

**MINUTES OF
LAKEFRONT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
RECREATION/SUBDIVISION COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2019**

PRESENT: Chair Dawn Hebert
*Vice Chair Robert Romero arrived at the Committee Meeting at 4:40 p.m.
Commissioner Stanley Brien
Commissioner Esmond Carr
Commissioner Stanley Cohn

STAFF: Louis Capo – Executive Director
Sarion Granger – Human Resources Analyst
Daniel Hill – Director of Engineering & Operations
Chandra Chaffin – Grants Administrator

PUBLIC: Ann Duffy – Lake Oaks Association President
John Skinner – L.O.S.I.D.
Jay Baudier – L.V.P.O.A. (Lake Vista Property Owners Association)
Betty Tedesco – L.V.P.O.A. (Lake Vista Property Owners Association)
Patricia Fullmer – L.V.G.C. (Lake Vista Garden Club)
Ray Landeche – Lakeshore Property Owners Association

The Recreation/Subdivision Committee of the Lakefront Management Authority met on Tuesday, November 12, 2019, in the Lakefront Airport Terminal Building, 2nd Floor Conference Center, 6001 Stars and Stripes Blvd., New Orleans, Louisiana.

Chair Hebert called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

Opening Comments: None

Motion to Adopt Agenda:

A motion was offered by Commissioner Cohn, seconded by Commissioner Brien, and unanimously adopted, to adopt the agenda.

Motion to Approve Minutes:

A motion was offered by Commissioner Cohn, seconded by Commissioner Brien, and unanimously adopted, to approve the minutes of October 15, 2019.

Director's Report:

Louis Capo, Executive Director, stated that a meeting with the City of New Orleans and Zach Smith is scheduled for Friday, November 19, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. to discuss building restrictions.

Mr. Capo reported that Lakeshore Drive was temporarily closed due to flooding on Tuesday, November 12, 2019. He stated that Shelter 1 was underwater.

Mr. Capo advised that Chandra Chaffin, Grants Administrator, will apply for a grant for the Seabrook Boat Launch project. He explained that the grant is a 75/25% match and the Authority will have to pay between \$250,000 - \$350,000 to fund the project.

Chandra Chaffin, Grants Administrator, distributed a "Conceptual Opinion of Probable Construction Cost" document to the Commissioners of the Board. Mr. Capo questioned the deadline of the grant submittal. Ms. Chaffin responded that she would prefer to submit the grant by December 25, 2019. Commissioner Cohn questioned the competition for the grant. Ms. Chaffin responded that there will be competition, but she believes that the Authority has a good possibility to obtain the grant. She explained that no matter the cost of the project, the Authority will only receive a score of five points. Commissioner Cohn asked if the grants occur every year. Ms. Chandra responded that the grants occur every year or two years. Mr. Capo commented that the grant is awarded in Spring 2020. Commissioner Carr asked the due date of the application. Ms. Chaffin responded that the due date is early January 2020, however, she wants to submit the application before Christmas. Mr. Capo asked if the score will be improved if the design plans are completed. Ms. Chaffin responded that the completed design plans will improve the scoring. Mr. Capo commented that D.E.I. has been paid \$50,000 for the completion of the conceptual study. Commissioner Cohn asked what percentage Ms. Chaffin would recommend. Ms. Chaffin responded that a 35% cost match would be the best percentage. Mr. Capo explained that the Authority may have to reduce the scope of work, but the boat launch is in dire need of repairs. Mr. Capo stated that he will schedule a meeting with D.E.I. to discuss the Seabrook Boat Launch project.

Daniel Hill, Engineering & Operations, reported that Shelter 1 flooded due to the October 30-31 wind event. Chair Hebert asked if the pipes were clogged. Mr. Hill responded that some sediment may be in the pipes. He reported that the Mardi Gras fountain was affected by the flooding. He explained that Magnolia Pools inspected the pump, and they were unable to get the pump to function. Mr. Hill stated that the Lakefront Management Authority's maintenance crew will reexamine the pump. Chair Hebert asked if the pump was under warranty. Mr. Hill responded that the pump is under warranty.

