

Iberia Parish Tourist Commission  
Board Minutes  
December 19, 2023

Tammy Gordon called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Iberia Parish Tourist Commission to order at 10:38 A.M. at the Iberia Parish Tourist Commission Office located at 2513 Hwy. 14, New Iberia, LA, 70560.

Present:

Ronald Sovine  
Germaine Comeaux  
Tammy Gordon  
Liz Bodin  
Heidi Martin

Absent:

Nancy Buteau

Public:

No public present

Present, but not participating in formal action:

Mike Tarantino, staff

A motion by Heidi Martin, seconded by Ronald Sovine to approve the November 2023 minutes. Motion carried.

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

A motion by Heidi Martin, seconded by Liz Bodin to approve transferring \$8,000 from Group Insurance to Repair and Maintenance - Equipment. Motion carried.

Executive Director's Report:

- Spoke with hotel developers about early stages of a hotel at Progress Point.
- Group of investors interested in purchasing Ramada.
- New visitor guides and tear off maps are in. 5,000 guides have been sent to LTA for their visitor guide distribution program.
- Spoke with Peter Patout and got the official date for the 1<sup>st</sup> Bayou Teche Native Louisiana Iris Festival which will be March 28-30, 2025.
- Mike was featured in Discover Lafayette podcast.
- The New Iberia Advent Activity has gotten a lot of notice and was featured on KATC and KLFY.

- We'll be putting up a Mardi Gras in Iberia parish sign on the billboard once the Advent schedule has run.
- Bayou Mardi Gras Parade will be Jan. 26 to kick off the season.
- IberiaTravel.com had 8k users in December.
- We had 54 walk-ins in December.
- Reviewed economic indicator.

Heidi Martin:

- Very Berry Community Quest had over 120 pre-registered families participate and we ended up with about 150 families' total.
- The Chamber banquet will be in April.

Ronald Sovine:

- The Jeanerette Christmas Parade was on Dec. 16.
- Mardi Gras parade will be Feb. 4.

Germaine Comeaux:

- Bayou Teche Museum gala will be March 13 to coincide with Geoge Rodrigue's birthday.
- Shadows and the Museum's operating hours will be the same for the holidays.

Tammy Gordon:

- December was the final Delcambre Boat Parade after 20 years.

Motion to adjourn made by Ronald Sovine, seconded by Heidi Martin. Motion carried.