

Iberia Parish Tourist Commission
Board Minutes
August 15, 2023

Tammy Gordon called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Iberia Parish Tourist Commission to order at 10:34 A.M. at the Iberia Parish Tourist Commission Office located at 2513 Hwy. 14, New Iberia, LA, 70560.

Present:

Tammy Gordon
Ronald Sovine
Germaine Comeaux
Liz Bodin

Absent:

Nancy Buteau
Heidi Martin
Phebe Hayes

Public:

No public present

Present, but not participating in formal action:

Mike Tarantino, staff

A motion by Liz Bodin, seconded by Ronald Sovine to approve the July 2023 minutes. Motion carried.

A motion by Germaine Comeaux, seconded by Ronald Sovine to approve the July 2023 finance report. Motion carried.

Executive Director's Report:

- First Solar which is a solar panel factory will be coming to Iberia Parish and will create a lot of good jobs for the area. The project has been the priority for the last few months.
- We are working with Francis Energy on grants to have electric vehicles installed at the Iberia Parish Welcome Center or somewhere else in town.
- Felicite's Landing signage has been installed.
- IPCVB staff met with Cajun Country Para-Con event organizers. They have a lot of ideas for the event and have already confirmed a few guests. IPCVB will promote on our socials and with press releases. We have already sent one out for their request for sponsors.
- IPCVB staff also met with the Louisiana Iris Conservation Initiative to discuss the beginnings of the Louisiana Iris Festival they intend to hold in Iberia and Vermilion

Parishes. They are in the beginning of the planning phase so they're working on the festival components as of now. They will have a meeting Fri., Sept. 8 at 9 AM at the New Iberia City Council chambers.

- Delta Biofuel officially broken ground and had a good turnout at the groundbreaking. There have been lots of positive discussions about Progress Point and economic development in the Iberia Parish.
- IberiaTravel.com had 8.2k users in July.
- Iberia Travel's Facebook page reached 33.8k users in July.
- We had 40 walk-ins in July

Germaine Comeaux:

- Beneath the Balconies will return on Oct. 22.
- Shadows-on-the-Teche's arts and crafts fair will coincide with the World Championship Gumbo Cookoff weekend again as they both had good attendance in 2022 because of this.
- Louisiana Sugar Cane Festival will be on Sept. 21-24 with Farm Fest on Sept 21. It'll be \$10 per family and include live music, food, games, and more.
- IPAL's next production "Spongebob: The Musical" will start shows on Sept. 1

Ronald Sovine:

- Oct. 7 Tour du Teche will be passing through Jeanerette. The first annual International French Bread Festival will also take place on Jeanerette's Main Street Oct. 7. There will be live music, food and craft vendors out.

Tammy Gordon:

- The Delcambre Shrimp Festival starts on Wednesday and the shrimp dishes are ready to go.
- The new restaurant coming to Delcambre is progressing well.
- Can text FRESH to (833) 942-5537 for fresh catch and boat arrival alerts in Delcambre. Lots of boats coming in currently.

Motion to adjourn made by Ronald Sovine, seconded by Liz Bodin. Motion carried.