

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, November 22, 2016, at 4:00pm by President Susan Hess. The meeting was held in the Administration Building.

PRESENT: Commissioners Bingler, Chase, Claverie, Coulon, Hess, Hollis, Katz, Laborde, LaFranca, LeCorgne, McNeil, Palumbo, Pettus, Pineda, Schrenk, Sloss, Smith, Thomas, Thorpe, Tregre and Waller

ABSENT: Commissioners Batt, Guidry, Masinter, McKeithen, Navarre, Pate, Payton, Powell, Seamon, Slone, Spears, Williams, and Wisdom

STAFF: Kevin Cox, John Hopper, Meg Adams, Rob DeViney, and Denise Joubert

COUNSEL: Henry Kinney

GUESTS: Casie Duplechain, Claire Byun, and Mark Schexnaydre

A quorum was present and voting throughout the meeting.

President Hess welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming.

The minutes of the October Board meeting were approved.

In the President’s report, Susan Hess introduced Claire Byun from the MidCity Messenger.

Hess reported that the Park has been extremely busy with numerous events including the Voodoo Music Festival that was very well attended mainly due to perfect weather conditions. There are three years left on the current contract with Live Nation. All three Celebration in the Oaks kick off parties were well attended. Hess noted that the Contractor for the golf course has not received substantial completion from the State, mainly due to the buildings not being completed. The course is expected to open in the spring

President Hess reminded all Commissioners that Ethics and Sexual Harassment training for 2016 must be completed by December 31st.

The December board meeting is scheduled for December 13 and will be followed by a cocktail reception. All board members as well as their spouses are invited.

Hess recognized the following Commissioners for their work in the Community:

- Commissioner Myra Pineda, for being chosen by City Business as one of the 2016 Class of “Women of the Year”.
- Commissioner Leigh Thorpe for being selected by Gambit as one of the 2016 Class of “40 under 40”.

- Councilwoman Susan Guidry was honored by the Alliance for Affordable Energy.

In the Management Report, Chief Operations Officer Rob DeViney reported that the weather finally cooperated, which enabled us to exceed our monthly budget by \$86,000; and helped reduce our deficit for the year.

DeViney commended Commissioner Errol Laborde, Cleland Powell, and Rob Worley, President of the Louisiana Tennis Association, for their assistance in securing the event.

A Resolution was unanimously adopted authorizing Robert W. Becker, as the signatory for the New Orleans City Park Improvement Association, to enter in the contract with Command Construction Industries, LLC, for the construction of the Marconi Multiuse Path.

A Resolution was unanimously adopted requesting, and authorizing PEPCO to prepare and execute an amendment to the CEA with the Louisiana Children's Museum, wherein the deadline for the construction phase of the project to commence is extended until November 25, 2017.

Committee Reports:

P, A&E - Commissioner Edmund Schrenk reported that we held the second of two public workshops to receive input on potential future land uses in the area generally bounded by Wisner, Harrison, Scout Island, and Zachary Taylor. Approximately 120 people attended this workshop where we presented three schemes of how the ideas developed at the earlier workshop could be translated onto the site. Hess stressed that these are preliminary possibilities, and that the schemes did not contain any input from Board members. The P, A&E Committee, and the Board will discuss and offer their comments. At this time there is no funding for any of the projects. A discussion took place in regards to the suggestions and the process going forward.

CITO/Special Events – Commissioner Leigh Thorpe reported that the Celebration in the Oaks Preview party, Jingle Bells and Beer, and the Family party were all very successful. The Committee is focusing on marketing the event to increase attendance on weekdays.

Development – John Hopper reported that the Committee is working to secure several large donations. The holiday mail appeal was sent to 25,000 households. The Committee is working on a project to coincide with the 300th anniversary of the City. Hopper reminded everyone to fulfill their annual pledge by the end of the year. He will be sending out the board giving document to review your donations for the year. Hopper also passed out information on donating stock to New Orleans City Park via the Greater New Orleans Foundation.

Finance & Audit – Commissioner Larry Katz reported that we were 62,000 below budget for the year mainly due to weather. Amusements and Storyland behind in 1st quarter but picked up 53,000 in October. City Putt ahead 20% in October vs last year. Golf up for both the month and year to date. Results in other departments for the 1st 4 months of the year were as follows. Concerts and Special Events 67,000 ahead revenue, Catering and Sales revenues down 10%

because of competition, but profit up 20%. Concessions slightly down for the year vs. budget but had an excellent October.

Friends – Commissioner Jackie Palumbo reported that membership for November is 4785. Lark is scheduled for March 10, with the funds dedicated towards the replacement of the turf field at Tad Gormley Stadium. The event chairs are: Aimee Gowland and Corrie Pellerin, and the honorary chairs this year will be the Jerry Romig Family.

H&G/Dog Park – No Report

Legal & Risk Management – No Report

Public Relations – Commissioner Laura Claverie reported that Media night for Celebration in the Oaks was well attended.

Nominating – The Board voted unanimously to elect Larry Katz, Vice-President; Ray Seamon, Vice-President; Elizabeth Sloss, Vice-President; Edmund Schrenk, Treasurer; and Ronnie Slone, Secretary for 2017. The Board also voted unanimously to elect Susan Hess to serve a second four-year term on the Board and Robert Lupo, Richard Cahn, Lori Savoie, and Sarah Babovich Offner were elected for four of the open at-large positions on the Board. President Hess thanked the Committee for their hard work.

Sports- Commissioner Will Tregre thanked Friends of City Park for dedicating the funds from Lark in the Park to Tad Gormley Stadium. High School football has ended and we are in the middle of High School soccer season. State Soccer Championship games will be held in Tad Gormley February 21, 22, 23 and 24. The re-lamping project at Tad Gormley has been completed. He noted that the Contractor for the golf course is expected to ask for a substantial completion by the end of November; and at that time we will take ownership of the course. The course is expected to open in the spring of 2017.

Tennis – Commissioner Errol Laborde reported that the Allstate Sugar Bowl Tennis Tournament was successful. Laborde thanked Rob DeViney as well as Patti Todd and her staff for all their work on the tournament. The Pepsi Tennis Center was voted one of the best Tennis Complex's in America. Laborde mentioned that he thoroughly enjoyed serving on the Board for the past eight years and expressed his sadness that he is rotating off. Commissioner Edgar Chase commended Commissioner Laborde for his leadership.

Botanical Garden Foundation – Commissioner David Waller reported that Magic in the Moonlight was very successful. The funds raised will benefit an outdoor kitchen in the Garden. Margaret DuBois and Julie Miller Hart are the chairs for Magic in the Moonlight in 2017. Waller mentioned they are planning a new event called "Response 2017". It is a plen air style art event. Approximately 50 artists will paint scenes in the Park and the Garden from March 28-31, 2017. They will then be sold at an auction on the 31st in the Pavilion.

Sustainability Committee – No Report

OTHER REPORTS:

The Board watched a video of the CEO giving a presentation to the City Council on the progress of the Park. The City Council congratulated the Board, and Management and presented the Park with a Proclamation.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: No Report

NEW BUSINESS:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 4:00p.m.

Denise Joubert
Recording Secretary

Elizabeth Sloss
Secretary