

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, July 22, 2014 at 4:00p.m. by President William Hoffman. The meeting was held in the City Park Administration Building, located at 1 Palm Drive, New Orleans, Louisiana 70124.

PRESENT: Commissioners Bingler, Brooks, Brown, Chase, Fernandez, Fierke, Giffin, Guidry (represented by Megan Langhoff), Hess, Hoffman, Katz, Laborde, LaFranca, Lupo, Masinter, Palumbo, Pettus, Powell, Schrenk, Shreves, Slone, and Tregre

ABSENT: Commissioners Abbott, DeBlieux, Farnet, Hales, Johnson, LeGrand, McKay, McKeithen, Payton, Romig, Sloss, and Williams

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

GUESTS: Ray Seamon

A quorum was present and voting throughout the meeting.

The June minutes were approved.

President Hoffman welcomed and thanked everyone for coming.

In the President's report, Hoffman reported that the Executive Committee recommends Commissioner Tom Fierke to serve on the board of the Non-Flood Management Authority. The recommendation was approved by the Board of Commissioners.

In the Management Report, Chief Executive Officer Becker reported that operating results for June were ahead of budget. The fiscal year ended on June 30th, and despite the bad weather we experienced for Celebration in the Oaks, we ended the year ahead of plan. For the entire year, we only missed our revenue goal by \$70,000. Becker commended Kevin Cox and Department Directors for keeping expenses under control. We are hoping to receive reimbursement for Hurricane Isaac expenses soon.

The Park has hired a new Human Resource Director who will start in August. We are in the process of completing employee reviews for the past year. For the year, we worked with over 3,500 volunteers who invested over 12,000 hours which is the equivalent of 6 full time positions.

A Resolution was unanimously passed authorizing Robert Becker to enter into any and all cooperative endeavor agreements with the Department of the Treasury to secure line item appropriations in the "Beautification and Improvement of the New Orleans City Park fund."

Committee Reports:

A&E – Commissioner Edmund Schrenk updated the board on various projects. Schrenk reported that the Legislature did move up all of the design funds for the Maintenance Complex but did not move up the money for the Splash Park project. A meeting will take place with the Bayou District Foundation to discuss the Golf Club House. The Marconi Bike Path and the Tri-Centennial project are both on hold. The Sculpture Garden expansion project is ongoing.

Athletics – No Report

Golf – Commissioner Will Tregre reported on a meeting with the State to finalize the bidding procedures for the new golf course. The project should go out to bid within the next several weeks.

Development – Commissioner Ronnie Slone will replace Commissioner Liz Sloss as the Chair for the Committee. John Hopper reported that the Committee is working on sponsorship opportunities for the Splash Park and the Botanical Garden entrance. The Committee secured sponsorship for six roller coaster cars. If anyone is interested in sponsoring a car, contact Liz Sloss or Susan Hess. Paul and Renee Masinter will host a development gathering on August 13th at Parker's Café. The park unveiled a beautiful bronze statue of Stanley Ray at City Putt. The event was well attended and covered by three television stations.

Finance – Commissioner Larry Katz noted final FY 14 revenue and margins came in close to budget. Katz complimented management for doing a good job in controlling expenses and making adjustments when necessary. He noted that margins for most departments beat or met the budget and that reasonable explanations existed for the couple of areas that had below budgeted margins. President Bill Hoffman noted improvements in the Administration and Finance Department over recent years, particularly as it relates to providing timely financial reports.

Special Events/CITO – Commissioner Dessa Giffin reported on upcoming events. The July 3rd event was a huge success. Work continues on sponsorships and events for Celebration in the Oaks. WYES will host a Beatles anniversary concert on September 16th in Tad Gormley Stadium.

Horticulture and Grounds – No Report

NOMA – No Report

Nominating – No Report

Legal – Commissioner Paul Masinter reported that the committee is reviewing ongoing legal issues. The Committee has finalized issues with the By-Laws and they will be presented to the board at the September meeting.

Public Relations – Commissioner Edgar Chase inquired about the proper protocol for handling negative news. President Hoffman commended John Hopper and his staff for beautiful pictures of the Park in The Times Picayune and The Advocate.

Tennis – Commissioner Errol Laborde reported that text message alerts at Tennis are working well. Patti Todd is negotiations with the Sports Foundation to make the New Orleans Bowl an annual event.

Friends of City Park – Commissioner Jackie Palumbo reported that Friends Fest will be held tomorrow night in Amusements. Martini Madness is scheduled for September 19th in the Arbor Room. The Patron and Ambassador Member Thank You Toast was very successful.

Dog Park – Commissioner Jackie Shreves reported that Bark Bazaar was successful. The Dog Park was voted “Top Dog Park in the City.”

New Business: Hoffman introduced Ray Seamon, who is the potential Governor’s appointment to the Board.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 23, 2014 at 4:00p.m.

Denise Joubert
Recording Secretary

Jackie Shreves
Secretary