

**MINUTES OF  
LAKEFRONT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
LEGAL COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2023 – 2:30 PM**

PRESENT: Commissioner Robert Drouant-Chair  
Commissioner Jennifer Herbert  
Commissioner Michelle White

ABSENT: Commissioner Adonis Expose  
Commissioner Carlos Williams

STAFF: Louis Capo – Executive Director  
Vanessa McKee – Assistant to the Executive Director  
Adam Gulino – Director of Operations and Engineering

ALSO

PRESENT: Gerry Metzger, LMA Counsel  
Jeff Dye – LMA Counsel  
Robert Raymond - Attorney  
Ed Renton – Tenant  
N. Phillips – Tenant, Attorney

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The Legal Committee of the Lakefront Management Authority met on Thursday, May 18, 2023, at the New Orleans Lakefront Airport at 6001 Stars and Stripes Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126.

**I. Call to Order**

**Chair Robert** called the meeting to order at 2:36 PM

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**Chair Drouant** lead the Pledge of Allegiance

**III. Roll Call**

**Mr. Capo** called the roll. With (3) members present, a quorum was established.

**IV. Opening Comments – Chair Drouant/Commissioners**

**Chair Drouant** welcomed everyone to the meeting and called for a motion to adopt the agenda.

**V. Motion to Adopt Agenda**

**A motion to adopt the agenda was offered by Commissioner J. Herbert and seconded by Chair Drouant.**

**Chair Drouant called for discussion and questions. Hearing none, called for a vote. All were in favor. The motion passed.**

**VI. Public Comments - None**

**VII. Legal Counsel's Update**

**Gerry Metzger** reported on his previous month's work from his monthly status report. He stated he is also working on the (3) items on today's agenda.

**Jeff Dye reported on the following items:**

- Flightline wind damage claims
- Boathouse W-9 matter on today's agenda.
- Boathouse(s) W-7 and W-8 Active transaction is pending. Will have a conference call with Mr. Ackle regarding questions about the use of living space.
- St John Park State installation. Item discussed at the Recreation Committee last Tuesday where the chair decided to defer to next month's committee.
- Working on tax assessor issues.
- AE Comm Discussion with Chair Drouant.

**Chair Drouant made a motion to amend the agenda to move Old Business, Item #1 up before the New Business items. The motion was seconded by Commissioner J. Herbert.**

**Chair Drouant called for discussion and questions. Hearing none, called for a vote. All were in favor. The motion passed.**

## **VIII. Old Business**

### **1. Discussion of issues involving the Orleans Marina Boat House W-9.**

**Mr. Robert Raymond**, attorney for Ed Renton who is the current owner of W-9, informed the legal Committee that he just learned that Mr. Phillips has filed a Third-Party Demand against the Lakefront Management Authority by Sunset Harbor. He stated that he had not seen the filing and could not comment any further.

He also stated that Mr. Renton has filed an eviction proceeding against Sunset Harbor set for Tuesday, May 23, 2023, that will be heard before Judge Reese. He provided a copy of the eviction to the committee.

**Nathan Phillips**, Managing Partner of Sunset Harbor stated that he did in fact, file suit against Lakefront Management Authority due to Mr. Renton's (2) eviction filings against Sunset Harbor.

Mr. Phillips closed by thanking Director Capo, Mr. Metzger, and Mr. Dye for assisting as best they could.

**Chair Drouant** asked if the Third-Party demand was titled Declaratory Judgement.

**Mr. Dye and Mr. Metzger** clarified that it was not written as a Third-Party Demand, it is written as a First Amending Petition in the Original Action.

**Mr. Dye** stated he received the petition at 12 noon today. He stated that he had conversations with both parties to suggest they work to an agreement so as not to have to file suit to no avail.

**Mr. Metzger** advised the committee that a motion must be made individually to bring each item Executive Session for discussion.

**IX. New Business - Executive Session**

1. **Clifford Duplessy v. Michael Mayer, West End Marine' et al, CDC No. 2010-12602; Div. E-7**

**A motion was offered to move Duplessy v. Mayer to Executive Session by Commissioner J. Herbert; seconded by Commissioner Drouant.**

**Mr. Metzger read into the record under Title R.S. 42:17 of the Open Meetings Law, this Executive Session will concern discussion of pending litigation that could be detrimental to hold in public.**

2. **Crain v. Lakefront Management Authority, No. 2023-02556, Division "D", First City Court for the City of New Orleans.**

**A motion was offered to move Crain v. Lakefront Management Authority to Executive Session by Commissioner J. Herbert; seconded by Commissioner Drouant.**

**A motion was made to come out of Executive Session at 3:40 PM by Commissioner J. Herbert; seconded by Commissioner White.**

**Jeff Dye stated that the committee came out of Executive Session with no action taken.**

**II. Announcement of the next Legal Committee Meeting**

- 1) Thursday, June 15, 2023 – 2:30 P.M.

**III. Adjourn**

**A motion was offered to adjourn the meeting by Commissioner J. Herbert; seconded by Commissioner White at 3:44 PM. All were in favor.**