

A MEETING OF THE NEW ORLEANS RECREATION DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
WAS HELD AT 5:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2016
IN THE GERNON BROWN RECREATION CENTER
1001 HARRISON AVENUE, NEW ORLEANS

I. CALL TO ORDER: *Chair Byron C. Williams called the meeting to order at 5:11 pm.*

II. ROLL CALL

- Present: Byron C. Williams - Chair, Rini Marcus – *Vice-Chair*, Brian Egana - Secretary, Theo Sanders – Treasurer, Nolan Marshall Jr., James A. Gray, II, Dana Peterson Louis Lauricella, Kelly Brown, Ava Rogers, Andrew Kopplin
- Absent: Mayor Mitchell Landrieu, Sonny Lee
- Staff: Deborah J. Langhoff and Anita Curran

QUORUM WAS ACHIEVED.

III. OPENING CEREMONIES

- Welcoming remarks Offered by Chair Byron C. Williams, who offered special comments on GiveNOLA Day, encouraging everyone to participate, even though there are some challenges with the donation link, according to GNOF.
- Pledge of Allegiance: Teen Leader Joshua led the Pledge.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES: Commissioner Marshall moved for the adoption of the minutes from the April 5th, 2016 meeting, Commissioner Sanders seconded, and the minutes were unanimously adopted.

V. TEEN COUNCIL REPORT: Joshua Montrel represented the Teen Council in a report on their activities this month. He noted special programming, including dance and golf, which is being targeted for teens. He shared that he is a graduating senior who will attend Howard University in the fall. He elaborated on how participating in Teen Council has nurtured his growth. He noted further that he will major in Political Science and would like to be a City Councilmember.

VI. REPORTS COMMITTEE OFFICERS

- Human Resources & Finance Committee: Report from Commissioner Sanders is included as an addendum to these minutes.
 - Maya Wyche introduced Gerry Rincon, Rentals Supervisor, who is NORDC's 2nd Employee of the Quarter. He was presented a plaque by Commissioner Sanders and wished a Happy Birthday as well. Gerry expressed his happiness with being a NORDC staff member and part of the organization.

- **NORD Foundation Report:** Commissioner Lauricella offered his greetings and his report is included as an addendum.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- **Governance & Strategic Planning Committee:** Report from Commissioner Peterson is included as an addendum to these minutes.
- **Public Relations & Community Relations Committee:** In Commissioner Lee's absence, the Chair asked for a report from staff, which is included as an addendum.
- **Programming & Facilities Committee** – Report from Commissioner Marcus is included as an addendum to these minutes.
- **NORDF CEA** – The Chair noted that the CEA between the City, NORDC and NORDF requires a vote of the Commission to approve the form. Commissioner Rogers so moved, which was seconded by Commissioner Peterson, and with no further discussion or public comment, the form of the CEA was unanimously approved.
- **Commissioners' Retreat** – The Commission has scheduled a Commissioners' Retreat facilitated by Peggy Mendoza and Leslie Bouie on Saturday June 11th from 8 am to 5 pm at the New Orleans Mosquito, Termite & Rodent Control Building, 2100 Leon C. Simon. Appreciation was expressed for the fiscal support from the Foundation, the City Council, and the City of New Orleans to facilitate the Retreat.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS – No additional comments were offered.

IX. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

- Victor N. Richard, III, NORDC CEO offered his monthly report in oral and in written format to the Commissioners and to the public, which is attached as an addendum.
 - Jim Austin, Facilities and Maintenance Director, was particularly recognized for the work on the \$100,000 investment in improvements at Annunciation Rec Center - accomplished within the capacity of the NORDC organization.
 - St. Bernard Center also re-opened its doors recently and more information will be forthcoming to the public.
 - The CAO, Deputy CAO and the Chair requested that a Commission meeting be scheduled at the St. Bernard Center sooner than the currently-scheduled meeting at the end of the year.
 - The CEO continued that the NRPA Conference will be hosted in New Orleans in September of 2017.
 - Of special note from Shonnda Smith is an invitation to the Volunteer Appreciation Event at the Smoothie King Center on May 12th from 7 – 9pm.

- Commissioner Egana asked for increased notifications of NORDC events to Commissioners. Commissioner Rogers asked that the City Council newsletters from the CEO be forwarded, and the Chair requested that all Commissioners receive this information.

X. CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORT

- Vincent Smith, Director of Capital Projects offered his report of the NORDC Capital Program, which is attached as an addendum to the minutes and details 121 projects in the NORDC portfolio representing a \$157,727,130 investment.
 - He offered some details on funding the Willie Hall Playground and advised that they are working with all parties including the school to determine the construction budget and move the project forward.
 - There was additional discussion on several projects among the Commissioners about funding sources and about the City's advocacy for State Capital Outlay funds.
 - There was a discussion of future boxing at Milne, where the decision making process is currently, how partnerships will be developed, how boxing supports NORDC priorities, what safety measures will be established, and what the Commission's role is in the decision-making.
 - Commissioner Rogers noted that in general NORDC supports non-traditional sports, like boxing and tumbling, etc., and is supportive of that principle.

