

Iberia Parish Tourist Commission
Board Minutes
July 26, 2023

Tammy Gordon called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Iberia Parish Tourist Commission to order at 10:35 A.M. at the Iberia Parish Tourist Commission Office located at 2513 Hwy. 14, New Iberia, LA, 70560.

Present:

Tammy Gordon
Phebe Hayes
Ronald Sovine
Germaine Comeaux
Nancy Buteau
Heidi Martin

Absent:

Liz Bodin

Public:

No public present

Present, but not participating in formal action:

Mike Tarantino, staff

A motion by Germaine Comeaux, seconded by Nancy Buteau to approve the May 2023 minutes. Motion carried.

A motion by Heidi Martin, seconded by Ronald Sovine to approve the May 2023 finance report. Motion carried.

A motion by Ronald Sovine, seconded by Heidi Martin to approve the June 2023 finance report. Motion carried.

A motion to transfer \$50,000 from Differed Revenue to Publicity by Heidi Martin, seconded by Germaine Comeaux. Motion carried.

Executive Director's Report:

- Parking lot lights installation complete, as well as the Azalea Garden Club's flower bed rehabilitation.
- Great Outdoor Advertising moveable billboard to feature monthly events and festivals is up. Will rotate with various events and we hope to have it up year-round.

- The Bayou Teche National Paddle and Water Trail signage has been installed parish wide.
- Delta Biofuel had it's groundbreaking and was well attended.
- Teche Project's Geaux Paddle Youth Workshop sold out quickly and they're considering holding more workshops after our facebook post about the event had comments asking about signups. It was a free opportunity to teach teens how to paddle on Bayou Teche
- Bayou Teche Museum received an education grant from the American Sugar Cane League. The funds are earmarked for transportation and admission costs for student field trips to the Museum and have been embraced by Iberia Parish schools over the past three years.
- Dr. Shannon Gonsoulin, DVM, of Gonsoulin Land and Cattle, will be featured in an upcoming episode of "Emeril Cooks".
- IberiaTravel.com had 8.7k users in May and 7.9k users in June.
- Iberia Travel's Facebook page reached 19.4k users in May 12.5k users in June.
- We had 31 walk-ins in May and 74 walk-ins in June.
- Unemployment rate is at 4.5% with retail sales at \$138 million in June.

Phebe Hayes:

- The Queen Mother Moore historical marker unveiling will be August 12, and will coincide with the IAHS Center for Research and Learning's grand opening. Family members and academic scholars/biographers of Queen Mother Moore will be in attendance at the unveiling to join the Iberia community in celebrating her legacy.

Heidi Martin:

- Coffee Talk with Tommy will be on Aug. 16.
- The World Championship Gumbo Cookoff is Oct. 14-15.

Germaine Comeaux:

- The Village of Loreauville are selling memorial bricks that will be on display at the memorial park.

Tammy Gordon:

- Next Delcambre Seafood & Farmers Market will be August 5.
- Shrimping season was really good and they had more boats this year than in previous seasons.
- Delcambre Shrimp Festival is Aug. 16-20.
- 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 Phebe Hayes. Motion carried.