



COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 5th 2018 @5pm
City Hall Council Chambers, 1300 Perdido St.

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Vice-Chair Marcus called the meeting to order at 5:02p.
- II. ROLL CALL
 - Present: Rini Marcus (*Vice-Chair*), Theo Sanders (*Treasurer*), Brian Egana (*Secretary*), Ethan Ashley, Bill Settoon, Gilbert Montañó, Councilmember Williams, and Mayor Cantrell (*arrived after roll call*)
 - Absent: Louis Lauricella **QUORUM WAS ACHIEVED**
 - Staff: Anita Curran, Shonnda Smith, Lindsey Lewis, Vincent Smith, Jim Austin, and Maya Wyche.
- III. GREETINGS FROM THE VICE-CHAIR:
 - **Vice-Chair Marcus** welcomed NORD's new Commissioners: Bill Settoon, Gilbert Montañó, Councilmember Williams, and Mayor Cantrell.
- IV. ADOPTION OF MINUTES: ***Councilmember Williams moved for the adoption of the March 7th 2018 minutes, which was seconded by Commissioner Egana. The minutes were unanimously approved.***
- V. TEEN COUNCIL REPORT: A report was received from Rayne Austin, Miya Scaggs, and Jackie Breckenridge III.
- VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - **HR/Finance Committee Report** – Commissioner Sanders offered a report for the Committee, which is included as an addendum in its entirety. This committee will next meet Tuesday, June 12th at 5p in City Hall's 8th floor conference room. At this meeting, Commissioners will begin discussing the search for a new CEO.
 - ***Commissioner Ashley moved for the approval of Maya Wyche as Interim-CEO, which was seconded by Commissioner Marcus. The motion was unanimously approved.***
- VII. OLD BUSINESS



VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- **Commission Meeting Location Change** – Mayor Cantrell discussed bringing the NORD Commission meetings back to City Council Chambers and having the meetings live streamed and recorded on AccessTV. This was a recommendation that came from the community.
 - **Councilmember Williams** stated the need for consistency of meetings being held in a centralized location, and that it adds another layer of transparency.
 - **Commissioner Marcus** expressed her thanks to the Rec. Centers and staff for hosting the Commission meetings over the last few years.
 - **Mayor Cantrell** suggested committee meetings move to Rec. Centers to continue engaging with staff and the public who frequent the facilities.
 - **Commissioner Egana moved for the approval of moving NORD Commission meetings back to Council Chambers in City Hall, which was seconded by Commissioner Ashley. The motion was unanimously approved.**
 - **Commissioner Marcus** reiterated that Commission meetings are scheduled for the first Tuesday of the month from 5p-7p. Meetings are subject to change if the first Tuesday is a holiday.

IX. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT: **Interim Chief Executive Officer, Maya Wyche** provided an overview of NORD's recent events, programming, and financial expenditures. The Commission Deck can be reviewed at www.nordc.org. She also introduced three new Directors to the Commission: Natasha Robinson (Management Services Director), Perry Brown (Athletic Director), and Sandra Lummer (Aquatics Director).

- **Director of Maintenance, Jim Austin** acknowledged NORD's Employee of the Quarter, Jarret T. McKnight.
- **Mayor Cantrell** requested more information on Summer Camp enrollment numbers and openings.
- **Commissioner Ashley** requested School Districts be added to the Summer Camp location documents (along with Council Districts) to ensure better coordination between NORD and OPSB.

X. CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORT: **Director of Capital Projects, Vincent Smith** offered his monthly report, which reflects NORD's portfolio of 113 projects valued at \$171,078,343. NORD represents over 50% of the projects in Capital Projects' portfolio, with 95 of the 113 projects completed, to date. The Capital Projects Report can be reviewed at www.nordc.org.

- **Commissioner Egana** requested an update on security precautions taken to protect facilities from rampant vandalism, especially at Hunter's Field.



- **Director Smith** noted that it was the responsibility of the contractor at Hunter's Field to protect and repair the building before it's handed over to Capital Projects/NORD.
- **Commissioner Sanders** asked for clarification on Norman Playground, specifically on its "design only" status and an update on Bodinger Playground
 - **Director Smith** stated that Bodinger is a 6-month project with a projected completion date of November 2018. As for Norman Playground, funding was rescinded by the State in 2016 just as designs were advancing. Since then, requests to reinstate the funding have been submitted each year to no avail.

