

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE NEW ORLEANS CITY PARK IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order Tuesday, March 27, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. by President Lupo. The meeting was held in the Pavilion of Two Sisters.

PRESENT: Commissioners Brooks, Chase, Clarkson (Baxter), DeBlieux, Fernandez, Fierke, Giffin, Guidry, Hales, Hoffman, Johnson, Katz, Laborde, LaFranca, Lupo, McKay, McKeithen, Palumbo, Pettus, Powell, Romig, Schrenk, Shreves, Slone, Sloss, Tregre and Vesich

ABSENT: Commissioners Bingler, Brennan, Brown, Farnet, LeGrand, Pappalardo, Payton, and Schoen

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

GUESTS: Henry Kinney, Trevor Haynes, Leslie Kramer, Susan Hess, Paul Masinter, Melissa Gray, Dolly Jordan, John Gray, Mary Antonini, Jon Cromwell, Elizabeth Cromwell, Ann Asprodites, Cynthia Ashman, T. Boyce, Susan Davidson, Andrew Kramer, Michael Johnson, Booth Pohlmann, C. Cromwell, S. Addison, Victoria deLisle

President Lupo welcomed everyone.

The February minutes were approved.

President Lupo read the rules for receiving public comments on agenda items and asked speakers to abide by those rules. He reviewed the public comment sign in sheet and noted that three individuals had indicated that they wish or may wish to speak.

He then called on the CEO to present management's report and recommendations on the evaluation of the bids received for the stables lease. CEO Becker presented management's report, indicated that both legal counsel and the Board's Executive Committee concurred in the recommendations and answered questions from several board members. The President then called for public comment.

The first speaker was Victoria DeLisle who the President allowed to speak several times. She raised questions about the sufficiency of Equest Farm's bid. Next Melissa Gray spoke and indicated that she thought there were only about six facilities in the country comparable to those at City Park. Leslie Kramer, representing Equest Farms spoke about the investment and programs which the current lease holders have made to the facilities. That concluded the public comment.

Commissioner McKeithen asked whether the Board had the discretion to reject all bids if one of the bids met all the minimum requirements. Henry Kinney, the Board's legal counsel, indicated

that if there was a qualified bidder, that bidder had to be awarded the bid. Commissioner's Shreves and Katz discussed the Executive Committee's review of the matter. President Lupo indicated that the experience referenced in the bid of Crescent City Show Stables, LLC. did not meet the bid's requirements either in terms of the type of experience presented nor in having that experience at a facility substantially like that at City Park. After more discussion, Commissioner Fierke made a motion to approve the recommendation of management that the Crescent City Show Stables, LLC bid be declared non-responsive and that the lease of the stables be awarded to Equest Farm, LLC. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion and the following roll call vote occurred.

Yes – Brooks, Chase, DeBlieux, Fernandez, Fierke, Giffin, Guidry, Hales, Hoffman, Johnson, Katz, Laborde, LaFranca, Lupo, McKay, Palumbo, Romig, Schrenk, Shreves, Slone, Sloss, Tregre, Vesich – 23

Nay – McKeithen, Pettus, Powell – 3

The President announced that the motion passed 23 votes to 3 votes.

In his management report, Chief Executive Officer Becker reported the Park has been extremely busy with numerous events including Hogs for the Cause, "Tails But No Black Tie," Sugar Bowl Track Meet, USTA Sanctioned Tennis Tournament, as well as other events.

All Park employees received three hours of training on Park Policies and Procedures. A handbook containing all of the Park's policies will be distributed to all employees.

Chief Operations Director, Rob DeViney reported representatives from FEMA are scheduled to reassess the Lady Bug roller coaster.

Committee Report:

A&E – Commissioner Edmund Schrenk updated the Board on various projects in the Park. The Festival Grounds is still on schedule. Plans are being finalized for the Miniature Golf project. Restoration of the Peristyle is ongoing. The Children's Museum has reduced the scope of their project and will make a presentation to the Park.

Athletics – No Report

Golf – The latest construction drawings of the new championship golf course are underway. The committee anticipates the project going to bid by the end of June. The Park is in the process of requesting that FEMA increase the damage claims on existing project work sheets for the golf courses.

Development – Susan Hess reported sponsorship has been secured for thirty holes for miniature golf. The Committee is working with a prospect in regards to the naming rights for the second Miniature Golf Course or potentially the entire project. Hess requested board members notify the

committee if they know of any potential sponsors. The endowment for the Soccer Pavilion has exceeded its goal of \$500,000. President Lupo thanked Susan Hess, Paul Masinter and John Hopper for their work on the project.

Finance – Commissioner Karen DeBlieux reported year to date the Park is ahead of budget. Management is reviewing concession operations and is in the process of recruiting a Director of Food and Beverage or possibly outsourcing operations. Golf is in the process of being audited. The cash management procedures recommended by Postlethwaite and Netterville have been implemented.

Special Events/CITO – No Report

Horticulture and Grounds – Commissioner Jane Brooks updated the Board on various projects. Five of the Overcup Oak trees on Roosevelt Mall have been removed and replaced with ten new Live Oak trees. The committee received a demonstration of the Arbor Pro Tree Management system and recommends purchasing the upgraded software. The Committee recommended developing policies in regards to usage of the Festival Grounds

NOMA – No Report

Nominating – No Report

Legal – Paul Masinter reported the Personal Financial Disclosure forms are due in Baton Rouge by May 15th.

Public Relations – No Report

Tennis – Commissioner Errol Laborde reported the USTA Sanctioned Tennis tournament was successful.

Friends of City Park – Commissioner Giffin reported Lark in the Park was a tremendous success. Giffin thanked the Board and City Park staff for their help and support.

Dog Park – Commissioner Jackie Shreves reported the lighting project is complete.

New Business: Commissioner Errol Laborde inquired about the status of the By-Laws Committee. Becker reported there is a draft to be reviewed. President Lupo reported the Annual meeting of the City Park Improvement Association was held this morning. Becker reviewed all past and future projects of the Park.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled Tuesday, April 24, 2012 at 4:00 pm.

Denise Joubert
Recording Secretary

Jackie Shreves
Secretary