

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners (the "Board") of the New Orleans City Park Improvement Association (the "NOCPIA") was called to order Tuesday, February 28, 2023, at 4 p.m. The meeting was held in person at City Park Administration Building.

PRESENT: Commissioners Adams, Coaxum, Dale, Giarrusso, Giffin, Hardie, Katz, King, Laborde, LeCorgne, Leger, Lupo, Murray, Pate, Savoie, Sherman, Sterbcow, and Waller

ABSENT: Commissioners Arata, Green, and McNeil

STAFF: Cara Lambright, Keith Hemel, Casie Duplechain, Rebecca Dietz, Keith Claverie, Lindsey Mahoney, and Denise Joubert

GUESTS: Liz Sloss, Andrea Legrand, Susan Hess, R.Clark, Keith Tregle

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

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

David Waller welcomed everyone He stated that we must focus on achieving 100 percent board financial support. Approximately six board members terms expire at the end of the fiscal year. Please provide David Waller with the names of any possible candidates.

A quorum is present and voting throughout the meeting.

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the December 2022 meeting, as circulated via email. The motion was seconded, voted on, and approved unanimously.

A resolution approving the City Park Improvement Association revised Articles of Incorporation in the form and substance presented was unanimously approved.

#### **MANAGEMENT REPORT:**

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

The board voted unanimously to amend the agenda to include a discussion on the status of Couba Island.

- Cara Lambright reported that the Wildlife and Fisheries will purchase Couba Island for \$1.28 million and maintain it as a conservation area. Significant land was lost as a result of Hurricane Ida, and we are selling it with a reduction of \$100,000 in order to fulfill the match for the federal grant. The board voted unanimously approving a resolution authorizing New Orleans City Park Improvement Association through its agent, Cara Lambright to execute an Agreement to Purchase and Sell between NOCPIA and Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and all other related documents, for the

transfer of Couba Island, which shall provide perpetual protection for the (approximately) 2585-acre parcel of coastal wetlands within LDWF's wildlife management area.

- City Park Conservancy has developed an RFP for an Investment Advisor
- The Request for Proposal for Master Planning Services was issued two weeks ago. The RFP was posted on the websites of the American Planning Association and the American Society of Landscape Architects. In addition, the request was sent to 25 individual firms. There was a discussion regarding the process.

Chief Financial Officer, Keith Hemel introduced Keith Tregle, the independent auditor for the Park. Mr. Tregle thanked City Park for the opportunity to perform the audit. Tregle presented the financial audit for FY22 and issued an unmodified opinion. Following a discussion, Keith Hemel stated that the Finance Committee recommends the audit for board approval. The board voted unanimously to amend the agenda and approve the financial audit report for FY22.

Casie Duplechain, Chief Development Officer introduced Lindsey Mahoney, Fundraising Events Manager for the Park.

- Lark in the Park will take place on March 10. Sponsorships are below budget. She thanked those who had already supported the event and encouraged everyone to attend.
- The Heart of the Park Hat Luncheon is scheduled for April 26. She thanked Richard and Vivian Cahn, Molly Bauner, and Jenny Charpentier for chairing the event.
- People Who Think, the agency entrusted with the City Park website overhaul and rebranding, was awarded a Gold Addy Award (American Advertising Awards) for the City Park Conservancy logo and branding elements. The Gold Award automatically enters the Northshore-based full-service marketing and advertising firm into the regional competition.

Lambright stated that she serves on the advisory panel and will attend all community workshops regarding the citywide master plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.