

A Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners (the "Board") of the New Orleans City Park Improvement Association (the "NOCPIA") was called to order Thursday, January 14, 2021, at 4 pm 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, Coaxum, Dale, DeBlieux, Fitzpatrick, Gardner, Giarrusso, Hollis, Katz, LeCorgne, Leger, Lester, Lupo, McNeil, Morrell, Pate, Pineda, Powell, Rodriguez, Savoie, Spears, Sterbcow, Taylor, Thorpe, Waller, and Worley

ABSENT: Commissioners Arata, King, Sloss, and Williams

STAFF: Bob Becker, Rob DeViney, Keith Hemel, Casie Duplechain, Kerry Guillory, David Carpenter, Amanda Frentz, and Denise Joubert

COUNSEL: Henry Kinney

GUESTS: Stephanie Bell, Steve Pettus, Paul Masinter, Laura Claverie, and Cara Lambricht

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.

A quorum was present and voting at the meeting.

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

President Batt called upon Commissioner Bill LeCorgne to read Resolution 2021-01 – Receipt of Dr. Robert W. Becker's resignation as the Chief Executive Officer of City Park effective February 4, 2021, and the bestowing of the position of CEO Emeritus upon Dr. Becker.

Paul Masinter stated that he has worked with Bob for the past sixteen years through all the trials, tribulations, and City Park successes. He said that this resolution does not reflect that Bob has one of the biggest hearts and is one of the hardest working people he has ever met. He congratulated Bob and said that it had been an honor to work with him.

Steve Pettus also recognized how hard Bob works and understands the satisfaction he is experiencing as a result of a job well done as well as the pain he is most likely feeling leaving behind something he has nurtured since his arrival twenty years ago.

Commissioner Robert Lupo, commented on how much he has grown by being associated with you for the past fifteen years. He said that you had taught him the importance of City Park to the City of New Orleans.

Councilman Joe Giarrusso stated that Bob had worked with his grandfather, uncle, mother, and himself. He thanked him for his loyal service to the Park and the City. The Council signed a Proclamation thanking you for everything that you did after Hurricane Katrina for the City and the Park.

Councilman Jay Banks stated that he has been working with Bob since the 1980s, and he thanked him for everything he has done for the City and the Park.

Commissioner Karen DeBlieux stated that it has been an inspiration working with Bob for the past fifteen to twenty years. Your calm, thoughtful demeanor and ability to get the Park through Katrina with grace, and a positive attitude were unbelievable.

Commissioner Robert Lupo motioned to adopt Resolution 2021-01 as read by Commissioner Bill LeCorgne, seconded by Acclamation, and unanimously approved.

Becker thanked all of the board members, and Presidents that he worked with for the past twenty years. He also thanked all of the volunteers, donors, elected officials, and all City Park staff who work very hard to make the Park a great place. Together we have overcome tremendous challenges. When I came to City Park, I did not understand the importance of the Park to the Community. He said as a board member, you have a great responsibility as stewards of the Park. Going through Katrina and now COVID, you realize how important the Park is to the citizens of the City and the State, and that we must keep it a World-Class Park. As the Director of City Planning in the 1980s, I always thought that helping to plan the World's Fair would be my career's crowning achievement. However, being the Chief Executive Officer of the Park has been the best thing that I have done in my life. I truly appreciate all the support and help that I have received through the years. It was an honor and a privilege, and I thank you for the opportunity.

President Jay Batt called upon Commissioner Bill LeCorgne to read Resolution 2021-02 – Appointment of Cara Lambright as the Chief Executive Officer of the New Orleans City Park Improvement Association, effective February 4, 2021.

Commissioner Larry Katz motioned to adopt Resolution 2021-02 as read by Commissioner Bill LeCorgne, seconded by Acclamation, and unanimously approved.

Cara Lambright said that attempting to fill Bob's shoes would be difficult. He has done amazing work and hopes that her list of accomplishments looks like your list. She knows that, without each other, it could not be done. She went on to say that public space requires a lot of courage and tenacity. We are going to keep the mission moving forward. I am here to make you proud and to make City Park a place that welcomes everyone. I am humble, and grateful for the opportunity.

Paul Masinter thanked Commissioner Larry Katz for all his hard work on the Executive Search. He welcomed Cara and is looking forward to working with her.

Laura Claverie said that it has been a privilege to serve on the Search Committee. There were over 100 candidates who applied for the job. But Cara had a great vision and understands the importance of City Park. She said that it had been a privilege to work with Bob, and it will be a privilege to work with Cara. She thanked the Committee for their dedication.

President Jay Batt thanked Commissioner Larry Katz for his tenacious search for a new CEO during the pandemic. He said that when he served on the City Council, he attended a retreat to discuss City Park's Master Plan of more than \$100MM. Shortly after the retreat, the City was devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Bob managed to bring back the Park better than anyone could ever imagine. He also succeeded in bringing the Park through the financial hardship caused by

the COVID pandemic. He thanked Becker on behalf of his family, the citizens of New Orleans, and everyone who has served with you. Working with you has been a pleasure and an honor.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm.