



Vernon Parish Tourism Commission

MINUTES

March 19, 2024

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 March 19, 2024, was called to order at 8:30 AM by the Chairman, Diane Barney.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Present were Commissioners Diane Barney, Tara Rindahl, Pat Martinez, Tracy Kerlin, Betty Westerchil, Bettye Davis, and John Guy. Also present was John Crook, Executive Director, and Angela Broyard, Executive Assistant.

PLEDGE: Diane Barney led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION: Tara Rindahl gave the Invocation.

MINUTES: Diane Barney presented the Minutes of the February 20, 2024, board meeting.

Motion to accept the Minutes of the February 20, 2024, board meeting as presented was made by John Guy.
Seconded by Betty Westerchil.
All Approved; So Moved.

GUESTS: **CHUCK CANNON – FT. JOHNSON** – Chuck Cannon informed the Board about Forge Fest which will be held March 28, 2024 at Headquarters Field. The event is open to the public and will begin at 4:00 pm. This is a FREE event. Event details can be found on the JRTC & Fort Johnson Facebook

page as well as the Fort Johnson Family & MWR Facebook page. Chuck is assisting Vernon Parish Tourism Commission with Mayfest events.

WENDY KREPS – JUNIOR LEAGUE – Wendy stated that the Junior League wants to continue to assist the West Louisiana Museum Parks beautification project. Vernon Parish Tourism Director John Crook asked Wendy to provide a plan of what the Junior League would like to provide to the Museum park. Wendy stated that the Junior League has several plans for the beautification of Leesville. They are looking for volunteers to assist with these projects. Information on becoming a volunteer can be found on the Volunteer Vernon Facebook page.

Motion to accept the Junior Leagues assistance with the West Louisiana Museum's Park with written plan from the Junior League was made by Pat Martinez
Seconded by Betty Westerchil
All approved; so moved.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: February 2024 Financials were presented to board.
Motion to accept the financials as presented by the Vernon Parish Police Jury was made by Pat Martinez.
Seconded by Bettye Davis.
All approved; so moved.

DIRECTORS REPORT: John stated that the interior and exterior renovations are progressing at the West Louisiana Museum. Work is being done on the Depo, Section House And Shotgun House. Volunteers will be welcomed once Museum is opened.

Board member John Guy presented John Crook with two replicas of Native American pots that were created by Mr. Allen Green of Dry Prong to be displayed in the Museum. One of the replica pots is dated from between 800 and 1200 AD, and the second replica pot is dated between 1400 and 1650 AD.

Executive Assistant Angela Broyard reported that plans for MayFest 2024 are underway. Vendors, & food vendors are being booked. Information to sign up as a vendor can be found at vernonparish.org or by contacting Angela Broyard (337) 238-0783.

Motion to accept the Director's Report for March 2024 was made by Pat Martinez
Seconded by John Guy
All Approved; So Moved.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business to report.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business to report.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business:

Motion to adjourn made by
Betty Westerchil.
Seconded by Bettye Davis.
All approved, so moved.

Vernon Parish Tourism Commission Action Items from January 30, 2024:

ACTION #1: John Guy made a motion to approve the Minutes from the February 20, 2024, meeting. Betty Westerchil seconded the motion. The motion passed.

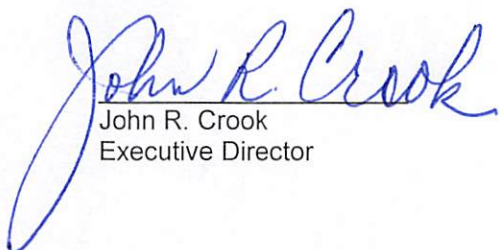
ACTION #2: Motion to accept the Junior Leagues assistance with the West Louisiana Museum's Park with written plan from the Junior League was made by Pat Martinez Seconded by Betty Westerchil. The motion passed.

ACTION #3: Pat Martinez made a motion to accept the February 2024 Financial Statements as presented by the VPPJ. Bettye Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed.

ACTION #4: Pat Martinez made a motion to accept the Directors report. John Guy seconded the motion. The motion passed.

ACTION#5: Betty Westerchil made a motion to adjourn. Bettye Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted:


John R. Crook
Executive Director


Angela Broyard
Executive Assistant