

Minutes of the Curatorial Committee
Tuesday, September 21, 2021 ZOOM 4:00 P.M.

Meeting was called to order by Commissioner and Chair Phyllis Coleman Mouton at 4:01 p.m. Present were: David Eaton, Dr. Don McConnell, Dr. David Cheramie, Brady McKellar and Elizabeth Daspit

Dr. David Cheramie indicated that the timeline for hiring a new Curator is dependent on the approval of the 2022 Budget. The plan is to have the curatorial function as part of the Museum Operations.

Elizabeth Daspit reported that she received two new artifacts: an antique drill press and a cutter from Napoleonville. A very large painting 67feet x70feet could not be accepted for lack of storage. David Eaton asked about the status of the air-conditioning and roof leaks to the building housing artifacts. Dr. Cheramie indicated that these problems were addressed.

Elizabeth Daspit reported that digitalization of the artifacts is 64% completed. Eaton asked her to send Commissioners a sample - two to three pages - to review and for a visual picture of what the "digitalization process" reports.

Eaton asked about the "coverage of insurance". Dr. Cheramie indicated that Attorney Ryan was looking into the agreement with VLHMF related to coverage of artifacts in each house at Vermilionville.

Mouton asked about the status of grants. Brady McKellar talked about a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant that he completed, but could not be funded because it was more applicable for a capital project. Dr. Cheramie gave an update on the Lamar and Stuller grants.

Daspit indicated that an Exhibit is being shown entitled "Museums." McKellar mentioned a virtual application that will be on the website that will give a visitor more history about each house. The application is still in construction. This will enhance interpretations.

Mouton asked about the planned Open House for the Watershed, that has great visual exhibits. Cheramie indicated that this will be held later this year.

Eaton asked staff if they had any concerns. McKellar expressed concern for safe storage and preservation of artifacts.

There being no further business, it was moved by Eaton and seconded by McConnell that the meeting be adjourned.

Phyllis Coleman Mouton
Commissioner / Chair