

A joint meeting of the Board of Directors (the "Board") of the New Orleans City Park Improvement Association (the "NOCPIA") and City Park Conservancy (the "CPC") was called to order Tuesday, March 25, 2025 at noon. The meeting was held in person at the City Park Administrative Building.

New Orleans City Park Improvement Association

PRESENT: Commissioners Adams, Arata, Dale, Davis, Grenroad, Hales, Keller, King, Laborde, Lappa, Robin, Sherman, Sims, Solomon, Sterbcow, Waller, and Watler

ABSENT: Commissioners Giarrusso, Green, Hardie, Harris, Hilferty, Murray, and Turner

City Park Conservancy

PRESENT: Board Members Barnes, Batt, Birdsong, Cahn, DeBlieux, Feoli, Fletcher, Gardner, Hahn, Henry, Lappa, Phipps, Rodriguez, Savoie, Solomon, Sloss, Taylor, and Williams

ABSENT: Board Members Bensel, Charbonnet, Fitzpatrick, Harris, Hilferty, Kolb, Pineda, Thornton, and Wands

STAFF: Rebecca Dietz, Randy Odinet, Keith Hemel, Casie Duplechain, Gina Trepani, Lauren Clay, Brian Daly, Keith Claverie, and Denise Joubert

GUESTS: Keith Tregle

CPIA Chair David Waller and CPC Chair Liz Sloss called the meeting to order and noted that this is a joint board meeting of the City Park Improvement Association and the City Park Conservancy.

PUBLIC COMMENT There were no public comments.

FINANCE REPORT

Keith Tregle, the independent auditor for the park, presented the financial audit for FY24 and issued a clean, unqualified opinion. Following a discussion, Hemel stated that the joint CPC/CPIA Finance Committee recommends the audit for board approval. The CPIA board voted unanimously to approve the financial audit report for FY24.

CHAIRS REPORT

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the CPIA board meeting on December 10, 2024, as circulated via email. The motion was seconded, voted on, and approved unanimously.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the CPC board meeting held on February 25, as circulated via email. The motion was seconded, voted on, and approved unanimously.

Sloss reported:

- Lark in the Park was a great success.
- Magic in the Moonlight is scheduled for Thursday, October 9, at the Botanical Garden. Sue Zemanick, Executive Chef of Zazu restaurant, is the featured chef.

MANAGEMENT REPORT

In the Management Report, Rebecca Dietz, President and Chief Executive Officer, reported:

- She congratulated Keith Hemel for a clean audit.
- She introduced three new members to our Executive team: Gina Trapani, Chief Philanthropic Officer; Lauren Clay, Chief Business Officer; and Brian Daly, Chief Operations Officer.
- The Park retained JGL Consultants to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the food and beverage operations. The goal was to determine whether the park was the best option for running a food and beverage operation or if a third party should be sought. There was a discussion regarding the assessment and their recommendations for moving forward. The next step is to issue a Request for Proposal for a food service provider. We will create a committee to evaluate the proposals. Please let Rebecca know if you are interested in serving on the committee.
- I am traveling to Washington to meet with our congressional delegation to provide an update on the Master Plan, discuss federal appropriations and potential opportunities for federal support for City Park.

We submitted a capital outlay request to the State for the following:

- Renovation of the golf driving range
- Study of Tad Gormley Stadium
- Renovation of the Practice Track

We are in discussions with the State regarding:

- State TIFF participation
- State Insurance Program
- Dietz discussed the potential opportunity for a Public-Private Partnership to operate and invest significant resources in Tad Gormley Stadium. Nola Gold Rugby, owned by Intervale Capital, is looking to invest substantially in a stadium to help expand rugby in the city. They intend to gather information to study the stadium's infrastructure and operations over the next few months.

MASTER PLAN/CAPITAL PROJECTS

Randy Odinet, Vice President and Chief Planning Officer, reported:

- Provided a summary of previous community meetings and survey findings.
- Recap of Ideas from the Youth Committee meetings.
- The Master Plan public meeting is scheduled for April 9 at the Pavilion of Two Sisters.

Reviewed the final six Core Intentions

- Present a unified and welcoming park arrival experience
- Ensure the park is safe, accessible, and convenient
- Promote landscape health and biodiversity through maintenance and stewardship
- Respect the history and cultural uses of the park
- Create fun, healthy, and enriching opportunities for all ages
- Balance the park's budget, revenue, and affordability

Presented an overview of the six areas for enhancement on the north and south sides of the park.

- Welcoming the Spirit of the Park
- Reshape current uses with Enhanced Landscaping
- Complement Civic Spaces with Everyday Activity
- Engage NOLA Youth Meaningfully
- Enhance the Variety of Experiences around Athletics
- Celebrate the Nature of City Park

OPERATIONS

Dietz stated that we are in the process of hiring an arborist.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.