



To enhance and promote the expertise of government meeting professionals.

October 2020

Happy Fall SGMP Louisiana members and friends!

We have finally made it to football and gumbo season. The Tigers and Saints are on our tvs while the chicken and sausage are in our pots, both providing a little bit of southern comfort.

I'd like to update you on some changes within our chapter.

For various reasons – the state of the world and the impact to our industry, work commitments, retirement, and education - our board passed a motion to reduce the board from 8 members down to 5 members. This means we eliminated the Director positions. We hope this change is only for the remainder of the current board's term, which ends on June 30, 2020. With our Treasurer position remaining vacant for quite some time, it was important to us to find a way to have an active board while working within the restraints COVID has dealt us.

We then made a few shifts and appointments in order to ensure all 5 board seats were covered. Below you will find your newly seated board.

President: LeAnna Toups-Bennett (planner)

1st Vice President: Melissa Lee (planner)

2nd Vice President: Zondra Jones (supplier)

Secretary: Jessica McChesney (supplier)

Treasurer: Allison Landry (planner)

I wanted to remind you that anyone can attend SGMP Board Meetings at any time as a guest. I only ask that you RSVP with me prior to the meeting so that we can logistically make accommodations, whether that be via Zoom or in-person. Our board meets the second Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. We adjourn around 11:20 a.m. in preparation for our monthly education meeting. Being a guest at a board meeting is a great way to learn more about the board and to see if running for a board seat is something you may be interested in.

We have also updated our Supporter Opportunities to reflect a lower pricing structure. We hope this encourages more of your organizations to advertise with SGMP Louisiana. With our industry and state continuing to experience a slow economic bounce back, targeted marketing is more important than ever. Our newsletter, social media, and website reach planners across the state and some from other states.



To enhance and promote the expertise of government meeting professionals.

We are also adjusting parts of our newsletter to include more transparent information. We will begin including information on the membership composition of our chapter, as well as our financials. If you have any other suggestions on what we should include, I'd be happy to talk those through. Please email me at President@sgmpla.net.

Geaux Tigers!

LeAnna Toups-Bennett, CGMP

SGMP Louisiana Chapter President