

A board meeting of the Board of Commissioners (the "Board") of the New Orleans City Park Improvement Association (the "NOCPIA") was called to order Tuesday, August 20, 2024, at 4 p.m. The meeting was held in person at the City Park Administration Building.

PRESENT: Commissioners Adams, Dale, Giarrusso, Green, Hardie, Hilferty, Keller, King, Laborde, Lappa, Murray, Solomon, Turner, Waller, and Watler

ABSENT: Commissioners Arata, Harris, Robin, Sherman, and Sterbcow

STAFF: Rebecca Dietz, Randy Odinet, Keith Hemel, Casie Duplechain, Keith Claverie, Brian Daly, and Denise Joubert

GUESTS: Michael DeShazo, Liz Sloss, Val Cupit, Peppi Bruneau, Donald , Joel Waltzer, Fred Yoder, Drew Costley, Meg Adams, Diane Hollis, Callie Rubbins-Breen, Julie Gable, Leslie Selting

A quorum was present and voting throughout the meeting.

Chair David Waller called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for coming. Waller introduced new board members Mike Lappa, Gary Solomon, Representative Stephanie Hilferty, and Senator Jimmy Harris.

Waller noted that the Governance Committee will meet to discuss board vacancies. Please submit any recommendations for potential board members to Rebecca Dietz or myself for consideration.

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the June 25, 2024, meeting, as circulated via email. The motion was seconded, voted on, and approved unanimously.

MANAGEMENT REPORT

In the Management Report, Rebecca Dietz, President and Chief Executive Officer, welcomed everyone.

Rebecca Dietz presented a resolution approving the officers of the City Park Police Department and authorizing City Park Conservancy to hire and/or fire such officers as needed for the operation of City Park. The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Dietz presented a resolution of the New Orleans City Park Improvement Association directing the disbursement of millage funding in the amount approved by the voters and in the same manner as the City disburses its own millage funds. The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Dietz provided an update on Grow Dat Youth Farm and reviewed the key terms of the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the City Park Conservancy and Grow Dat Youth Farm. The term will run from September 2024 to June 30, 2030, with a mutual option to extend it for an additional five years. Grow Dat representatives expressed their appreciation and look

forward to working together. Following a discussion, the resolution was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Anyone wishing to comment on any items on the agenda must sign the sign-in sheet and indicate the item they wish to comment on.

Public comment was then invited.

Val Cupit, Peppi Bruneau, Fred Yoder, and Charles all expressed concern about the coyotes roaming the surrounding neighborhoods and attacking pets. They requested that the park develop a plan and determine the necessary steps to implement it.

Dietz responded by stating that management has met with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to assess coyote habitats in the park and determine the best strategy to address the problem.

- Introduced Brian Daly, the new Director of Grounds, who has extensive knowledge of park operations.

FINANCE

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

Government Funding

- Slot Tax – received \$363,000 in additional funding for FY24
- Millage - \$12,000 thru July, 2024

FEMA Outstanding Receivables – COVID reimbursement expenses

Park Projects Funding by Federal Government

- Stormwater management - \$1.1 million
- CDBG funding for drainage projects in the park is almost finished

MASTER PLAN/CAPITAL PROJECTS

Randy Odinet, Vice President and Chief Planning Officer said that we engaged Concordia to assist our design team in (1) building a roadmap for public and youth engagement programs. (2) Ideas Youth Committee Engagement, and (3) Public Engagement and Master Planning Support.

Ongoing Capital projects:

- Drainage Improvements South of 610 – should be completed soon.

