

**MINUTES OF
LAKEFRONT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
MARINA COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021**

PRESENT: Chair Stanley Brien
Vice Chair Renee Lapeyrolierie
Commissioner Esmond Carr
Commissioner Howard Rodgers

ABSENT: Commissioner Thomas Fierke

STAFF: Louis Capo – Executive Director
Daniel Hill – Director of Engineering & Operations
Madison Bonaventure – Assistant to the Executive Director
Brad Vanhooose – Harbor Master

PUBLIC: Gerard Metzger– Legal Counsel to the LMA
David Francis – LMA Vice Chair

The Marina Committee of the Lakefront Management Authority met on February 9, 2021 virtually via Zoom. The meeting was streamed on the Lakefront Management Authority Youtube page for public view. Public comments were accepted in writing or via email.

Chair Brien called the meeting to order at 3:32 P.M. and led in the pledge of allegiance. Executive Director Louis Capo called the roll, and a quorum was present.

Opening Comments:

Chair Brien acknowledged the COVID-19 pandemic had created unforeseen circumstances and looked forward to a return to normalcy.

Motion to Adopt Agenda:

A motion was offered by Commissioner Rodgers, seconded by Commissioner Lapeyrolierie, was and unanimously approved, to adopt the agenda.

Motion to Approve Minutes:

A motion was offered by Commissioner Rodgers, seconded by Commissioner Lapeyrolierie, was and unanimously adopted, to approve the minutes of December 8, 2020.

Chair Brien said that the Seabrook Boat Launch was typically under the purview of Recreation/Subdivision. He said he was supportive of the boat launch, and he said he would confer with the Chair of that committee to move those issues to the Recreation/Subdivision Committee if agreeable.

Director's Report:

Director Capo said he spoke with Commissioner Bruno, Chair of the Finance Committee, and they have planned to create a schedule beginning at 2:30 PM to discuss the budget on Thursday March 11, 2021. Chair Brien acknowledged that the Budget Hearing was very helpful in the past.

Brad Vanhooose, Harbor Master, reported that the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – East (FPA) Orleans Marina Sinkhole Repair Project was ongoing, and they estimated that the project was approximately 45 days from completion.

Daniel Hill, Director of Engineering and Operations, said that maintenance staff was preparing for freezing conditions as marina pipes were made of PVC and were exposed and uninsulated.

Public Comments:

None

Old Business:

1) **Discussion regarding an interagency agreement with the Office of Debt Recovery to collect delinquent rents from former marina tenants.**

Mr. Vanhooose explained that he reached out to the Office of Debt Recovery (ODR), under the Louisiana Department of Revenue, to learn how they could assist the LMA in collection of past-due rents. He said the office has a program whereby they assist other public agencies in collecting debts after the indebted party is notified at the 30-day mark and the 60-day mark preceding action by ODR.

Board Vice Chair Francis asked what type of process was used to select ODR for the task.

Mr. Vanhooose said the arrangement was an interagency agreement, and the collection of the debt was at no cost to the LMA. He further explained that a twenty-five percent fee was assessed to the indebted party, not the LMA. Board Vice Chair Francis spoke favorably about the potential arrangement.

The Committee agreed that the interagency agreement would be helpful to the LMA.

Gerard Metzger, Legal Counsel to the LMA, clarified that the Committee did need to make a motion to recommend the interagency agreement to the full Board.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Rodgers, seconded by Chair Brien, and was unanimously approved to recommend an interagency agreement with the Office of Debt Recovery to collect delinquent rents from former marina tenants.

New Business:

1) Discussion regarding proposed Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Marina Budgets.

Director Capo said that he had sent Commissioners the first draft of the marina budgets. He noted that the marina budget has been impacted by the lack of development at 6701 Stars and Stripes Blvd., adjacent to South Shore Harbor Marina.

He said that occupancy rates are stabilized despite the reopening of the Municipal Yacht Harbor located near the Orleans Marina.

Chair Brien asked what the process was for onboarding new tenants at the new slips created by the Orleans Marina North and East Wall Slip Repair and Construction Project. Mr. Vanhoose answered that there was a first-come first-served waiting list for the new slips.

Announcement of next Marina Committee Meeting:

1) Tuesday, March 16, 2021 – 3:30 P.M.

Adjourn:

A motion was offered by Commissioner Rodgers, seconded by Commissioner Lapeyrolierie, and was unanimously adopted, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 3:58 PM.