



# RESILIENT LOUISIANA COMMISSION

CO-CHAIR DON PIERSON

CO-CHAIR TERRIE STERLING

## Restaurants and Entertainment Task Force

June 3, 2020

Meeting called to order at: 2:04 p.m.

### Task Force Members:

- Edgar "Dook" Chase
- Stan Harris
- Dennis Lauscha
- Corey Wilson
- Verge Ausberry
- Roman Banks
- Randy Barrios
- Alana Belton
- Jay Cicero
- Larry Connor
- Tommy Cvitanovich
- Perry Eastman
- Ron Foreman
- Ron Forman
- Nick Hazard
- David Hearn
- Stephen Hightower
- Robert King
- Damien Lewis
- Matt Massey
- Shane Morrison
- Dr. Catherine O'Neal
- Dr. David "Rusty" Ponton
- Peter Sclafini
- Missy Setters
- Ike Spears
- Chris Stelly
- Scott Taylor
- Doug Thornton
- Brad Watts
- Emery Whalen
- Camille Whitworth

- **Welcome & Introductions**
  - Stan Harris – TF Co-leader called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.
  - Certification of Inability to Operate Due to Lack of Quorum
- **Roll Call & Greetings**
  - Roll was called and a quorum was present.
- **Review & Approval of the Minutes of the Prior Task Force Meeting**
  - The minutes from the 5/27/20 meeting was posted for review. Upon a motion made and seconded, the minutes of the 5/27/20 Task Force Meeting were unanimously approved.
- **Review of Resilient Louisiana Commission Guidelines**
  - Stan Harris reviewed the guidelines for the Task Force reports due to the Commission on June 12. Everyone who is a sub-group leader was asked to get information to Ellyn & Jeanne so that a report can be compiled by early next week. The presentations will be the week following.
- **Working Group Reports**
  - Larry Conner – Looking towards Phase II. Hoping to move towards 50% occupancy. Most operations will be open in Phase II as well, including aquatics. Clubs are reporting very good numbers. Things are looking good for our sector currently.
  - Shane Morrison – Movie Theaters currently have lack of product. Theaters that have opened are mostly being creative with private parties, etc. It hasn't been profitable currently. We look forward to moving into 50% occupancy and have some new releases that will come out. We have the ability to self-regulate and look forward to welcoming all our patrons in early July when more product is available.
  - Corey Wilson – There is actually a shortage of bikes across the state with the use of parks right now, which does say a lot. We are looking at summer camps currently. There are some questions regarding how to comply with 50% capacity along with 6 ft. distance and how you can still properly operate. Splash pads are remaining closed. We are still staying focused on progress.
  - Nick Hazard – The big question is that the Governor needs to clarify regulations for the bars and outside Orleans Parish. Stan Harris referenced the Proposed Reopening Guidelines for AG Licensed Businesses. He walked through this document in entirety. Live entertainment was asked about and there is no progress as of yet.
  - Rob Dowie – Aquatics in regard to the hotel pool follow up. Working with Secretary's office to make sure that Aquatics is included in a safe opening document. Hotels should fall under controlled facility and would likely be exempt to a crowd control manager as long as they have the ability control entry to that area. The next focus area will be splash pads, water parks, etc. There has been some new guidance on water parks that has come out and looks to have an update by next Wednesday. Corey Wilson said because Phase II extends to the end of June, we are hoping that locations that are closed today can be considered to be opened before June 26<sup>th</sup>. Want to get those new guidelines out so that the public can begin to participate. Splash pads, water parks, etc. are important for those families that aren't a part of a country club or HOA that has pool access that is already being cleared to open.
  - Stan Harris – Reviewed the document for restaurants. While continuing current practices, in Phase II there will be increases in capacity and will include some new venues such as clubs. Posters for operators to encourage patrons to wear masks and

to also take temp of staff and guests upon entry. Phase I has shown to be effective overall thus far. We have to continue to build our guests' trust and hopefully demand will follow. We are awaiting guidance from the state Fire Marshall that will hopefully come through by tomorrow.

- Sec. Robinson – There is an expectation to have guidance for bars and restaurants later today. All comments were taken into consideration. In particular, table distances have been adjusted to give restaurants more space. This will allow for some creativity on how to seat guests to help with occupancy.
- Ti Martin – Asked Secretary about music in restaurants without singing and horns.
  - Sec. Robinson – Outside music away from guests is approved. Inside no singing or horns, but it is being researched regarding Plexiglas in regards to droplets so to possibly allow for horns and singing in the future. No immediate answer just yet. Hopefully by next week.
  - Stan Harris – Musicians have been silent so long, so it is important to have them included.
  - Rusty Ponton – Asked about University Bands
  - Rob Dowie – Also on the staff for the LSU Band and he is also amidst researching and happy to help in that area.
  - Stan Harris – Suggested all university representatives should get together to potentially come together with some ideas and suggestions to relay.
- **Solicitation of Public Questions**
  - Trampoline Parks were asked about. Sec. Robinson mentioned that the issue isn't cleaning, it's the grouping of children at the venues. It's being considered for what's being called Phase 2.2 due to the limitations to control the kids at the trampoline park.
  - Contact Sports mentioned. Sec. Robinson said they are considered for Phase III.
  - Andrew Preble as an owner of escape room attractions, asked what Phase they should be in. Sec. Robinson mentioned that she will have to look at this and discuss with the state Fire Marshall. Some issues are with dark rooms, social distancing, etc. Andrew mentioned that it's a POD situation with no more than 8 people in each room and separated with a 30-min. break in between the groups to sanitize. It was mentioned that it will be considered.
  - What is Phase 2.2? Sec. Robinson mentioned it was a modification of Phase II and could open before Phase III.
  - D. Nunez – Medical insurance for employees in front of the public. This will help those get back to work. Loans taken away and given to agriculture. Restaurants should be given more consideration. Professionals need to get together to help with bankruptcies. An example is Detroit when they didn't want to lose music and art where organizations and charities came to the aid of that group. We should be going after funds. Mr. Nunez mentioned that he has many more topics to discuss but plans to email Stan directly.
    - Stan mentioned an insurance plan that's low in cost and will send the information to him.
- **Date of Next Meeting**
  - None set at this time
- **Adjourn:** the meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m.