

Pointe Coupee Historical Society Board Meeting  
September 21, 2023  
Minutes

Our President, Michelle Rabalais, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. She then read from the PCHS Mission Statement.

Roll Call: Members present included Michelle Rabalais, Greg LaCour, Rose O'Rear, Jeanne James, Marsue May, Paula Lambert, David James, Peter Alongia, Hosea Doucet, and Mindy LaCour. Debbie Martin and Carlyn Morales participated via telephone.

Michelle Rabalais began the meeting by introducing Skipper Post and his wife who had arrived with a beautiful painting that they donated to the PCHS Museum. It was painted in 1896 by Frederick Jordan, Skipper's great grandfather. It was received with great gratitude by the PCHS board.

1. Minutes: Paula Lambert moved that we accept the minutes from the August board meeting. She was seconded by Greg LaCour.
2. Treasurers Report: Our Treasurer, Rose O'Rear, reported that our PCHS Society Fund contains a balance of \$16,763.56. Our Building Fund balance is \$19,270.19. Our Savings Account balance is \$52,042.32, while our Certificate of Deposit balance is \$102,113.12. Pete Alongia made a motion to accept that report and he was seconded by David James.
3. Events Committee Report: Our events committee chair, Marsue May, shared ideas of creating a Creole Christmas event at Poydras as well as a tour of the Morganza spillway locks at a later date. Mindy LaCour shared that plans are well underway for the Poydras 100th Anniversary Celebration to be held the weekend of April 27-28th, 2024. Sponsorship packets are available now to be presented to potential sponsors.
4. Nominating Committee Report: Prior to calling on the Nominating Committee chair, Michelle Rabalais announced her intention to retire as President of the PCHS board. She cited ongoing commitments and activities as her reason for stepping down. Nominating Committee chair David James then announced that he would have a slate prepared on behalf of the Nominating Committee for our next meeting.
5. Collections Committee Report: Debbie Martin announced a potential donation from the historic New Roads Mothers Culture Club to the museum. Method of display to be announced at a later date. They will search for a safe which might safely house the collection. A place to keep the safe to be determined
6. Executive Director's Report: Mindy LaCour:

Executive Director's report

9/21/23

\*Aligns with PCHS mission statement

- We will receive NROR books by the holidays
- I attended Louisiana Travel Association conf. in BR; good session on crafting the perfect tour experience
- Membership; 1 for \$250
- Black film for the auditorium finishing up on Friday
- Auditorium chair back fundraising plates; \$15 cost; Determined we will sell for \$100
- Contacted the WF Historical Society ED; their BOD has a program that gives a nice plaque annually to a renovated historical building. Winner could be announced at annual meeting? \*
- Watched a zoom on the rebirth Grant and reporting

- Fixed fallen photos in the exhibit room with more Velcro
- Pop up Exhibit Advertisement made and sent to CR for October issue
- 5 of us painted the exterior wall in the ballroom. Looks much better! Thank you to Marsue and Greg May, Greg LaCour and Paula; also touched up the breakroom on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. \*
- Room 301 is now painted. Getting AC fixed and will replace some blinds. Rental to start \$700/month in November. Thank you to David for his efforts on this!
- I attended Destination Downtown in Monroe. Had a great session on creating videos to put on website
- Board agreed to have Glimpses of Light return and put lights on the front of the building and to make a tree out of lights at the flag pole.
- \$150 Donation to St. Augustine Church was approved. Mindy will make an advertisement and send it in.\*
- Fleur De Lis pins? 50 for \$205. Board agreed to order the pins.
- Dip Jar donation package; after exploring options, the board agreed to rent the Dip Jar for a year and re-evaluate.
- ECC donation. \$5,000 and refundable through LA state tax; Board agreed to donate to PCECC.
- Louisiana Trust for Historic Preservation dues; \$200 Board agreed to pay the dues.
- Greg May donated 2 projectors to the Historical Society.
- Events this month:
  - Repass held on the 9<sup>th</sup>
  - American Queen 13<sup>th</sup> \* Countess 21<sup>st</sup> \*
  - Harvest Fest Pageant held on the 17<sup>th</sup>
  - Candidate Mixer held on the 19<sup>th</sup>

#### Upcoming Events;

- September 28; Lunch and Learn; Sponsored by The Chamber of Commerce\*Brian Davis reported on tax credits and Caryl Ewing discussed early childhood education in the Parish.
  - September 28; Art comes down in prep for new art exhibit. Hanging art October 4.
  - October 6; Opening Reception for 3<sup>rd</sup> Pop Up Art show in Museum Rooms; sponsored by PCHS & ACPC we will need donations of food.
  - October 16; 100-yr meeting
  - October 21; Wedding will be ballroom's last rental as a venue. Need help with the event. Will become an exhibit space. Board agreed that the police officers could handle any problems that arise.
  - October 29; Boo and Brew. We need volunteers for the table and donations of candy.
  - November 4<sup>th</sup>; Harvest Fest on the lawn and in the building. Parade on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. \*
7. New Business: Greg LaCour suggested the name of Jonathan Mayer as a potential speaker for our Annual Meeting in November. Jonathan is an expert on the Creole language and its history in this region. David James moved to approve Greg inviting him to speak at the meeting and his motion was seconded by Marsue May.
  8. Old Business: Pete Alongia reported that the Bylaws Committee continues to complete updates and revisions.
  9. Adjournment: Prior to adjourning, members of the board thanked Michelle Rabalais for her service to the board. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Jeanne James, Recording Secretary

From Jeanne James