XI. CONSIDERATION OF ANY OTHER MATTERS

- **Mayor Cantrell** commented that Capital Projects just builds the facilities, but responsibility to maintain the properties lies with NORD. However, no money has been allocated for maintenance, thus far, and it's a priority of hers to find funding for maintaining these properties. She requested an ongoing list of maintenance needs for NORD facilities be presented to her administration regularly.
- **Councilmember Williams** asked if NORD has a way for the community to provide input on facilities, including maintenance needs.
 - NORD has a [Feedback Survey](#) on its website and dedicated email address nordcinfo@nola.gov for this purpose, which the Public Outreach & Communications Director receives and responds to. The staff is also looking into utilizing an app via the TVs at Rec. Centers to ask questions and get real-time answers.
 - **Mayor Cantrell** requested that an update be provided at Commission meetings on responses/requests NORD receives from the community.
- **Mayor Cantrell** introduced Emily Wolff (Director of the new Office of Youth & Family Services), Joshua Cox (Director of Strategic Initiatives), and Tara Richard (Director of Council Relations). They will be working closely with NORD moving forward.
- **Commissioner Ashley** reiterated his desire to help NORD and OPSB strengthen their relationship to foster better coordination going forward.
- **CAO Montañó** expressed his desire to help elevate and prioritize the City departments, like NORD, that are working for the betterment of children and families throughout the city.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Morgan Clevenger (Fairgrounds Triangle Neighborhood Association) is excited about the administrations desire to prioritize community engagement and enhance



communication with the public. She expressed her concern about the rat situation at the Stallings Gentilly Clubhouse and neighbors not being notified sooner. She also stated Booster Club policies need to be reviewed.

- Eraina Jessie expressed her dissatisfaction with the new water aerobics times at the Treme Rec. Center.
- Nancy Gonsalves stated 6:30a is too early for the water aerobics class, and would like to see the Treme pool open to the public from 7a-10a.
- Philip Stelly said NORD had a responsibility to accommodate all users of their facilities, with regard to Treme pool.
- Amy Stelly reiterated changing the pool time to 7a-10a as a workable solution and that Treme Rec. Center be made ADA accessible.
- Marsha Mackie-Wright (*written comments on Treme pool and parking were handed out to Commissioners*)
- W.C. Johnson (Stallings Gentilly Booster Club) expressed his frustration on the rat issue at the clubhouse and inability to take inventory on the loss of items in the clubhouse before they were thrown out.
- Celestine Thompson is concerned about people bringing bags, food, and umbrellas into the pool area at Stallings Gentilly, as they could present a hazard.
- Fran Casey advocated for later pool times at Treme.
- Renard Thomas had questions regarding: 1. the process of hiring unclassified employees, 2. Booster Club compliance, 3. track & field/baseball participation numbers, 4. exit interviews for outgoing employees, and 5. review of the Maintenance Division.
- Douglas Patterson (Norwood Thompson Booster Club) stated the importance of Booster Clubs in helping to take care of their neighbors and keeping kids active and out of trouble.
- Oretha Strong advocated for later pool times at Treme and asked for the Rosenwald elevator to be fixed in a timely manner.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT: *The meeting was adjourned by Vice-Chair Marcus at 6:43p.*



Report for NORD Commission Meeting on June 5th 2018

HR/Finance Committee – Theo Sanders (Chair)

This Committee has met twice since the last Commission meeting; first on March 13th and again on April 16th in City Hall's 8th Floor Conference Room.

At the March meeting, staff announced the allocation of three new positions from Civil Service: Assistant Athletic Director, Research & Data Supervisor, and Booster Club/Volunteer Coordinator. All three positions were filled internally. The new Management Service Director and Executive Assistant to the CEO both started on March 26th. NORD also had several promotions in the Maintenance Department and Rec. Centers.

The Annual Employee Survey will be released July 27th and will close August 10th. The purpose of the survey is to measure employee satisfaction, as well as collect employee feedback. The new Research & Data Supervisor will be compiling this information.

At the April meeting, the Committee voted to recommend that Chief Operating Officer, Maya Wyche, be appointed interim CEO, upon approval by the Commission. All matters pertaining to the interim CEO's position were deferred to the Commission.

The next HR/Finance Committee meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 12th at 5p in City Hall's 8th Floor Conference Room.