

**MINUTES OF
LAKEFRONT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING OF THE RECREATION/SUBDIVISION COMMITTEE
HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2022**

PRESENT: Chair Esmond Carr
Commissioner Dawn Hebert
Commissioner Robert Lupo

ABSENT: Commissioner Stan Brien
Commissioner Patricia Meadowcroft

STAFF: Louis Capo – Executive Director
Adam Gulino – LMA Director of Engineering
Vanessa McKee – Assistant to the Executive Director
Gerard G. Metzger – Legal Counsel to the LMA
Jeff Dye - Legal Counsel to the LMA

ALSO

PRESENT: Commissioner Wilma Heaton
Al Pappalardo
Ashley Haspel
Anastasia Pelias – (Artist) It was my pleasure Sculpture
Maya Curtis
Patricia Fulmer

The Recreation/Subdivision Committee of the Lakefront Management Authority met on Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at the New Orleans Lakefront Airport at 6001 Stars and Stripes Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126.

Chair Carr called the meeting to order at 4:39 P.M. and led in the pledge of allegiance. Director Capo called the roll, and a quorum was present.

IV. Opening Comments:

Chair Carr opened by welcoming newly appointed Commissioner Robert Lupo to the Recreation Committee. He added that he was first seated on the full omnibus board during the Foster Administration and then again when LMA was created. He had the extreme honor of working on the revitalization of this building. The fact that the building is being utilized is a great feeling.

Commissioner Lupo stated that he considered it to be an honor and a privilege to be back on the LMA Board and looks forward to working with everyone.

Commissioner Hebert also welcomed Commissioner Lupo to the board.

V. Motion to Adopt Agenda:

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

VI. Director's Report:

Adam Gulino, Director of Engineering and Operations briefed the board on upcoming activities on the Lakefront:

- Shelter # 1 is closed. Waiting for the Flood Authority to move forward with their drainage project. Once completed we will begin our improvements before reopening it for public use.
- Shelter #2 is now open. We have had 31 total rentals so far this year.
- Shelter #3 is now open. We have had 24 total rentals so far this year. For a total of \$23,000 in rental fees.
- Shelter #4 is still closed. We are moving forward with a few last steps of renovation including changing the backing breakers and flush valves. Once that's completed, we plan to give it a deep cleaning to get it up and running again.
- Vaporwave plaque will be going up this week at the Mardi Gras Fountain. Rain has prevented us from reinstallation.
- The CEA has been signed for the Seabrook boat launch. We will be actively working to get that project up and running.

Chair Carr noticed that the Mardi Gras Fountain is currently off. Is there a repair estimate to get it back up and running?

Adam Gulino stated that there is a \$60,000 quote in two parts. The second largest pump needs to be replaced and the computerized electronics to operate the different functions and the lighting also need to be replaced. That quote has expired, and we will need new quotes.

Chair Carr asked if it is on our list to get updated quotes.

Louis Capo added that we have some money set aside for repairs to the Mardi Gras Fountain but not \$60,000.

Adam Gulino also added that the attenuator was removed from the fountain some time ago and is currently in the office.

Commissioner Hebert asked if the Levee Board Police has been notified about the tenant that has moved into shelter #1 with his barbeque pit.

Mr. Capo stated that has called them regularly. When the Levee Board Police notices that he is back, they run him off the premises and he shows up at another location.

Commissioner Lupu added that the police would have to inventory all of the person's personal items. There's a group who cleaned up the shelter and the Bell South area adjacent to Walgreens and removed the items.

Commissioner Hebert added that she has a similar issue with the increased homeless population under the interstate near her residence.

Commissioner Lupu asked if procurement rules would allow for LMA to contract with a company that is familiar with work to repair the fountain.

Gerry Metzger stated that he does not believe this will reach the contract limit. We would have to publicly advertise and award the lowest bidder.

Chair Carr asked what's the contract limit. Also, if we don't get any other bids, we could still perform the work.

Gerry Metzger stated that the contract limit is \$250,000. Yes, we could still perform the work. He advised the committee that we could get telephone bids.

VII. Public Comments:

Ray Landeche spoke in favor of the sculpture installation. He also reminded the committee of the proposed bike path plan for the park that was proposed by Mr. Roger Wheaton. Funds have been spent and plans were drawn.

Ashley Haspel requested updates on the following items:

- Lighting at St. John Park. Submitted a survey that she did a year ago to the previous engineer. She offered to email the same lights survey to Adam Gulino
- The sign at the circle on Paris Avenue. Funds have been put aside to fix the signs and it should not take this long.

Mr. Capo stated that we have received a quote for replacing the signs with aluminum. We're in discussion as to whether to go back with the steel or aluminum..

