

**LAKEFRONT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2023, AT 4:30 PM**

**6001 Stars and Stripes Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70124**

PRESENT: Commissioner Sandra Thomas – Chair (Arrived at 4:53 PM)
Commissioner Stan Brien - Vice-Chair
Commissioner Esmond Carr
Commissioner Dawn Hebert

STAFF: Louis Capó – 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
Al Pappalardo – Real Estate Consultant
Ashley Haspel – President, LTPOA
Maya Curtis –
Phalon Cornist – President, LOCA

The Recreation Committee of the Lakefront Management Authority on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 4:30 PM at 6001 Stars and Stripes Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70124.

I. Call to Order

Vice-Chair Stan Brien called the meeting to order at 4:44 PM

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice -Chair led in the Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Mr. Capó called the roll and with (3) members present, a quorum was established.

IV. Opening Comments – Chair Sandra Thomas

Vice-Chair Brien had no opening comments.

V. Motion to Adopt Agenda

A motion to adopt the agenda was offered by Commissioner Carr; second; by Commissioner Herbert

VI. Public Comments – Limited to (2) Minutes

Ashley Haspel thanked Mr. Gulino for painting the back of her neighborhood sign.

VII. Director's Report

Mr. Capo reported that the Mother's Day weekend was not as crowded as expected. Overall, it was successful, the weather was beautiful, there was police and ambulance presence, and trash pickup was also a success.

VIII. New Business

1. Discussion of the status of the proposed permit to install the *It Was My Pleasure* sculpture in St. John Park pursuant to Board Resolution VII 05-10272022 passed October 27, 2022.

Mr. Jeff Dye reported on the terms and status of the It was my pleasure sculpture and stated that he felt obligated to bring this item back to the committee for discussion based on his encounters with the City Attorney's office.

- On October 27, 2022, the board issued a resolution to grant a permit for the installation of the sculpture.
- On November 13, 2022, Mr. Dye's firm prepared and issued the permit to Arts New Orleans and the City of New Orleans, to which they received no comment or feedback.
- In a conference call with the City Attorney's office, in April 2023, Mr. Capo, Ms. Curtis, and Mr. Dye, were told that the permit had not been reviewed, and they would prefer a CEA.
- The City Attorney rejected the LMA's permit and issued a lengthy CEA which pushes responsibility and liability that obligates the LMA to reimburse the city's expenses.

The committee discussed several suggestions to reach an agreement with the city.

Mr. Dye didn't feel hopeful that there were agreeable parties on the other side to reach an agreement. The city is not willing to work off permits.

Chair Thomas asked if the CEA was drawn up by the City Attorney's office and added that she couldn't foresee expenses from their office because it's their job. She also offered that it was possible that they'd been unresponsive due to the backlog of issues going on. She asked who asked the person on the call from the City attorney's office.

Maya Curtis, the Arts Council replied, Andrew Gregorian was the City Attorney on our call. She added that she agreed with Mr. Dye that there have been months of silence but feels with more time all parties could reach an agreement with all parties. It was clear to her that the city attorney was not familiar with the Arts Council and who retains ownership of the artwork.

2. **Motion to rescind Board Resolution VII 05-10272022 authorizing the negotiation and preparation of a permit with the City of New Orleans for the installation of the *It Was My Pleasure* sculpture in St. John Park.**

A motion was offered by Commissioner Carr; second; by Commissioner Herbert

After further discussion the committee decided to defer this agenda item to allow more time to work with the City Attorney's office.

Chair Thomas offered a motion to defer; seconded by Commissioner Carr. All were in favor. The motion passed.

IX. Announcement of the next Airport Committee Meeting

- 1) Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 4:30 PM

X. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was offered by Commissioner Carr; seconded by Commissioner Brien at 5:24 PM.