



Audubon Nature Institute
Celebrating the Wonders of Nature

April 30, 2015

A meeting of the Audubon Commission was called to order on Thursday, April 30, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in the Presidents' Room at the Audubon Zoo by President Duncan.

Attending were: Linda Baum, Storey Charbonnet, Kelly Duncan, Bart Farris, Frances Fayard, Rashida Ferdinand, Ashley Francis, Beth Lambert, Peter Moss, Pamela Ryan, Charles Teamer, Tom Watson, Brent Wood

Excused were: Gayle Benson, Danny Conwill, Angus Cooper, Boysie Bollinger, Deborah Harkins, Bruce Hofer, Olivia Manning, Helena Moreno, Catherine Morrell, Field Ogden, Carol Wise

Also attending: Henry Kinney, legal counsel and Robert McClendon, Times-Picayune.

The minutes of the January 29, 2015 meeting were unanimously accepted as distributed.

Mr. Forman, President and CEO introduced this year's Kids Zoo-to-Do Queen Jill Pipes and Whitney Zoo-to-Do Queen Catherine Freeman and thanked each for their hard work fundraising for Audubon.

Finance Report Mr. Rivarde, EVP & Managing Director of Uptown Facilities, reviewed the March 2015 Operating Statement:

November Operating Budget (in thousands)

	<u>2015 Actual</u>	<u>2015 Budget</u>	<u>2014 Actual</u>
Aquarium/IMAX/Park	3,652	3,681	2,735
Zoo/Park	(1,030)	(975)	(859)
Insectarium	(167)	(183)	(107)
Research Center	(148)	(208)	(118)
Total Operations	\$2,307	\$2,315	\$1,651

Mr. Rivarde reported that admissions revenue is ahead of 2014 by \$259,000.

Staff Reports

Mr. Kurtz, Sr. EVP and Chief of Staff reported a motion was needed authorizing the President of the Commission or the President & CEO of Audubon Nature Institute to sign a contract with BelouMagner Construction, the lowest qualified bidder for the Audubon Louisiana Nature Center Replacement Facility project in the amount of \$7,090,000 to rebuild the Nature Center including a large exhibitry/gathering space, planetarium, classrooms and offices. Mr. Kurtz introduced Gerry Billes and Patrick Kraft, architects of Billes Partners, to give the Commission an overview of the design. Mr. Kraft gave a synopsis of new facility entrance layout, nature trails and building design. President Duncan called for a motion, after a brief discussion the motion passed unanimously. (Charbonnet/Teamer/Unanimous)

Mr. Kurtz further reported that a motion was needed authorizing the President of the Commission or the President and CEO of Audubon Nature Institute to accept, negotiate and execute a contract with the lowest qualified bidder for the Cool Zoo 2 Thematic Signage Package, currently out to bid with a cost estimate of \$140,000. These are themed signs for Gator Run including main entry sign, facility signage, direction signs, information signage, height requirement signage and rules signs. President Duncan called for a motion. (Baum/Lambert/Unanimous)

Mr. Kurtz further reported that a motion was needed authoring the President of the Commission or the President and CEO of Audubon Nature Institute to accept, negotiate and execute a contract with the lowest qualified bidder for the Cool Zoo 2 Thematic Artifacts Package, currently out to bid with a cost estimate of \$234,000. This will include custom made crates, barrels, animals cultural artifacts seating and some shelf bought items including nets, boats, igloos, lanterns, oars, crab and fish traps, boats and boat motors. President Duncan called for a motion. (Francis/Ryan/Unanimous)

Mr. Kurtz further reported that a resolution was needed authorizing the President of the Commission or the President and CEO of Audubon Nature Institute to accept, negotiate and execute a contract with the lowest qualified bidder for the Asia Rockwork Package, getting ready to go out to bid with a cost estimate of \$130,000. This will include a new entry rock work archway into Asia which will simulate stacked stone with ancient carvings of animals, designs and runes. President Duncan called for a motion. (Fayard/Teamer/Unanimous)

Mr. Kurtz further reported that a resolution was needed authorizing the President of the Commission or the President and CEO of Audubon Nature Institute to accept, negotiate and execute a contract with the lowest qualified bidder for IMAX Theater Renovations set to go out to bid with a cost estimate of \$1.2 million. This will include replacing IMAX equipment with a 3D Dual Digital System and theater building renovations to allow for new equipment placement and screen. President Duncan called for a motion. (Wood/Watson/Unanimous)

Mr. Kurtz further reported that a resolution was needed authorizing the President of the Commission or the President and CEO of Audubon Nature Institute to accept, negotiate and execute a contract with the lowest qualified bidder for Elephant Entrance (Cooper Plaza) construction set to go out to bid with a cost estimate of \$713,000. This will include reworking of all mechanical/plumbing lines that will control the reconfigured pool and new sculptures. President Duncan called for a motion. (Moss/Lambert/Unanimous)

Mr. Kurtz further reported that a resolution was needed authorizing the President of the Commission or the President and CEO of Audubon Nature Institute to sign an updated CEA Agreement with Carrollton Boosters to include upgrades to soccer fields, restrooms, playgrounds, concessions and parking on the Riverview. Storey Charbonnet recused himself from the vote as he is President of Carrollton Boosters and left the room. President Duncan called for a motion. (Fayard/Farris/Unanimous)

Mr. Kurtz further reported that a resolution was needed authorizing the President of the Commission or the President and CEO of Audubon Nature Institute to accept, negotiate and execute a contract with the lowest qualified bidder for the Asia Construction Package set to go out to bid with a cost estimate of \$700,000 for new Asia exhibit construction. President Duncan called for a motion.
(Teamer/Ryan/Unanimous)

Ms. Conkerton, EVP for Development reported that a resolution was needed authorizing the President of the Commission or the President and CEO of Audubon Nature Institute to sign a contract amendment with Bloody Decks, LLC expanding the scope of work to enhance web-based items developed earlier in the project, extending the contract to December 31, 2016 and increasing available funding by \$50,219.59. President Duncan called for a motion. (Baum/Ferdinand/Unanimous)

Ms. Conkerton, EVP for Development reported that a resolution was needed authorizing the President of the Commission or the President and CEO of Audubon Nature Institute to sign the third amendment to the agreement between the Audubon Commission and GCR Inc. expanding the scope of work to include enhancements to and maintenance of the work product developed during the period January 29, 2013 through April 1, 2015. The total amount of the agreement is increasing from \$463,000 to \$543,000. President Duncan called for a motion. (Moss/Fayard/Unanimous)

Mr. Forman reported that just prior to the morning he received a call from Viking River Cruises, whom has approached Audubon about usage of Woldenberg Park. Mr. Forman asked the Chairman for a motion to amend the agenda to consider a new motion. President Duncan called for a motion.
(Charbonnet/Wood/Unanimous)

Mr. Forman further reported that Audubon would need to negotiate terms with Viking and asked for a motion to allow him as the President and CEO of Audubon Nature Institute or the President of the Commission to negotiate and sign a contract with Viking River Cruises. President Duncan called for a motion. (Teamer/Baum/Unanimous)

Richard Dunn, Assistant Curator presented Wobble, a critically endangered Mississippi Sand Hill Crane and gave the Commission and overview of Audubon's work in saving this species.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Linda G. Baum
Secretary