Pageant Requests Rejected

BATON ROUGE (AP) — A request for $2,700 for a pageant to honor the 300th anniversary of the Acadians in Louisiana was turned down yesterday by the Louisiana Tourist Development Commission.

Instead, the commission headed by Secretary of State Wade O. Martin voted to provide staff help in promotion and advertising that is possible under policy not shown earlier.

The request for funds to help put on the pageant in connection with a festival at St. Martinville came from Labor' Gibson, director of the Department of State Parks and Recreation and a member of the Tourist Commission.

The commission voted to continue Bill Mandros as acting director until further notice. Mandros had asked a delay in his appointment.

The commission heard reports from Mandros, advertising director John Turner, and Herb Coudron, staff of the New Orleans branch office.

Gibson asked for a decision on the request for funds for the St. Martinville festival because there was less that officials the money could be expected.

The French Acadians of Louisiana will celebrate later this year: their 300th year in the state.

Public Safety Director Thomas Bruton, also a member of the Tourist Commission, voted to keep funds expenditure for pageants and festivals in line with factors in law and commission policy.

Gibson said his understanding at the time was that the Acadian 300th Birthday celebration would be an exception, since it was not an everyday affair.

Gibson suggested the request be reconsidered by the Board of Directors of L'Association des Acadiens and the Board of Directors of the Louisiana State Society.

Chairman Martin was appointed to meet with them.

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