

Vermilion Parish Tourist Commission

Minutes of September 21, 2022

Members Present: Bill Comeaux, Henri Deshotels, Victoria Bourque, Karen Broussard, Cathy Burdette
Members Absent: Angela LeBlanc (no car), Eric Adcock (work), Tammy Gordon
Others Present: Alison Miller, Charlene Beckett (Abbeville Main Street) and Ben Rivera (VEDA)

The meeting was called to order and all in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Commissioners reviewed the Agenda. There were no additions or changes.

Charlene Beckett provided the Commission with information on the Fall Sounds on the Square and other events in downtown Abbeville. Ben Rivera thanked the Commission for their work and support of Vermilion Economic Development.

A motion was made by Bill Comeaux, seconded by Karen Broussard, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of Wednesday, July 27, 2022, as written.

Alison Miller provided the financial information. Mrs. Miller informed the Commission that sales tax revenue was slightly down for the month of June but previous months were much higher. The slight loss will not affect the budget. **A motion was made by Karen Broussard, seconded by Henri Deshotels, and unanimously carried to approve the Treasurer's Report and payment of bills as presented.**

Alison Miller provided an update on tourism activities and meetings she attended on behalf of the Commission. Mrs. Miller has spoken to Lindsey Watson from Maurice and she would like to be a Commissioner. Mrs. Miller will submit Mrs. Watson's name to the Vermilion Parish Police Jury and request she be appointed for our November meeting.

Alison Miller spoke on the trouble finding a hospitality intern. Victoria Bourque informed the Commission of an upcoming Career Fair for high school juniors and seniors that will be held at Abbeville High School in October. Mrs. Bourque will provide information to Alison Miller to attend on behalf of the Commission.

The Grand Reveil Acadien Opening Day Ceremony was discussed. Alison Miller and Charlene Beckett updated the Commission on the day's events, expenses and meetings that were held with the participants. Charlene Beckett provided the tent/booth layout for the Square. Mrs. Miller will need volunteers to work the information booth in the Square and invited the Commissioners to attend. Commissioners requested nametags for the event.

Alison Miller provided the Commission with information she received from the parish's Sales Tax office regarding tax collection. The department has requested that we adjust our tax ordinance to reflect the current legislation's interest rate for late fees. **A motion was made by Bill Comeaux, seconded by Cathy Burdette, and unanimously carried to redo the tax collection ordinance to reflect the current legislation.**

Alison Miller asked for volunteers to serve on the Budget Committee. Bill Comeaux, Karen Broussard and Victoria Bourque agreed to serve. Mrs. Miller will prepare a proposed 2023 Budget and send it to the Committee for review by the end of October.

Victoria Bourque invited the Commission to the Halloween Trick-or-Treating event at Palmetto Island State Park. Every Saturday afternoon in October, there will be trick-or-treating in the campground with the Campsite Decorating Contest on Oct. 29.

A request to move the November meeting to Wednesday, November 9 at 3:30pm was made. All in attendance were in favor. The next meeting of the Vermilion Parish Tourist Commission will be held on Wednesday, November 9, 2022 at 3:30 pm at Vermilion Parish Tourist Commission.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Bill Comeaux, seconded by Henri Deshotels, and unanimously carried to adjourn.

Minutes taken and respectively submitted by:



Alison Miller, VPTC Secretary