

LAST UPDATE of the Minutes of Curatorial Committee with a correction about ownership of the Artifacts.

Phyllis

Minutes of the Curatorial Committee
Bayou Vermilion District
Tuesday, June 16 - 4:00 p.m. Meeting on ZOOM

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner and Chair Phyllis Coleman Mouton at 4:00 p.m. Present were Phyllis Coleman Mouton, Dr. Tommy Michot, Dr. David Cheramie, Anne Mahoney and Elizabeth Daspit.

Anne Mahoney, Curator, responded that BVD has an exhibit entitled Downstream Watershed Journey.

The Strategic Focus of the Curator is adequate storage and restoration of the artifacts in the Watershed Building to meet the requirements of the Accreditation and Strategic Plan. The artifacts are being moved to the Watershed because there is climate control, space for required storage, repair, and documentation.

Interpretive formal and informal training is planned. There is preparation to reintroduce interpretive themed tours that were done years ago at BVD.

Elizabeth Daspit stated that digitalization of the inventory of the artifacts are 60% complete thanks to a grant that continues until April, 2023.

BVD received two new donations of artifacts:

1. A marble head unearthed by archeologists dated 1850 taken from a location near UL with a tombstone dated 1850 with the name R. H. Stevens. He was 35 years old.
2. A costume that Zachary Richard wore in a Mardi Gras event in the late 1980s.

Old Business

A. Discussion was held about the use of the Watershed for the storage of artifacts. Tommy Michot stated that Commissioners have stated that the Board did not approve the use of the Watershed for storage of artifacts. There was no vote taken by the former Board of Commissioners. The Curator explained that the Watershed was presented as a storage for artifacts in the Strategic Plan presented to the Board and the Accreditation team in 2020. Both were approved and signed by the Past President of the BVD Board and the CEO. Mouton indicated that she is unaware of plans for use of the Watershed for another purpose at this time. Tommy indicated that a Board member expressed exploring alternative use. Mouton recommended that the committee present a recommendation to the Board.

B. Tommy asked for a discussion of insurance and ownership of artifacts.

1. The Curator stated that the artifacts are not assets and are not insured as such. Artifacts are presently insured as contents. Tommy indicated that the question came up as a result of the recent audit. It was decided that we request Deidre Stock to provide clarity.

2. Ownership of the artifacts need clear determination. Anne Mahoney stated that all artifacts have Deeds of Gifts. The collections management of BVD requires inventory of all Deeds. The inventory was sent to Commissioners and there the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is being discussed to address that BVD owns the artifacts.

There being no additional business of the Curatorial Committee, the meeting adjourned.

Phyllis Coleman Mouton
Commissioner