

**LAKEFRONT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
REVISED - RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2022 – 4:30 P.M**

**6001 Stars and Stripes Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70126**

PRESENT: Commissioner Esmond Carr – Chair
Commissioner Stan Brien - Vice-Chair
Commissioner Dawn Hebert
Commissioner Pat Meadowcroft

ABSENT: Commissioner Robert Lupo

STAFF: Louis Capo – Executive Director
Vanessa McKee – Assistant to the Executive Director
Adam Gulino – Director of Operations and Engineering
Kristen Clinard, LMA Finance

ALSO

PRESENT: Gerry Metzger – LMA Counsel
Jeff Dye – LMA Counsel
Ann Duffy – Lake Oaks Resident
John Skinner – Lake Oaks Resident
Mike Ricci – PBF Attorney
Jim Moriarty, President, of Louisiana Hibernian Charity
Kristi Trail - ED, Ponchartrain Conservancy
Wes Eustis - Basin, LLC
Harold Matherne – Lake Oaks Resident
Betty Tedesco – Lake Vista
Patricia Fullmer – Lake Vista Resident
Sage Michael – Sageville
Phalon Cornist – President, LOCA
Byron Jefferson - LTPOA
Ron Vinson – Mt. Tabor B.C. Church
Russell Avery – Lake Terrace Resident

The Recreation Committee of the Lakefront Management Authority on Tuesday,
October 18, 2023, at 4:30 PM at 6001 Stars and Stripes Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126.

I. **Call to Order called to order by Chair Carr at 4:40 PM**

II. **Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Carr.**

III. **Roll Call by Mr. Capo. With (4) members present, a quorum was established.**

IV. **Opening Comments – Chair Carr – No opening comments.**

V. **Motion to Adopt Agenda**

A motion was offered by Commissioner Hebert; seconded by Commissioner Brien.

VI. **Director's Report**

Mr. Capo reported on the success of the Fried Chicken Festival with no reported incidents.

Commissioner Meadowcroft and the other committee members were pleased with the news of the successful festival. She felt that we now have the blueprint for future success with scheduling these types of events.

Mr. Mathern agreed that his neighborhood was pleased with little to no disturbance reported by the event.

Mr. Capo continued his report on the following:

- We will purchase new barrel trash cans to put out on the Lakefront.
- We will also place additional port-o-lets bear shelter 1.
- Moving forward with applying for \$2 million for the Capital Outlay Project at the Seabrook Boat Launch

Commissioner Hebert expressed that she would like the design of the pavilions to remain consistent with what is already in place.

Sage Michael thanked the committee for the additional trash cans but asked if they could be covered, it would keep the birds from plucking trash back out.

Mr. Capo stated he could look at placing tops on the cans along the seawall. There was further discussion amongst the committee regarding better options to retain trash.

Michael Liebaert commented on the trash cans at Orleans Marina might be a better option.

VII. Public Comments

Betty Tedesco asked the following:

- Status of the rest shelters
- Expressed concern for tree protection from
- ongoing oversight of the utility companies

Adam Gulino stated he would contact Entergy to get a timeline of Entergy's phase-out plan. There is also a restoration phase to restore the parks to their original condition.

Mrs. Tedesco offered to send pictures and bullet pint to aid Mr. Gulino in his meeting.

Patricia Fullmer discussed

- the status of their subdivision's refurbished sign repair
- use of outlets for decorations
- water
- LMA worker's comp policy to cover sign repair worker's

Chair Carr asked Legal to investigate whether LMA was obligated to repair subdivision signs. He understood that approximately \$10,000 were put aside to make such repairs for each subdivision.

Mr. Metzger agreed to report back to the committee with his findings.

Commissioner Heaton suggested that LMA enter into a Cooperative Endeavor with Lake Vista to repair the sign to their standards for us to reimburse them for the cost. After further discussion, the committee agreed.

Mrs. Fullmer had additional questions if the remaining funds could be utilized to restore the neighborhood parks.

Chair Carr asked if LVPOA could submit a request for improvements to the parks.

Mr. Dye added that there are programs for monetizing trees and green space through long-term contracts for carbon capture.

Chair Carr suggested working with the funds that have been established to address the needs of the neighborhood and establishing a group to further research Mr. Dye's information.

Phalon Cornist commented that the overgrown easements need to be addressed. There are vagrants and animals present. He thanked the staff for cleaning the falling tree limbs. A light pole is missing at the intersection of Music and Oriole Streets and needs to be replaced. Lake Oaks residents would like signs stating, "the neighborhoods are being watched" and "no speeding" in the neighborhood.

Chair Carr asked Mr. Cornist's opinion of the Chicken Festival.

