourism September Newsletter
- \$500.00 monetary donation which can be used towards expenses for graphic design, posters, flyers, and the reusable banners.

A motion was made by Karlos Knott and seconded by Fred Foti, Jr. to approve the above-mentioned requests.

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

YEAS: Carole Lancon, Christine Meche, Fred Foti Jr., Karlos Knott, Marel Thibodeaux, and Tonia Peltier.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Laura Huval (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 14th day of September 2022.

After a detailed discussion ensued amongst Commissioners and Executive Director Laci Laperouse regarding the request received by Tina Begnaud, Secretary of the Civic Club de Pont Breaux, for the Garage Sale in Parc Hardy. The following assistance was approved:

- Social Media promotion
- St. Martin Parish Tourism calendar of events website
- Country Roads events listing
- Lafayette Travel events listing
- Louisiana Office of Tourism events listing
- Radio Advertisement through the community calendars
- St. Martin Parish Tourism September Newsletter
- \$500.00 monetary donation which you can use towards stuffers for utility bills, printing of flyers and posters, postage for mailers, advertising with Teche News and Antique Guide, and insurance.

A motion was made by Karlos Knott and seconded by Fred Foti, Jr. to approve the above-mentioned requests.

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

YEAS: Carole Lancon, Christine Meche, Fred Foti Jr., Karlos Knott, Marel Thibodeaux, and Tonia Peltier.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Laura Huval (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 14th day of September 2022.

After a detailed discussion ensued amongst Commissioners and Executive Director Laci Laperouse regarding the request received by Mavis Fruge, President of Saint Luc French Immersion and Cultural Campus, for the Le Fete de Saint Luc. It was recommended the organizers complete the follow-up form after the event so that future requests can be considered. It was mentioned due to there being no monetary value of the approved assistance there was no need for a motion, second and vote.

- Social Media promotion
- St. Martin Parish Tourism calendar of events website
- Country Roads events listing
- Lafayette Travel events listing
- Louisiana Office of Tourism events listing
- Radio Advertisement through the community calendars
- St. Martin Parish Tourism Newsletter

After a detailed discussion ensued amongst Commissioners and Executive Director Laci Laperouse regarding the request received by Aurore Ballengee, Executive Director of Atelier de la Nature, for the 2022 Halloween Art & Nature Festival. The following assistance was approved:

- Social Media promotion
- Radio Advertisement through the community calendars
- October Newsletter
- \$750.00 monetary donation which you can use towards graphic design fee, posters, flyers, banners, etc.)

A motion was made by Fred Foti, Jr. and seconded by Tonia Peltier to approve the above-mentioned requests.

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

YEAS: Carole Lancon, Christine Meche, Fred Foti Jr., Karlos Knott, Marel Thibodeaux,
and Tonia Peltier.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

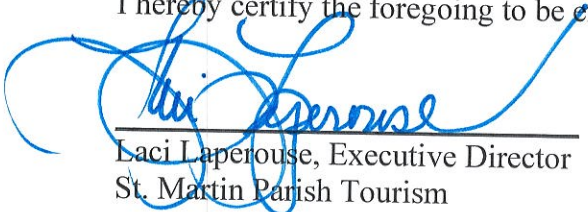
ABSENT: Laura Huval (excused).

And the motion was declared adopted this 14th day of September 2022.

It was announced the next meeting will be Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at Pat's Fishermen's Wharf, 1008 Henderson Levee Road, Henderson, Louisiana, at 4:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Carole Lancon and seconded by Christine Meche 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