

ST. MARTIN PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2022

The St. Martin Parish Tourism Commission met at 4:31 p.m. on Wednesday, November 9, 2022. The meeting was held at Bayou Teche Brewing, 1002 Noth Lane, Arnaudville, 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, Laura Huval, Marel Thibodeaux and Tonia Peltier (arrived at 4:50 p.m.). The following members were absent: None. Also Present: Parish President Chester Cedars.

A motion was made by Marel Thibodeaux and seconded by Carole Lancon to approve the minutes of the St. Martin Parish Tourism Commission Meeting held on Wednesday, October 12, 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, Laura Huval,
and Marel Thibodeaux.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Tonia Peltier.

And the motion was declared adopted this 9th day of November 2022.

A motion was made by Fred Foti, Jr. and seconded by Christine Meche to approve the Tourism Monthly Report for the month of October 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, Laura Huval,
and Marel Thibodeaux.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: Tonia Peltier.

And the motion was declared adopted this 9th day of November 2022.

Executive Director Laci Laperouse welcomed Jennifer Angelle and Judge Randy Angelle, organizers of Angel Publishing – 501 c3 nonprofit organization who were present to request assistance for the Evangeline Project-Phase I and provide a detailed PowerPoint of said project. The investment in Phase I of the Evangeline Album/Soundtrack CD would give St. Martin Parish Tourism premier placement on the CD credits and website perpetuity. The funds would be used for the production and promotions of the project as an engagement to locals and tourists to educate about the Cajun heritage, in a retelling of the story of Evangeline. The album features over thirty musicians and includes nineteen original songs. After the presentation, Parish President Chester Cedars reminded Executive Director Laci Laperouse and the St. Martin Parish Tourism Commissioners of the remaining fund balance for the 2022 Event Promotions, and to be mindful of any other events that may be requesting assistance for the remainder of the year. Parish President Chester Cedars recommended Ms. Jennifer Angelle to also visit with the local municipalities for their support and participation in this project. Parish President Chester Cedars also suggested providing a portion of the sponsorship with the 2022 Budget, and the balance to be taken from the 2023 Budget.

After a detailed discussion ensued amongst Commissioners and Executive Director Laci Laperouse regarding the request received by Angel Publishing, for the Evangeline Project-Phase I. The following sponsorship was approved:

- \$15,000.00 sponsorship to be used for the professional production of an album/soundtrack with the agreement that \$10,000.00 will be from the 2022 Budget, and the remaining balance of \$5,000.00 to be taken from the 2023 Budget.

A motion was made by Fred Foti, Jr. and seconded by Marel Thibodeaux to approve the above-mentioned request.

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

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

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

And the motion was declared adopted this 9th day of November 2022.

Executive Director Laci Laperouse provided updates and discussed several matters such as the visitor's guides for City of St. Martinville, as well as Town of Henderson. Ms. Laperouse stated the concern at this point is time to research and create the guides, in-house. Although the Tourism Commissioners agreed that all points of interest are covered within the St. Martin Parish Tourism guide and therefore feels that if the municipality still wishes to have their own guide, they could apply for assistance through our assistance form and request funding while handling their own creation, printing, and distribution vendor(s). Executive Director Laci Laperouse received estimates of graphic designer, printing and cost of distribution and presented same to the Commissioners.

After a detailed discussion, the Commissioners agreed if the municipality wanted to create, print, and distribute their own visitor's guide they could apply for grant assistance through St. Martin Parish Tourism with their being a \$500.00 limit.

A motion was made by Tonia Peltier and seconded by Carole Lancon to approve the above recommended decision.

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

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

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT AT VOTING: Karlos Knott.

And the motion was declared adopted this 9th day of November 2022.

Other items discussed were several programs available through the Louisiana Office of Tourism such as No Man's Land-Off the Eaten Path and Come and Get it. The Commissioners also discussed the December meeting location, as well as recommendations for 2023 meeting locations.

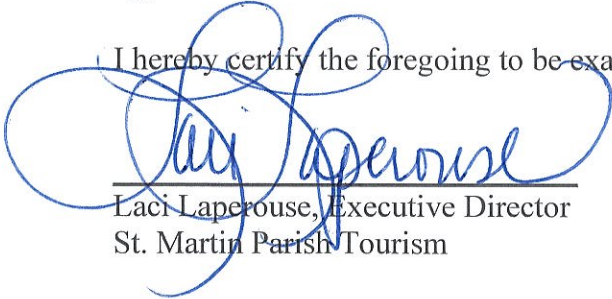
It was announced the next meeting will be Wednesday, December 14, 2022, at the St. Martin Parish Tourism Office, 110 North Main Street, Breaux Bridge, Louisiana, at 4:30 p.m.

Prior to adjournment, Karlos Knott Tourism Commissioner, and owner of Bayou Teche Brewing provided a tour of the brewery explaining the brewing process. Parish President Chester

Cedars, Executive Director Laci Laperouse and the Commissioners thanked Karlos and his staff for the hospitality and providing many delicious menu items.

A motion was made by Marel Thibodeaux 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