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 Thursday, June 7, 2018, at 4 p.m. by President Steve Pettus. The meeting was held in the Administration Building.

PRESENT: Commissioners Arnold, Claverie, Hess, Hollis, Katz, LeCorgne, McNeil, Pate, Pettus, Powell, Savoie, Seamon, Slone, Sloss, Spears, Thomas, Tregre, and Waller

ABSENT: Commissioners Balart, Batt, Bingler, Cahn, Dale, Leger, Lupo, Masinter, McCrossen, Messer, Navarre, Offner, Pineda, Thorpe, and Williams

STAFF: Bob Becker, Kevin Cox, Rob De Viney, John Hopper, and Denise Joubert

COUNSEL: Henry Kinney

GUESTS: Andrea Legrand, Jacques Roman, Iam Jaeger, Joe Mesa, Jay Roman, Ashley Roman, Katie Benrud, Dale Logan, Bud Logan, Mike Weinberger, Gideon Stanton, Bob Hennessey

A quorum was present and voting throughout the meeting.

Steve Pettus, President of the NOCPIA Board of Commissioners, called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the April Board meeting were approved.

Anyone wishing to comment on any item on the agenda must sign the sign-in sheet and indicate what item they wish to comment on.

Pettus read the rules for receiving public comments and asked speakers to abide by those rules.

The Board allowed speakers to make public statements on the agenda item concerning consideration of the lease for food and beverage operations at the Casino Building. The following is a list of speakers: Bud Logan, Mike Weinberger, Gideon Stanton, and Bob Hennessey.

Pettus thanked all the speakers for their comments. Becker reviewed the bidding process, and the analysis of our legal counsel. Management, and the Executive Committee recommend that the lease for food and beverage operations be awarded to Café du Monde. After discussions, a motion was made by Commissioner Susan Hess, seconded by Commissioner Mike Hollis, and approved unanimously to award the lease to Café du Monde.
In his President’s Report, Pettus reported the following:

- He mentioned that Commissioner Bill LeCorgne will Chair the Wisner Tract Committee.
- Commissioner Robert Lupo will give a presentation on Social Media at a future board meeting.

In the Management Report, Chief Executive Officer Bob Becker reported that operating results for April were slightly below plan. Year to date, the Park is below plan, and is looking at ways to offset a portion of the deficit.

He reported:

- He mentioned that at the June 26 Board meeting we will adopt the budget for FY 18-19.
- He noted that Don Watson, the Park’s Controller, is retiring after thirty years of service.
- June Under the Moon is scheduled for Friday, June 8.

Pettus noted that it is the responsibility of all Commissioners to comply with the code of the Board of Ethics. He thanked all Commissioners for their time, and conscious effort that that is put forth in the decisions of the board.

Committee Reports:

P, A&E – No Report

CITO/Special Events – No Report

Development – Commissioner Larry Katz asked Commissioners to review the multimedia prospect chart, and let John Hopper know if you know anyone on the list. He mentioned that the Park is seeking sponsorships for the renovation of the exhibits in Storyland. There are twenty one exhibits to sponsor that range from $25,000-$75,000. We have secured sponsorship for three exhibits.

Environmental Stewardship – Commissioner Robert Thomas reported that the Committee is working to identify the Park’s role in environmental education, and promoting environmental learning. Thomas mentioned that the Park gives space to The New Orleans Iris Society to raise and propagate Irises in the Park.

Finance & Audit – No Report

Friends – No Report

H&G Committee/Dog Park – Commissioner Liz Sloss reported that the Park will receive $100,000 from the Heart of the Park hat luncheon for maintenance for the trees in the Park. The funds will go towards the endowment, planting, pruning, and care for the trees. Becker mentioned that the Friends of City Park have donated $50,000 towards the endowment for the
trees. Pettus expressed his gratitude to the Town Gardeners, and will recognize them at a future meeting.

Legal & Risk Management – No Report

Public Relations – Commissioner Laura Claverie reported that the Committee discussed the media plans for the upcoming Halloween event. Becker mentioned that the King and Queen of Spain will visit the New Orleans Museum of Art on June 16. The Park has begun receiving submissions for the photo contest which will be judged on July 18.

Nominating – No Report

Sports – No Report

Tennis – No Report

Botanical Garden Foundation – No Report

OTHER REPORTS: Becker passed out a summary of all the partners of City Park.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 26, 2018 at 4 p.m.

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Denise Joubert
Recording Secretary

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Ronnie Slone
Secretary