Mr. Hill reported that Treeman, Inc. will remove tree limbs from a fallen tree on Hollyhock Lane by Friday, November 15, 2019. He stated that two palm trees fell over on Lakeshore Drive. He explained that it was more cost effective to straighten the fallen trees, than to remove them.

Mr. Hill reported that he consulted with some arborists and they didn't recommend saving the fallen oak tree in Floral Park. He stated that Treeman, Inc. could remove the tree and stump for \$4,750.00. Louis Capo, Executive Director, asked if the tree was a true oak tree or a water oak tree. Mr. Hill responded that the tree is a live oak tree. Chair Hebert asked if a tree is replaced once it's removed. Mr. Capo responded that a tree can be replaced once it is removed.

Mr. Hill suggested that the Lakefront Management Authority hire an arborist per contract and train the LMA maintenance crew to handle smaller projects.

Commissioner Romero questioned the architect reviewer process. Mr. Capo explained that the Authority is requesting three to five reviewers on a rotational basis. He stated that the proposals are due on Thursday, December 5, 2019 and once they are reviewed, then they will be brought to the Committee on Tuesday, December 10, 2019.

Public Comment:

Milton Grayson, Lake Vista resident, explained the condition of the fallen oak tree in Floral Park. He stated that if the oak tree had received proper maintenance beforehand, then it may have been salvageable. Mr. Grayson stated that the fallen oak tree is unsalvageable.

Old Business:

1) Status update on the Lakefront Shared Use Path and Lake Vista Sidewalk Project:

Louis Capo, Executive Director, stated that he and Wilma spoke at the Lake Vista Property Owners Association meeting. Prior to the meeting, he stated that they met with Alejandro Flores, G.E.C., to discuss engineering costs. He explained that the Authority will be responsible for approximately \$300,000 in engineering, design, construction, and maintenance costs. He stated that the \$400,000 Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development grant is strictly for construction costs. Mr. Capo explained that it will cost approximately \$150,000 for G.E.C. to perform an environmental impact study. He stated that it will cost \$1.6 million to renovate all five parks. Commissioner Carr asked why the engineering costs are so expensive for his project. Daniel Hill, Director of Engineering & Operations, responded that the initial application for the grant was vague. He explained that the project became more expensive once it was determined that additional studies had to be performed. Commissioner Romero commented that he consulted with Mr. Flores about repairing the sidewalks instead of replacing them. He stated that the Authority wouldn't qualify for any grant money if they repaired the sidewalks. Commissioner Carr asked if the project would be cheaper if the project didn't

require additional studies. Mr. Hill responded that the studies are a requirement that has to be met. Patricia Fullmer, Lake Vista Property Owners Association, stated that the sidewalk project will require a full-time arborist. Commissioner Romero stated that he spoke with Mr. Flores and G.E.C. has an arborist on staff. Mr. Hill explained that the next step in the process is to create the preliminary design plans, and once those plans are completed, then the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development can be contacted to issue the grant money.

New Business:

1) **Discussion regarding proposal by a group of Lake Vista residents to protect and preserve the oak tress in the Lake Vista Subdivision parks and lanes:**

Louis Capo, Executive Director, stated that a proposal was submitted a few years ago regarding the Lake Vista residents adopting the “triangle.” Commissioner Romero stated that allegedly some residents approached the Non-Flood Protection Asset Management Authority (Lakefront Management Authority) in March 2018 about adopting “triangles,” and the residents were denied. Commissioner Heaton explained that Wayne Babovich contacted her a few years ago and he wanted to save a tree in his backyard, so he requested to adopt the area. She stated that her policy is to defer requests to the respective neighbors. Jay Bauider, Lake Vista Property Owners Association, stated that Terminix is taking care of the trees. He explained that several residents wanted to use the “triangle” for her own personal use. Commissioner Romero suggested that Lake Vista’s Board discuss guidelines regarding the adoption of the “triangles.” Commissioner Heaton stated that she will speak with Mark Fullmer, President of Lake Vista, to discuss guidelines and plans that can be brought to the Lakefront Management Authority’s Board for approval.

Announcement of next Recreation/Subdivision Committee Meeting:

1) **Tuesday, December 10, 2019 – 4:30 P.M.**

Adjourn:

A motion was offered by Commissioner Cohn, seconded by Commissioner Brien, and unanimously adopted, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 5:34 PM.