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 25, 2022, at 4 p.m. The meeting was held in person at City Park Administration Building.

PRESENT: Commissioners Waller, Adams, Arata, Dale, Giarrusso, Giffin, Green, Hardie, Katz, King, Laborde, Leger, Lupo, McNeil, Murray, Savoie, Sherman, and Sterbcow

ABSENT: Commissioners Coaxum, LeCorgne, and Pate

STAFF: Cara Lambright, Keith Hemel, Casie Duplechain, Jake Webster, and Denise Joubert

GUESTS: Liz Sloss, Andrea Legrand, Paul Masinter, John Overby, Phil Wagner, and Sophie Lott

Chairman David Waller called the meeting to order. He introduced the newly appointed board member Edwin Murray.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

David Waller introduced Paul Masinter and John Overby, the executor of Rick Butler's estate. Rick Butler, who served as president of CPIA from 2004 – 2007 passed away and bequeathed \$1 million to the City Park Improvement Association. He shared Rick's intentions for the donation. Cara Lambright thanked Paul and John for stopping by to give the presentation to the Board and added that we are working to establish an appropriate campaign to celebrate and leverage this gift.

A quorum is present and voting throughout the meeting.

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the September meeting, as circulated via email. The motion was seconded, voted on, and approved unanimously.

## **MANAGEMENT REPORT:**

In the Management Report, Cara Lambright, Chief Executive Officer stated:

- Our primary focus has been the transition of employees to the City Park Conservancy. We held an open house for employees to review the benefits package and complete the rehire paperwork. We will host an Employee Appreciation and "Welcome to The Conservancy" event on November 1.
- Chris Maitre, Chief Operating Officer, provided an update on the users and events held at the various athletic facilities and an overview of the conditions at the stadiums. The Park submitted a capital budget request of \$5.8 million to the City for Phase 1 improvements to the Practice Track, Tad Gormley, and Pan American stadiums. He shared the presentation that was submitted for consideration. There was a discussion regarding the presentation and the request to the City.

Emily Arata, Chair of the Governance Committee stated that the committee is working to align the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. Rebecca Dietz prepared and presented the draft Articles of Incorporation to the Board for discussion. It will be presented to the Board for approval at the January meeting. According to David Waller, there is a sixty-day comment period before it can be voted on.

Jake Webster, Director of Capital Projects, provided an update on Hurricane Ida-related repairs and insurance coverage, stormwater drainage improvements, and Marconi Multi-Use Path repairs. He noted that deferred maintenance from the past has been a challenge. Management is instilling new strategies to change this including hiring a Building Maintenance Manager who established a department for ongoing maintenance as opposed to each director/department maintaining its own facilities to varying standards. Keith Hemel stated that there are 40 Ida claims, and Jake has fought for the maximum compensation for each claim.

Casie Duplechain, Chief Development Officer reported:

- Since the launch of the new website on October 12, there have been 27,000 visits to the website.
- The launch of the social media campaign has generated 578,000 impressions
- Magic in the Moonlight was successful despite a decrease in ticket prices and an increase in staffing costs. The funds will benefit improvements in the Botanical Garden. Lambright thanked the Botanical Garden Foundation for their work on the event.
- Ghost in the Oaks was very successful; however, we recognize that there are sponsorship opportunities that could increase the event's potential.
- Distributed a handout and discussed sponsorship opportunities for Celebration in the Oaks. The sponsorship goal is \$150,000. The Preview Party is scheduled for November 18.

Keith Hemel, Chief Financial Officer reviewed the fiscal dashboard and reported:

- Net income to budget is ahead by \$634,000.
- Unrestricted cash/operating reserve is \$4.2 million greater than the previous year.
- State slot reimbursement is ahead of budget due to an additional \$897,000 from the State.
- Amusement and golf are below budget due to inclement weather conditions.
- Work continues on Hurricane Ida and Katrina claims.
- Review of grant proposals.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.