

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE NEW ORLEANS CITY PARK IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners (the "Board") of the New Orleans City Park Improvement Association (the "NOCPIA") was called to order Tuesday, June 23, 2015, at 4:00p.m. by President Susan Hess. The meeting was held in the Pavilion of Two Sisters, located in the Botanical Garden.

PRESENT: Commissioners Batt, Bingler, Claverie, Fernandez, Fierke, Giffin, Guidry (represented by Megan Langhoff), Hales, Hess, Hoffman, Hollis, Laborde, LaFranca, LeGrand, Masinter, McKay, Powell, Slone, Sloss, Spears, Thorpe, Tregre, Waller, and Wisdom

ABSENT: Commissioners Chase, Johnson, McKeithen, Palumbo, Payton, Pettus, Sanderford, Schrenk, Seamon, and Williams

STAFF: Bob Becker, Kevin Cox, George Parker, John Hopper, Rob DeViney, Ginny Virgadamo, Billy Bayle, David Carpenter, and Denise Joubert

GUESTS: Henry Kinney

A quorum was present and voting throughout the meeting.

The May board minutes were approved.

President Hess welcomed and thanked everyone for coming.

In her President's report, Hess mentioned the Chinese Lantern Festival is scheduled for Feb - May, 2016. If anyone is interested in assisting with the project, they should contact Hess.

The Friends held a thank you reception for members of the Legislature which was well attended.

In the Management Report, Chief Executive Officer Becker reported that operating results for May were on budget. Year to date results are still strong which is attributable to good attendance at Celebration in the Oaks.

All Departments have updated their Hurricane Emergency Plan so that all plans are current as the Hurricane season has begun.

Chief Executive Officer Becker and Chief Financial Officer Kevin Cox presented and reviewed management's recommendations for the 2015-2016 operating budget. Becker noted that at the last minute, the Legislature, at the recommendation of the Revenue Estimating Council, cut the Park's allocation of Fairgrounds slot funds by \$152,000. This forced a review of the draft budget to absorb this loss of funds. The recommended budget recognizes a continued loss in State general operating support and addresses this loss of revenue through increases in self-generated revenue. Cox noted that a joint meeting of the Executive and Audit and Finance Committee

reviewed management's budget recommendation and unanimously recommended the budget for approval by the Board. After review, President Hess invited public comments in regards to the budget; there were no public comments. Commissioner Steve Bingler moved to adopt the recommended budget, Commissioner Ronnie Slone seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously adopted the 2015-2016 budget. Becker thanked Kevin Cox and Directors for their work on the budget.

President Hess introduced a Resolution authorizing the Chief Executive Officer, Robert W. Becker, to take all actions necessary to receive grant funds from the Recreational Trails Program for Louisiana. Commissioner Paul Masinter moved to adopt the Resolution, which is attached as the last two pages of the handout. President Hess invited public comments in regards to this Resolution; there were no public comments. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board.

President Hess introduced a Resolution authorizing the Chief Executive Officer, Robert W. Becker to enter into a contract for the construction of the Tri-Centennial Parking project. Becker modified the motion to adopt the Resolution, which would also authorize Becker to enter into a contract for the construction management services for the project. President Hess invited public comments in regards to this Resolution; there were no public comments. The Resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board.

Committee Reports:

P, A&E - Commissioner Steve Bingler reported the Committee toured the new golf course construction site. Commissioner Paul Masinter updated the Board on the issues involving the course. Commissioner Will Tregre thanked all committee members who attended the tour.

CITO/Special Events – Commissioner Andrea LeGrand updated the Board on upcoming events. June under the Moon which was held on June 5 was well attended. The demographics for the event were different than other events in the Park. We are planning to host similar events in the future. The Marine band is scheduled to perform on July 3 on the Goldring/Woldenberg Great Lawn. Sponsorship letters for Celebration in the Oaks will be mailed soon. The Marsiglia family will chair the Celebration in the Oaks Family Preview Party.

Development – Chief Development Officer, John Hopper updated the Board on the Chinese Lantern Festival. Contract negotiations are underway and when finalized the Committee will begin working on various sponsorship packages. Hopper asked that all board members share contact information for potential donors. A brief discussion took place in regards to the exhibits and sponsorship opportunities for the project.

Finance & Audit – Budget was presented, no additional report.

Friends – Commissioner Leigh Morgan Thorpe reported that Friends have secured a Subaru Crosstrek to be raffled at Friends Fest on July 22.

H&G/Dog Park – Commissioner Liz Sloss updated the board on various projects. “The Wave” sculpture has been installed at Big Lake. The Committee is discussing the possibility of hosting a Wildflower Festival at the Festival Grounds in Spring, 2018. 101 Donations, NOLA City Park’s fundraiser for improvements at the Dog Park, will be held August 21st in the Arbor Room.

Legal & Risk Management – Commissioner Paul Masinter reported that the committee is working on the contract for China Light festival as well as reviewing on-going legal issues.

Public Relations – Laura Claverie reported the Park hosted a media event unveiling 15 large photo boards at Big Lake, showing photos of Katrina damaged areas of the Park; and those same areas of the Park as they are now. The photo boards will stay at Big Lake through September 2015. The Park’s website will also spotlight the Katrina section, telling the City Park success story. The Park will host a Thank You party for donors and volunteers this summer.

Nominating – No Report

Sports- Commissioner Andrea LeGrand reported the Committee discussed the possibility of converting Quad 3 into a multi-purpose field, due to the demand for field space for various sports. The Park was awarded the 2016-2017 State Soccer Championships to be held at Tad Gormley stadium. The Governors Games Track and Field meet was held at Tad Gormley Stadium and was very successful. More than 1800 youths participated in the event. Commissioner Laura Claverie inquired about the drainage issues at the soccer fields on Marconi. Becker stated the drainage at that area goes into the adjacent lagoons, therefore when the lagoons are high the water does not drain. Commissioner Tom Fierke suggested that when the pump station is complete, we explore the possibility of bringing activity to the area by Robert E. Lee Blvd. Becker noted when the project is completed, we will engage with the Lake Vista community, and take comments as to what would be acceptable for the area.

Tennis – Commissioner Errol Laborde reported on a successful meeting with Rob Worley, President of the Louisiana Tennis Association in regards to hosting sanctioned tournaments at the Tennis facility.

Botanical Garden Foundation – Becker reported that construction of the new garden entrance and sculpture garden is on schedule.

OTHER REPORTS: Becker reported that the State has funded the Wisner Overpass project and expects construction to begin in the Fall. The City has developed a traffic routing plan and we will review the plan at the pre-construction meeting.

Becker reported that Duininck Golf has begun repair work on the greens on the North Golf Course which were heavily damaged by recent rains. We estimate that the repair work will be completed by September.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: No Report

NEW BUSINESS: No Report

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public comment was invited, there were no public comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 28, 2015 at 4:00p.m.

Denise Joubert
Recording Secretary

Andrea LeGrand
Secretary