

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, October 28, 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 Abbott, Brooks, Fernandez, Fierke, Giffin, Guidry (represented by Megan Langhoff), Hales, Hess, Hoffman, Katz, LaFranca, LeGrand, McKay, Palumbo, Pettus, Seamon, Schrenk, Shreves, Sloss, and Tregre

ABSENT: Commissioners Bingler, Brown, Chase, DeBlieux, Farnet, Giffin, Johnson, Laborde, Lupo, Masinter, McKeithen, Payton, Powell, Romig, Slone, Williams and Wisdom

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

GUESTS: Allison Stouse, Scott Zander and Della Hasselle

A quorum was present and voting throughout the meeting.

The September minutes were approved.

President Hoffman welcomed and thanked everyone for coming.

In the Management Report, Chief Executive Officer Becker reported that operating results for September were ahead of plan by \$25,000. There were strong performances in Catering, Athletic Services, and Special Events.

Becker reported that the State has adjusted the bid date for the new golf course to November 12th.

Preparations are underway for the Voodoo Music Experience over Halloween weekend. A meeting took place with the promoter to discuss logistics and the sound abatement plan. The Park has been extremely busy with numerous events including the Louisiana Seafood Festival, the Fall Garden Festival, and Ghost in the Oaks as well as other events.

Also included in the Management Report is a list of grants received by the Development Department. Among the grants awarded was a \$25,000 grant from the Wisner Foundation for the playground at the Festival Grounds.

President Hoffman reviewed a Resolution requesting and authorizing the Park Employment and Procurement Corporation to prepare and execute a Cooperation Endeavor Agreement with Louisiana Children's Museum, Inc. Allison Stouse, Project Director for the Louisiana Children's Museum, updated the board on the project. The project is on track to break ground by 2016, open by the end of 2017, and be fully operational for the 300th anniversary of the City. Becker reminded the Board that following the public hearing on the master plan in February, the site for the museum was re-affirmed. The Cooperative Endeavor Agreement was reviewed by the Attorney General who provided comments that were incorporated into the document. A motion to approve the Resolution was made by Commissioner Tom Fierke, seconded by Commissioner Tim LaFranca, and unanimously adopted.

Committee Reports:

A&E – Commissioner Edmund Schrenk stated that the Committee did not meet but reported that the foundation for the roller coaster is in place. Also two approaches for the bridge at Couturie Forest are complete but the area is not yet open to the public.

Athletics – No Report

Golf – Commissioner Will Tregre reported that there are five qualified golf course contractors who are bidding on the course. The Committee will begin meeting once bids are received. Golf revenue is consistent with the budget.

Development – John Hopper reported that a Planned Giving section is now active on the website, and more than one thousand newsletters were mailed in regards to this effort. Kathy and Edmund Schrenk hosted a development gathering at their home. Hopper reminded everyone to fulfill their annual pledges by the end of the year.

Finance – Commissioner Larry Katz noted Amusement and Catering results were \$56,000 and \$40,000 more than in the prior year period and \$65,000 and \$36,000 ahead of the budget, respectively. Management has been monitoring the success of City Putt, while the first few months were down from its grand opening year, October is on track to exceed both that and projections for this year.

A Resolution was presented to the Board adopting the Louisiana compliance questionnaire which is part of our annual audit. The Board unanimously adopted the Resolution.

Special Events/CITO – Commissioner Andrea LeGrand reported on upcoming events. Work continues on sponsorships and events for Celebration in the Oaks.

Horticulture and Grounds – Commissioner Jane Brooks updated the board on various projects. The Committee discussed installing bollards around exercise equipment and a low fence and planting around the sculpture at the Festival Grounds. The Committee selected the Alferéz,

Anseman, Dueling and McDonogh Oak trees for the first phase of the lightning protection plan. The Helis Foundation is working to bring “The Wave” sculpture to the Park.

NOMA – No Report

Nominating – President Hoffman submitted the names of the officers for 2015 that will be put into nomination at this meeting and voted on at the November meeting. Those officers are Susan Hess, President; Edmund Schrenk, Vice-President; Ronnie Slone, Vice-President; Errol Laborde, Vice-President; Steve Pettus, Treasurer; and Andrea LeGrand, Secretary. The Committee recommends Ronnie Slone, Steve Pettus, and Steven Bingler to serve a second four-year term on the Board. The Committee further recommends Paul Masinter, John Batt, Laura Claverie, Cleveland Spears, and Britton Sanderford for five of the open at-large positions on the Board. The Board will take action on these nominations at the November Board meeting. Becker stated that the Mayor appointed Andrew Wisdom as his representative to the Board.

Legal – No Report

Public Relations – John Hopper reported that the Prospect 3 sculpture on the Festival Grounds is receiving good press.

Tennis – Becker met with the Friends staff to discuss their assistance in reinvigorating the Grand Slam Tennis tournament and reinstating the Golf tournament.

Friends of City Park – Commissioner Jackie Palumbo reported that there are currently more than 4,000 members. Ghost in the Oaks was very successful and sold out both nights. The Friends newsletter will be mailed prior to Celebration in the Oaks.

Dog Park – Commissioner Jackie Shreves reported that the Dog Park had nearly 1,000 visits last weekend. Shreves commended the City Park Maintenance employees for the upkeep of the Dog Park.

New Business: Commissioner Ann Abbott reported that Magic in the Moonlight, a fund raiser for the Garden, was very successful. The funds will be used for the new entrance to the garden. The Garden Foundation has planned a garden tour to England in May 2015.

President Hoffman reminded all Board members that they are required to take Sexual Harassment training.

Becker asked the Board to submit ideas to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Katrina.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 25, 2014 at 4:00p.m.

Denise Joubert
Recording Secretary

Jackie Shreves
Secretary