



RESILIENT LOUISIANA COMMISSION

CO-CHAIR DON PIERSON

CO-CHAIR TERRIE STERLING

Restaurants and Entertainment Task Force
May 13, 2020
Meeting Called to order at 2:03 p.m.

Task Force Members

- Restaurants:
 - Edgar "Dook" Chase
 - Stan Harris
 - Randy Barrios
 - Alana Belton
 - Tommy Cvitanovich
 - Perry Eastman
 - David Hearn
 - Stephen Hightower
 - Nick Hazard
 - Robert King
 - Damien Lewis
 - Matt Massey
 - Dr. Catherine O'neal
 - Peter Sclafani
 - Ike Spears
 - Scott Taylor
 - Brad Watts
 - Emery Whalen
- **Leisure Activity**
 - Dennis Lauscha
 - Corey Wilson
 - Verge Ashberry
 - Roman Banks
 - Jay Cicero
 - Larry Connor
 - Ron Foreman
 - Shane Morrison
 - DR. David "Rusty" Ponton
 - Misty Setters
 - Chris Stelly
 - Doug Tatum

- **Welcome & Introductions**
 - Stan Harris (LRA) called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. He called roll and noted that a quorum was present.
 - Terrie Sterling (RLC Co-Chair) welcomed the task force members and the public, and said she looked forward to working with this Task Force.

- **Review of Resilient Louisiana Commission Guidelines**
 - Stan Harris reviewed the guidelines document for the Resilient Louisiana Commission and its Task Forces.
 - Ti Martin (RLC Member) noted that the Task Force looks forward to assisting the hospitality industry reopen
 - Other Restaurants & Entertainment Task Force Leader Introductions:
 - Dennis Lauscha (Saints & Pelicans) – Thanks so Stan & Ellyn on their lead on this. Corey & I have been working with all industries to assist in any way possible. Health & safety being the number one priority.
 - Corey Wilson (BREC) – Honored to be part of the group. As Dennis said, we have been working with many professionals across the country. This Task Force captures a lot of industries and we are glad to participate.

- **Working Group Reports**
 - Larry Conner (Stone Creek Club & Spa) – Summary of the reopening recommendations for health clubs, gyms, & fitness studios document (attached). Many protocols are suggested to be in place with signage, social distancing, decals on the floors, equipment distancing, etc.
 - Shane Morrison (Shane Morrison Companies) – Summary of reopening recommendations for movie theatres document (attached). Summer being a big season for the movie industry, we are coming together across the state to put these recommendations together. Social distancing will be key. Neighboring states that have opened already are not showing that there is a public demand at this time. Additionally, there are currently no national releases scheduled.
 - Dennis Lauscha – Stadiums and arenas are within the Phase 2 of reopening. Our recommendation is in draft form and will be provided to the Task Force when input from others on the collegiate level, as well as health officials, and working group members is turned in and noted. Health & safety is number one. We want to make sure everyone has a seat at the table in regards to this topic.
 - Corey Wilson – Summary on reopening parks and zoos documents (attached). Parks to an extent have remained open throughout this pandemic, as well as golf courses. We have been on calls across the country to get as much as input and best practices as possible. We know each community is unique and encourage each to use these as guidelines for your own community. The zoo in Baton Rouge will be opening next week and they will be using these guidelines. Anything not allowing for social distancing will be closed within these properties, such as aquariums, etc. There is some overlap in Youth Sports. They contribute to tourism dollars. The Governor is allowing solo or non-contact sports to begin again in Phase 1, but Baton Rouge is likely to wait until Phase 2, but other cities are beginning Youth Sports again if they can meet all requirements.