Chair Carr ask if the is a tracking system in place for maintenance projects.

Adam Gulino stated that he and the maintenance staff have implemented a system to track work orders as they are received. We handle the items we can do in house. We have a small staff of three workers who are on flex schedules which adds to task completion difficulties.

Chair Carr requested a monthly tracking list from maintenance to keep up with ongoing projects.

Mr. Capo stated that we have advertised for maintenance three positions, received seven applicants and only two showed for interviews. We may have to reach out to Westaff who is a temporary agency on state contract to supplement our staff.

Commissioner Hebert asked if Job1 would be an option for supplemental staffing.

Mr. Capo stated currently we must use the agency on state contract and approved by state civil service.

VIII. New Business

- 1) **Motion to recommend the issuance of a permit to the Arts Council of New Orleans to install the It was my pleasure sculpture in St. John Park.**

A motion was made by Commissioner Hebert, seconded by Commissioner Lupo.

Mr. Capo informed the committee that the artist and the Arts Council are present.

Chair Carr called for discussion and comments. He mentioned that the artist did a presentation

two meetings ago and is welcome to come up and say a few words.

Commissioner Lupo asked if LMA has a review committee with the expertise to make informed recommendations on the selection of acceptable public art.

Chair Carr stated that the back up for this art came in the form of a letter of support from the Lake Terrace neighborhood.

Anastasia Pelias (the artist) informed the committee that they had a huge outreach to the neighbors through the Lake Terrace neighborhood association to make sure the people want this and obtained a letter of support. Worked in connection with The Arts Council and it would be a part of the Percent for Art Collection.

Jeff Dye stated that Director Capo had him evaluate the documents and see no red flags thus far. The Arts Council has provided a multi-page form agreement 2020 which is not complete with their information for this project. The LMA, in the past, rather than enter into a third parties contract, has instead granted a permit that outlined responsibilities and maintenance of the stature.

Jeff Dye recommended that if this does proceed, that the LMA use the template that the board has previously approved. He believes the motion going before the board is a motion to recommend a permit and will have it drafted by the time of the full board.

Chair Carr stated that we will rely on you ensure that the board uses the proper documents. Also, have you reviewed the method of the installation.

Adam Gulino stated that it will be reviewed by the time we get to the board meeting.

Gerry Metzger stated that the installation will have to be approved by the Director of Engineering even after the permit is executed.

Jeff Dye asked if it would be a deal breaker if we work off of our permit instead of entering into a third-party agreement.

Maya Curtis, The Arts Council, stated she thinks the agreement could be two-fold. The document Mr. Dye reviewed is more for the Arts Council and the artist. However, she is not in the position to review the document.

After a lengthy discussion about who will own the sculpture, proper documentation and permitting, it was decided that Mr. Jeff Dye will be in touch with Maya Curtis of the Arts Council and Anastasia Pelias for further dialog to work out the details before this goes before the board.

Patricia Fulmer explained the purpose of the document that Mr. Mark Fulmer drew up on behalf of the artist and apologized that the LMA did not have the opportunity to review it prior to this

committee.

Chair Carr asked what is our next step at this point.

Jeff Dye explained that there are a number of details to be worked out before going before the board.

Gerry Metzger added that we need to put the details in order before bringing tis to the full board.

Commissioner Lupo asked the artist how she plans to address the issue of graffiti.

Anastasia Pelias stated that it was up for four months at Esplanade ad Broad Street. And no one touched it. The beauty of this piece is that its made from fiberglass so we use gelcoat if that should happen. It's a very low maintenance piece.

Mr. Capo asked what guarantee you have that the city will keep it up.

Anastasia Pelias replied, "their word".

Chair Carr stated at this time we don't have anything to recommend to the board therefore he asked to defer this item until the attorneys can work out the details.

Amotion to defer was offered by Commissioner Hebert; seconded by Commissioner Lupo.

Asley Haspel asked to speak to report that there's a tree that went down during H. Ida. The stump has never been moved. The grass cutters do not pick anything up.

Chair Carr asked for confirmation of several stumps that were left. Is it acceptable to get a quote to remove some of the nuisance stumps.

Commissioner Lupo asked if LMA is still working with DEI worked up with the maintenance of the grass area. If so, it in their contract that they have to trim around each tree and pick up all the limbs. Is should be a matter of pointing it out in the contract to have them get on that.

Mr. Capo stated that previously we had RCI as our contractor and an RFP was issued earlier this year and the new contract was awarded to the low bidder H&O.

- IX. Announcement of next Recreation/Subdivision Committee Meeting:**
a. Tuesday, September 13, 2022 – 4:30 P.M.

X. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was offered by Commissioner Lupo; seconded by Commissioner Hebert.

Meeting adjourned at 5:08 PM.