Mr. Cornist was pleased with the outcome of the FCF. He said that there was a great presence of police in Lake Oaks with appropriate signage, and he had no reports about noise levels. He also mentioned that he has written a thank you letter to the 3rd District Police Department and OLDPD and is in the planning stages to host an appreciation steak dinner.

VIII. Old Business

1. Update on the Hibernian Memorial Park by the Ancient Order of the Hibernians of Louisiana, Inc.

Jim Moriarty, President, of Louisiana Hibernian Charity presented a handout and updated the committee on the status of the development of the park. He discussed the funding sources and bid process for the work which is he said was moving impressively fast after supply chain issues. He introduces several members who have all made significant contributions in the development of this project.

2. Update on Pontchartrain Beach

Jeff Dye stated that Mr. Ricci was present to speak on behalf of the PBF. He updated the committee on the current development of the lease negotiations of the lease and should have a complete draft of the lease in the near future.

Mr. Ricci stated that he has been working with the LMA negotiation team and have been very helpful throughout the process.

Guy Williams has been meeting with the area neighborhood associations and civic groups. They went out to do a survey of the current activity at the beach. They recently scheduled a beach sweep to clean debris and trash.

Harold Matherne passed out a handout and commented on his survey of the security and clean-up efforts of The Fried Chicken Festival. He hoped that the PBF and LMA negotiation team would consider using as a blueprint for the Ponchartrain Beach project. He also stated that there are some inconsistencies reported in PBF's presentation at several of the community meetings.

Mr. Williams spoke on the fallacy of the negotiations regarding UNO'S sky bridge.

Mr. Ricci implored the community to reach out to him to ask questions to deter any misinformation.

Mr. Dye offered a suggestion to hold a zoom meeting with the negotiation teams and no more than two commissioners an effort to dispel misinformation

Mike McStravick requested that the attorneys slow down to be sure to protect the integrity of the neighborhoods and its residents. He also expressed concern about how this project would be funded.

Sage Michael spoke about his cleaning efforts at Lincoln Beach collecting over (8) truckloads for trash and 500 needles. He hoped that Ponchartrain Beach would be opened for all to utilize.

Chair Carr commented that the community and residents continue to say they do not feel heard. This committee wants to ensure that the process is not rushed.

Commissioner Hebert expressed comments on behalf of Ashley Haspel who said that PBF presented things she had never heard before.

She thanked Sage Michael for his tremendously selfless efforts to keep Lincoln Beach clean.

Chair Carr noted that he would have to leave the meeting but wanted the discussion on the next topic to continue.

3. Discussion on LMA's responsibility regarding permits and LNOs for Lakeshore, Lake Vista, Lake Terrace, and Lake Oaks

Mr. Dye stated that there are two ways that the City could enforce a building restriction. LMA does not have a mechanism to issue a notice of violation to have a hearing for adjudication. The only recourse of legal action that we could take would be to file a civil law suit.

Mr. Capo discussed Mr. Paul Caboche's question from a recent conversation where he asked if the LMA could fine residents who have not gone through the proper approval process to obtain an LNO prior to applying for a City.

Mr. Capo said that LMA has no authority to fine them.

Chair Carr turned the meeting over to Vice-Chair Brien and left the meeting at 5:58 PM.

4. Project Status update

Mr. Gulino reported on the following projects:

- Currently working on Shelter #4 quote package
- Trash cans have been purchased and are due to arrive on November 1st.
- Lake Terrace's new aluminum sign sue to arrive for installation in (2) weeks
- Developing quote packages for Lake Vista Rest Shelters and tree trimming

Mrs. Fullmer added that the shelter at Beauregard and Allen Toussaint is sinking and has become a trip hazard.

Ray Landeche commented on the following:

- Asked for a status on trees
- Lakeshore's sign has been on the list for (3) years
- Waterline issue. Sustained damage from the Canal Blvd reconstruction
- Requested lids for trash cans in his neighborhood
- Supports PBF

IX. New Business

1. Motion to authorize the negotiation and preparation of a permit with the City of New Orleans for the installation of the *It was my pleasure sculpture* by Anastasia Pelias in St. John Park and to authorize the Executive Director to sign the final permit on behalf of the Lakefront Management Authority.

A motion was offered by Commissioner Brien; seconded by Commissioner Hebert.

Mr. Dye updated the committee on the status of placing the sculpture in St. John Park. It has been determined that the City of New Orleans will be the owner of the sculpture and the holder of the permit.

Vice-Chair Brien announced that the meeting would take place on **Wednesday, November 9, 2022, at 4:30 PM** and called for adjournment.

X. Announcement of next Recreation Committee Meeting:

1. TBA (**Tuesday, November 8, 2022 – State Holiday**)

XI. Adjourn at 6:02 PM

A motion was offered by Commissioner Brien; seconded by Commissioner Hebert. Meeting adjourned at 6:02 PM.