- Stan Harris – We are still awaiting the updated State Fire Marshall guidelines, which are expected by end of this week. This document will be distributed when it is provided. Currently trying to work through questions, etc. that have come out since the Governor's order on Monday.
- **Questions or Follow Up Items**
 - Stan Harris opened the call to questions:
 - Roman Banks – Concerned about enforcement of these measures and people who will push the envelope.
 - Stan – compliance with regard to capacity will fall to State Fire Marshall and temperature checks/sanitation to DHH.
 - Larry – Private Country Clubs are using another set of guidelines. Unaware of which task force they fall under. Recreational swimming is another. Certainly a concern there regarding enforcement. It's reported that agencies will be called out to investigate non-compliance.
 - Jan Ramsey – What about music clubs or bars with music? Festivals? I have a music policy representative that may want to participate, as they are treating New Orleans as a flagship city to demonstrate how to safely open these venues.
 - Stan – Restaurant Working Group has created a sub-group for bars music and entertainment venues which will be chaired by Nick Hazard. Need to be wrapped into this process so that they are included into Phases 2 & 3.
 - Dennis & Terrie – Informed Ms. Ramsey that there is a Hospitality & Tourism Task Force addressing festivals.
 - Nick Hazard – Are restaurants still allowed to serve alcoholic beverages to go?
 - Stan – Yes, at this time.
 - Nick Hazard – Do restaurants serving outside or to-go service need to allow patrons access to their restroom?
 - Stan – If they are just using it as a pick-up item, they don't. But if they are offering any type of counter service, they would have to provide restrooms. It's also a good practice for washing hands, etc. for the patrons as well.
 - Nick Hazard – Does a restaurant have to take a reservation for outside dining or just inside?
 - Stan – Only in Orleans Parish, currently.
 - Ti Martin – Tables outside and city tax for using sidewalks or outdoor areas? I hope everyone would be against that during this time.
 - Stan – We expect we should get an answer shortly from Mayor Cantrell's office on that. Only 4-5% restaurants have outside dining that is permitted.
 - Rusty Ponton – Testing and tracing. Do we anticipate any help from the state on this? Such as games and events at universities?
 - Stan – Because this would require venues to gather a great deal of information, they are looking into solutions for this. It's unknown about

large venues, but I will pose this question to the Task Force. Joint effort with Apple & Google to assist in contact tracing with the use of technology is being explored as well.

- Mark Schettler – I feel this is setting up parts of the population to be secluded from this due to lack of technology. For example, someone without a cell phone or has forgotten their cell phone. With tech solution that's being discussed, this strikes me as something detrimental to business. If a text message was to go out to a group stating that a business that they were at had someone that tested positive that could affect business.
 - Stan Harris – It's more direct than that and doesn't have the intention to hurt businesses and once the technology is there, they will drill down to take care of any gaps or questions that could pose issues such as these.
 - Terrie – There is a low-tech call center based approach. This would follow a traditional model of contact tracing. There is an aggressive plan within low tech.
 - Secretary Pierson – The group you have assembled is doing great work. We continue to move across the 15 Task Forces and this work is being captured and is meaningful. All of this was available to the Governor and was reviewed in consideration for his decision in regards to Phase 1 that starts Friday.
 - Rhonda – It would be helpful if the members of the restaurant working group could hold a forum with small restaurant owners with less than 20 employees.
 - Stan Harris – Please email reilientlouisiana@la.gov and we will make sure it's circulated and noted. This is a public meeting. You are always more than welcome. If you would like to send anything in before our call next week, we would be happy to have you and address it as best as possible.
 - Mark Schettler – I want to second Rhonda. If Nick or a smaller working group could stand up, that would be ideal. The small restaurants have been left out of the conversation and have very specific questions and would like to be heard.
 - Ti Martin – Every time I make a suggestion, you do remind me that small restaurants can't do what larger ones can. Thank you for all of your help with that and recognizing that group. where is everyone landing on mask wearing?
 - Stan Harris - if you are facing the public you need to wear face covering. It could be a mask, gator, handkerchief, etc. We need to be worried about the well-being of the work force and guests. Good hygiene and safety are something to continue to push.
- **Date of Next Meeting**
 - May 20, 2020

The meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.