XI. CONSIDERATION OF ANY OTHER MATTERS: Unfortunately Commissioner Peterson will not be able to attend the Retreat, but his questions will be addressed.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Lena Williams a CAT Vice President in District D, noted that there is high grass around the Skatepark and St. Bernard Center, and she has encountered challenges in determining who should be cutting the grass near the railroad. She approved of the renovations to the Center and requested an exterior paint job.
- Ernest Johnson the President of the Treme-Lemann Booster Club stated that they are unclear about the design of the bathrooms and storage areas and their locations. Which side of Claiborne Avenue will they be located on and how are safety concerns being addressed. He asked who the partners are along the Lafitte Corridor. The Chair referred this to the Programming & Facilities Committee for consideration.
- Heather Larson left the room.
- Reynard Thomas stated he had a number of comments.
 - He asked about JWB Booster Club regarding Friends of Joe W. Brown and JWB Booster Club – what are the differing roles? How is it different from the two Booster Clubs at JWB in 2014.

- Artificial turf is not properly maintained.
- Gym floor at JWB was not fixed correctly the first time.
- The refrigerator at JWB track was not repaired. The microwave has not been repaired.
- Outlets are not working at Victory Track/Spartan Field.
- Pole vault kit needs repair.
- Locks on concession storeroom have too many keys out.
- Torn gate at Victory Field
- No outlets inside Spartan Field
- May 18th 70 volunteers are coming from New York, and in June 120 volunteers will be coming as well.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT: *With a motion from Commissioner Lauricella and a second by Commissioner Sanders, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m. after reporting that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday June 7th – location TBD.*

HR-Finance Committee Report for Commission 5/3/16

Meeting DATE: 4/19/16

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Theo Sanders (CHAIR)

Andy Kopplin

Brian Egana

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- On other Human Resources matters, Mary-jo Webster gave a detailed report to the Committee on current appeals processes that are underway under Civil Service Rule 11.
- Review began of four possible choices for the formats of the CEO Evaluation. The CAO will provide some recommendations from his staff for the next Committee meeting.
- The Finance Report was forwarded to Committee members for review prior to tonight's meeting and is in your packets and also is available to the public.
- As of April 26, 2016 which represents 32% of the calendar year, NORDC is on budget with 79% of its budget remaining. As of April 26th the NORDC Foundation had \$1,066,969 of which \$162,258 has been spent.
- NORDC has 70% of its FTE (full time equivalent) personnel positions filled.
- NORDC instituted regular recognition of exemplary staff members through an Employee of the Quarter program.
 - The second Employee of the Quarter has been announced and is a young man that many members of the public regularly speak with, NORDC's Rentals Supervisor, Gerry Rincon. I ask that Gerry step forward to accept his award and Maya Wyche will speak about Gerry's work.

Next Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tues. June 21st at 5pm in City Hall's 8th floor conference room

Governance and Strategic Planning Committee: Governance & Strategic Planning Committee
Follow-up for Commission 5-3-16

Committee Chair Dana Peterson

The Governance & Strategic Planning Committee last met on Monday March 21st and is currently scheduled to meet on Monday May 9th (next Monday) at 5pm in the 8th floor conference room of City Hall.

Since the last meeting,

- The CEO sent an updated communication to the CAT-C Eastbank Downtown Parks recommendations (attached).
- The Commission Chair met with community stakeholders on use of Cabrini Playground, which will be on the agenda of the next Governance Committee meeting.
- The Commission's approved amendments to the Booster Club by-laws are now reflected for the public's information on the NORDC website under "Booster Clubs."

Commissioner Rogers requested and Commissioner Peterson agreed that the next meeting will be held on Monday May 16th at 5pm in City Hall's 8th floor conference room.

PR – Community Relations Committee

Chair Commissioner Sonny Lee

PR – Community Relations Committee Report for Commission 4/5/16

In the absence of the Committee Chair, the Commission Chair offered the information that the Public Relations & Community Relations Committee last met on Tuesday, March 29th and will next meet on Tuesday May 10th (next Tuesday) at 5pm in the 8th floor conference room of City Hall.

- Since the last meeting, the Committee continues to collaborate with staff to advance NORDC PSA's and branding through various media avenues.
- Michele Thomson offered a brief oral report on current projects, including 13 active marketing campaigns, approved signage for NORDC, and social media expansion. Commissioner Brown asked that there is coordination with CPC on NORDC signage.

Programming & Facilities Committee

Chair Rini Marcus

The Programming & Facilities Committee last met on Thursday February 25th and will next meet on Tuesday May 17th at 5pm in the 8th floor conference room of City Hall.

Since the last meeting, in the areas of both Programming and Facilities, our NORDC staff

- Is now at two recently re-opened recreation centers, at Annunciation and at St. Bernard Center.
 - is presenting the very successful Movies in the Park series, which will be held at Cutoff Playground this week and at Lemann Playground next week.
 - They are gearing up for summer camps, the opening of the aquatics season at our outdoor pools, and the advancement of new programs, like our
 - Outdoor Program, which just announced the winners of the 2016 NORDC Outdoor Photo Contest, and the winning photos can be viewed on the NORDC website.
- The next meeting will be held on Thursday May 17th in the 8th floor conference room of City Hall at 5pm.

NORD Foundation Report to the NORD Commission

May 3, 2016

Greetings everyone.

Today is Give NOLA Day, and I urge each of you to make a gift of \$10 or more to the NORD Foundation before midnight tonight. Just go to givenola.org and type in "NORD Foundation." These funds will be used for youth athletics, teen programs, seniors and cultural programming.

The NORD Foundation has made \$966,583 available for NORDC to date in 2016, and, in addition, we have another \$700,000 in pledges that we will be able to announce over the next couple of months.

We have the updated donor listing available for the public. You will see an acknowledgment of Donors to the NORD Foundation. The NORD Foundation Board has decided to make unrestricted funds available for NORDC needs like fixtures, furnishings and equipment, professional development and events. In 2015, the Board approved \$60,000 in designations to NORDC, and, this year, we have already designated \$50,000.

Thank you.