

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners (the "Board") of the New Orleans City Park Improvement Association (the "NOCPIA") was called to order Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 4 p.m. by President Jay Batt. The meeting was held in-person at the Pavilion of Two Sisters and via Zoom.

PRESENT: Commissioners Banks, Batt, Bordelon, Brandt, Cahn, Charbonnet, Coaxum, Dale, DeBlieux, Fitzpatrick, Gardner, Hardie, Hollis, Katz, King, LeCorgne, Leger, Lupo, Pineda, Rodriguez, Savoie, Sloss, Sterbcow, Taylor, Thorpe, Waller, and Williams

ABSENT: Commissioners Arata, Giarrusso, McNeil, Morrell, Pate, Powell, Spears, and Worley

STAFF: Cara Lambright, Bob Becker, Rob DeViney, Keith Hemel, Casie Duplechain, Kerry Guillory, and Denise Joubert

COUNSEL: Henry Kinney

GUESTS: Paul Masinter, Pat Becker, Andrea Legand, Stephanie Bell, Edmund Schrenk, Jackie Sullivan, Susan Hess, and Ray Seamon

In accordance with Executive Orders issued by Governor John Bel Edwards, this notice shall serve as a certification of the New Orleans City Park Improvement Association's inability to operate in accordance with the Louisiana Open meetings law as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency. Members of the public may attend the meeting in person, observing all appropriate public health guidance or submit an email before the beginning of the meeting, which will be read to the Association's members before any action on any agenda item.

Anyone wishing to comment on any item on the agenda must sign-in or submit their comments via email and indicate what item they wish to comment on. There were no public comments received.

Jay Batt, President of the NOCPIA Board of Commissioners, called the meeting to order. The board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

A quorum is present and voting throughout the meeting.

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the Special Board meeting on January 14 and the Board meeting on January 26, 2021, as circulated via email. The motion was seconded, voted on, and approved unanimously.

In the Management Report, Chief Executive Officer Cara Lambright commended Rob DeViney and the entire team for a successful Floats in the Oaks. DeViney thanked the Park staff for their tremendous efforts. We were able to accommodate approximately 21,000 vehicles and expect to net about \$290,000 before any poster sales. President Batt and the Board thanked DeViney for his efforts.

Lambright said that the planning of Floats in the Oaks and Celebration in the Oaks took a lot of ingenuity. As a result of both events and the State's \$2.5 million appropriation, the Park's financial condition is beginning to improve.

Lambright reported:

- \$2.5 million is under consideration in HB1.
- The millage money that the Park will receive from the City of New Orleans has an outstanding bond debt payment, therefore the Park's share of this final payment will be reduced by \$375,000.

Lambright discussed the upcoming budget process and future planning efforts.

Commissioner Bryan Fitzpatrick presented Resolution 2021-03 to authorize Cara Lambright, Chief Executive Officer as additional signature for Capital One Operating and Payroll accounts, Hancock/Whitney Bank accounts, Liberty Mutual bank accounts, Louisiana Asset Management Pool (LAMP) accounts, and the Greater New Orleans Foundation accounts. The Resolution also authorizes the removal of Robert W. Becker from all City Park accounts. The Resolution was unanimously adopted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

P, A&E – Commissioner Bill LeCorgne updated the Board on various projects.

- Construction of the Marconi Bike Path has started
- The Harrison Avenue Trail Head parking area has been completed.

He reported on a series of projects, funded by the City of New Orleans along with some State money.

CITO/Special Events – No Report

Development – Chief Development Officer Casie Duplechain reported that we are continuing to work with the Friends of City Park and the Botanical Garden Foundation on the general support campaign. She said that the overall fundraising goal is \$5 million. We are currently at \$4.2 million which includes \$2.5 million from the State. Casie thanked Jessica Brandt for her generous donation.

Environmental Stewardship – No Report

Finance & Audit – Keith Hemel reported that operating results for January were \$340,000 ahead of budget, mainly due to a strong performance by golf, and the receipt of the State's slot reimbursement. Year to date net income is \$3.38 million. Year to date expenses are down \$2.3 million due to Covid.

Friends – Stephanie Bell reported that Friends of City Park will host Picnic in the Park fundraiser, a Covid-safe variation of Lark in the Park. The fundraiser will be held on Sunday, March 14 in the Botanical Garden. Bell thanked Commissioners Cleveland Spears and Jay Batt for their support of Lark, in addition to the Commissioners she thanked last month. The Heart of the Park Hat Luncheon is scheduled for April 23.

H&G Committee/Dog Park – Commissioner David Waller reported on various projects including a Conservatory and greenhouse renovation, and Dog Park operations.

Legal & Risk Management – No Report

NOMA – No Report

Wisner Tract – No Report

Public Relations – No Report

Nominating – The board unanimously elected Commissioner Cleveland Spears to a fourth term, Commissioner Larry Katz to a third term, Commissioners Richard Cahn, Mayra Pineda, and Bryan Fitzpatrick to a second term, and Commissioners Cleland Powell to a first term. President Batt thanked everyone for serving on the Committee.

Sports – No Report

Tennis – President Jay Batt reported that Pickle Ball is being considered.

Botanical Garden Foundation – No Report

OTHER REPORTS:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS: On behalf of the Executive Committee, and former NOCPIA Board Presidents, Commissioner Liz Sloss presented Bob Becker with a framed photograph by local photographer Jim Thorns. Becker thanked everyone and said that it has been an honor and privilege to work at the Park. He recognized his wife, Pat for her devotion and dedication, and for sticking by his side during the Park's difficult times.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 23, 2021.