

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 28, 2016, at 4:00pm by President Susan Hess. The meeting was held in the Administration Building.

PRESENT: Commissioners Chase, Claverie, Coulon, Guidry, Hess, Hollis, Katz, Laborde, LaFranca, Masinter, Palumbo, Pettus, Pineda, Powell, Schrenk, Seamon, Slone, Sloss, Smith, Thomas, Thorpe, Tregre, and Waller

ABSENT: Commissioners Batt, Bingler, Fernandez, LeCorgne, McKeithen, McNeil, Navarre, Pate, Payton, Spears, Williams and Wisdom

STAFF: Bob Becker, Kevin Cox, John Hopper, Meg Adams, Tony Biagas, and Denise Joubert

COUNSEL: Henry Kinney

GUESTS: Casie Duplechain, Andrea Legrand, Jamal Melancon, and J.T. Hannen

A quorum was present and voting throughout the meeting.

President Hess welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming.

The minutes of the May Board meeting were approved.

In the President's report, Susan Hess introduced Jamal Melancon from the MidCity Messenger.

Hess reported that a press conference was held today announcing that after nearly two decades, the Allstate Sugar Bowl Tennis Tournament is returning to the Park. The event will be held on November 12, 13 and 14 at the City Park/Pepsi Tennis Center.

The Park is planning an event for the 120th anniversary of the stewardship of City Park by the City Park Improvement Association. The event is scheduled for September 14 in the Pavilion of Two Sisters. All past board members will be invited to this event.

The Nominating Committee is planning to meet to discuss vacancies. Any board member wishing to nominate potential candidates to serve on the Board should submit names to Susan Hess or Bob Becker.

Hess mentioned that several board members recently toured the new golf course. The course is 80% complete. If anyone is interested in a tour of the golf course let Bob know.

In the Management Report, Chief Executive Officer Becker reported we are working to end the fiscal year on a positive note, despite the \$100,000 cut of our statutory dedicated funds and other challenges.

Chief Financial Officer Kevin Cox presented and reviewed management's recommendations for the 2016-2017 operating budget. 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 a brief discussion, the Board unanimously adopted the 2016-2017 budget.

A Resolution was introduced authorizing the execution and delivery of a Consent to Enter and Build Agreement between Bayou District Foundation and New Orleans City Park Improvement Association. The agreement gives permission for the BDF and its contractors to come onto Park property, build facilities, and donate them to the Park. Commissioner Paul Masinter thanked Meredith Hathorn, Henry Kinney and Tim Clow for their work on the agreement. The resolution was offered by Commissioner David Waller, seconded by Commissioner Steve Pettus, and was unanimously adopted by the Board. Commissioner Edgar Chase thanked Becker for sending the document for review prior to the meeting.

A Resolution was introduced 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 Tim LaFranca moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Will Tregre, and unanimously adopted by the Board.

A Resolution was introduced authorizing Chief Executive Officer, Robert W. Becker to review and file claims with Pan American Life Insurance on behalf of the Board of Commissioners and New Orleans City Park Improvement Association. Commissioner Edgar Chase moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Will Tregre, and unanimously adopted by the Board.

Commissioner Paul Masinter moved to amend the agenda and seconded by Commissioner Susan Guidry and unanimously approved by the Board. The agenda was amended to include a Resolution authorizing the final payment for the Tri-Centennial place project. Commission Will Tregre moved to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Susan Guidry, and unanimously adopted by the Board.

Committee Reports:

P, A&E - Commissioner Edmund Schrenk reported that the Committee toured the new golf course. The majority of the golf cart paths have been completed and the entire course is in the process of being grassed. The contractor is preparing the site for the new clubhouse.

CITO/Special Events – Commissioner Leigh Thorpe reported on upcoming events. June Under the Moon was successful. The newly enlarged energized committee met and discussed ways to increase revenue for Celebration in the Oaks. The Marine band is scheduled to perform on July 3 on the Goldring/Woldenberg Great Lawn.

Development – Commissioner Ronnie Slone reported that the Committee is working on several sponsorship projects. Slone reported that the Committee secured a \$15,000 sponsorship from Whitney Bank for a bench in the Arrival Garden.

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

Friends – Commissioner Jackie Palumbo reported that the Patron and Ambassador Member Thank You party was well attended. Friends Fest is scheduled for July 20 in the Carousel Gardens Amusement Park. Tickets went on sale today for Martini Madness which is scheduled for September 16.

H&G/Dog Park – Commissioner Liz Sloss reported that the improvements at Popp Bandstand are complete. However the Committee has decided to put up a temporary fence around Popp Bandstand to deter people from trampling the shrubs, and disposing of trash in the area. Five Overcup oak trees have been removed from Roosevelt Mall and new Live Oaks planted.

Legal & Risk Management – No Report

Public Relations – Commissioner Laura Claverie reported that the photography contest is underway. To date we have received fifty-five entries. The committee is working to increase restaurant participation for the Celebration in the Oaks preview party.

Nominating – No Report.

Sports- The Committee toured the new Golf Course.

Tennis – Commissioner Errol Laborde reported that the Allstate Sugar Bowl Tennis Tournament is returning to City Park. The tournament is sanctioned by the United States Tennis Association and is expected to draw top payers, 14 to 18 years old, from nine states of the Southern Section. The Park will run the tournament with the support of the Louisiana Tennis Association. Commissioner Laborde thanked Commissioner Cleland Powell for his help in securing this tournament as well as John Hopper for coordinating the press conference.

Botanical Garden Foundation – Commissioner David Waller reported work continues on the Arrival Garden which is scheduled to be complete for Magic in the Moonlight on October 14. The Committee is working on scheduling a symposium in the spring. The first installment was received from The Zemurray Foundation for the garden endowment.

Sustainability Committee – Commissioner Bob Thomas reported that the committee is working to develop policies for the Park.

OTHER REPORTS:

Tony Biagas, Director of Athletic Services, gave a presentation that reviewed the various facilities and responsibilities of his department.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: No Report

NEW BUSINESS:

Public comment was then invited; there was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 26, 2016 at 4:00p.m.

Denise Joubert
Recording Secretary

Elizabeth Sloss
Secretary