



Vernon Parish Tourism Commission

MINUTES

February 28, 2023

VERNON PARISH TOURISM COMMISSION VISITOR'S CENTER

Mission Statement (Written 2005)

Mission Statement: To promote all facets of Tourism to the parish and state level.

CALL TO ORDER: The Vernon Parish Tourism Commission Board meeting for February 28, 2023, was called to order at 8:35 AM by the Chairman, Diane Barney.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Present were Commissioners Diane Barney, Tara Rindahl, Pat Martinez, Tracy Kerlin, and John Guy. Also present were John Crook, Executive Director, and Angela Broyard Executive Assistant.

PLEDGE: Diane Barney led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION: Tara Rindahl gave the Invocation.

MINUTES: Minutes from January 17, 2023 meeting were read.
Motion to accept made by Diane Barney
Seconded by Tracy Kerlin
All approved, so moved

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: January 2023 Financial Statement as presented by the Vernon Parish Police Jury was reviewed.
Motion to accept made by Tara Rindahl
Seconded by John Guy
All approved, so moved

DIRECTORS REPORT:

John Crook gave an update on the West Louisiana Museum. Renovations are still ongoing. Grounds have been cleaned up. Furniture is being restored. Ground maintenance continues.

John Crook has drafted a letter to ask the Vernon Parish Police Jury for assistance with request from the Junior League to assist with ground prep for proposed garden.

John stated that Vernon Parish Tourism Commission will purchase 2 trash receptacles requested by the Kiwanis Club for the Nona Mills Pocket Park. Angela Broyard has spoken to Cleco on a light installation for the park. Cleco will install a dusk to dawn light and run electricity to the existing pole located in the park. Kiwanis will be required to call and make the request to install the light and electricity to the existing pole and set up an account. There will be no charge for the installation of light or hook up of electricity.

MayFest 2023 music lineup is complete, and vendors are being accepted for the event. John will visit the businesses on 3rd St. to discuss MayFest use of 3rd St. during the festival under required permit, and any effect it may have on their business.

John Crook proposed that going forward if any group wants to utilize the electricity on 3rd Street, they will need to provide Vernon Parish Tourism Commission a 30-day notice, the dates the electricity will be needed and will be responsible for the payment of all cost to have the electricity turned on, off and power used for their event.

John requested that the Executive Board meeting scheduled for March 9, 2023 be rescheduled for March 16, 2023 due to scheduling conflict with filming of promotional advertisement that will be conducted by 4WWL to Promote Leesville and Vernon Parish on this date.

Motion to accept the Director's Report for February 2023 as presented was made by Tracy Kerlin. Seconded by John Guy. All Approved; So Moved.

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

John Crook notified the Board that Channel 4WWL out of New Orleans Will be filming a promotional spot highlighting Vernon Parish March 8-10, 2023.

John informed the Board that there will be a watch party for the Movie 65 that contain scenes filmed in Vernon Parish Kisatchie National Forest. Invitations for this event will be sent out via e-mail. Vernon Parish Tourism Commission will be a sponsor of this event.

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Motion to approve made by Tracy Kerlin. Seconded by Pat Martinez All approved, so moved.

There being no further business:

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn made by Diane Barney

Seconded by Pat Martinez.

All approved, so moved.

AMENDMENT: John Crook asked for amendment to propose a cap of \$4000.00 to assist the Rosepine Historical Association with a cement slab in their Veterans Park and provide advertising for 3 events on the radio and Vernon Parish Tourism Face Book page.

Motion to accept made by Diane Barney

Seconded by Pat Martinez

All approved, so moved

Vernon Parish Tourism Commission Action Items from February 28, 2023:

ACTION #1: Motion to accept the Minutes for January 2023 as presented was made by Diane Barney. Seconded by Tracy Kerlin. All Approved; So moved.

ACTION #2: Motion to accept January 2023 Financial Statement, was made by Tara Rindahl. Seconded by John Guy. All approved, so moved.

ACTION #3: Motion to accept Directors Report made by Tracy Kerlin. Seconded by John Guy. All approved; so moved.

ACTION#4: Motion to accept New Business made by Tracy Kerlin. Seconded by Pat Martinez. All approved, so moved.

ACTION#5: Motion to adjourn meeting made by Diane Barney. Seconded by Pat Martinez. All approved, so moved.

ACTION# 6: Motion to amend agenda to add update on Rosepine Historical Association made by Diane Barney, Seconded by Pat Martinez. All approved, so moved.

Respectfully Submitted:

John R. Crook
Executive Director

Angela Broyard
Executive Assistant