

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, April 23, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. by President Bill Hoffman. The meeting was held in the City Park Administration Building, located at 1 Palm Drive, New Orleans, Louisiana 70124.

PRESENT: Commissioners Chase, Clarkson (represented by Natalie Mitchell), Crawford, Fernandez, Fierke, Giffin, Hales, Hoffman, Johnson, Katz, Laborde, LaFranca, LeGrand, McKay, Palumbo, Pettus, Powell, Romig, Schrenk, Shreves, Slone, Sloss, and Vesich

ABSENT: Commissioners Bingler, Brooks, Brown, DeBlieux, Farnet, Guidry, Hess, Lupo, Masinter, McKeithen, Payton, and Tregre

STAFF: Bob Becker, Kevin Cox, John Hopper, George Parker and Denise Joubert

GUESTS: Alan Heintzen, Leslie Kramer, Jude Olinger, Megan Holstine

A quorum was present and voting throughout the meeting.

President Hoffman welcomed everyone and congratulated Bob Becker for being selected by the University of New Orleans College of Liberal Arts "Alumnus of the Year."

Hoffman also reminded everyone the Personal Financial Disclosure forms are due in Baton Rouge by May 15th.

The March minutes were approved.

The LPO Swing in the Oaks is scheduled for April 24th at 6:30pm on the Great Lawn.

Hoffman introduced Leslie Kramer, operator of Equest Farms, who reported the Covered Riding Rink is complete and the grand opening is scheduled for May 18th, which is also the date for Tails but no Black Tie.

Becker introduced Jude Olinger and Megan Holstine of the Olinger Group who presented the 2012 Needs Assessment Survey to the Board. Highlights include favorable response to the Park's activities, as well as an increase in the number of visits to the Park.

A Resolution was unanimously passed authorizing the application for a State Recreational Trails grant for bicycle amenities as well as a small trailside pavilion on Scout Island.

A Resolution was unanimously passed authorizing Robert Becker to accept construction of the Tri-Centennial Place Parking State Project through the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

In his Management Report, Chief Executive Officer Becker reported operating results for March were ahead of budget. Year-to-date we are still below budget due to costs associated with Hurricane Isaac; we are expecting to be reimbursed 75% of our costs from FEMA.

The Jefferson Chamber held an event in the Park which is the first time this meeting has been held outside of Jefferson.

Becker reported that \$2,650,000 has been placed in the Governor's recommended capital budget and filed in HB 2 for the City Park Maintenance Complex improvements. The funds still have to go through the Legislative Session and remain in the Capital Outlay bill.

The schedule of events for the opening of Miniature Golf is as follows:

- May 22nd – Sponsor Event 6-9pm
- May 23rd – rain date for sponsor event
- May 24th – Grand Opening 10:30am

Commissioner Tom Fierke asked if the Park decided not to develop a landscaping plan to screen the service area adjacent to I-610 corridor. Becker stated he participated in a conference call with the Regional Planning Commission who contracted a noise consultant to discuss a scope of work to develop recommendations for sound walls along I-610. A landscaping plan is in preparation.

Committee Report:

A&E – Commissioner Edmund Schrenk updated the Board on various projects in the Park. Christian Brothers requested the Park allow the school to erect a perimeter fence to provide extra security to the school's campus. The school is proposing to erect a black vinyl-coated 4' chain link fence to the rear of the school and a 4' aluminum fence on the front sides of the school. The fences would be erected on a concrete mow strip. The A&E committee voted to allow the Christian Brothers to erect the fence with several considerations. The Committee also discussed parking conflicts presented by Delgado students using the Park.

Athletics – No Report

Golf – FEMA is in the process of completing the Environmental Assessment of the golf course project. The archeological analysis has been completed and we are waiting on the report.

Development – John Hopper reported the committee is fundraising for several capital projects. Cork in the Park is scheduled for May 17th in the Pavilion of Two Sisters. Amanda Frentz has been promoted to Media Manager. The new website is scheduled to launch mid-May. The Park has 33,000 likes on Facebook compared to Gambit that has 19,000 likes. The Black Swan is still at the veterinarian recovering from ACL surgery. Commissioner Mary Johnson requested a list of City Putt donors prior to opening.

Finance – Commissioner Larry Katz reported the Park had a great year in 2012. This year was budgeted conservatively, through good management we were able to exceed profit forecast and keep revenue in line with last year.

Special Events/CITO – Commissioner Dessa Giffin the Committee is working on formulating a Master calendar. The Committee is working on enhancing Celebration in the Oaks preview party.

Horticulture and Grounds – Commissioner Andrea LeGrand updated the Board on various projects. The Committee toured Miniature Golf facility and discussed landscaping plans for the facility. A Board work day has been scheduled for May 11th to complete the planting at Miniature Golf.

NOMA – No Report

Nominating – No Report

Legal – Commissioner Steve Pettus reported the Committee is working on By-Laws revisions

Public Relations – No Report

Tennis – Commissioner Errol Laborde reported the Southwestern Athletic Conference Tennis tournament was successful. The Sunbelt conference requested to submit a bid for 2014.

Friends of City Park – Commissioner Mary Johnson reported Friends currently has over 3700 members. The Friends have secured a Subaru Outback be raffled through July 24th. Board members are not eligible to participate in raffle.

Dog Park – Commissioner Jackie Shreves reported a pet adoption event is scheduled for the next three weekends. 101 Donations, NOLA City Bark's fundraiser for improvements at the Dog Park is scheduled for August 24th in the Arbor Room.

New Business:

Additional public comment was then invited; there was no additional public comment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 28, 2013 at 4:00 pm.

Denise Joubert
Recording Secretary

Jackie Shreves