

Audubon Commission Minutes

June 27, 2018

A meeting of the Audubon Commission was called to order on Wednesday, June 27, 2018, at 5:30 pm in the Tea Room at the Audubon Zoo by President Duncan.

Present were: Danny Conwill, Linda Baum, Kelly Duncan, Ludovico Feoli, Ashley Francis, Debra Harkins, Bruce Hoefler, Beth Lambert, Catherine Morrell, Field Ogden, Coleman Ridley, Pamela Ryan, Norma Jane Sabiston, Ravi Sangisetty, Brent Wood, Carol Wise

Excused were: Boysie Bollinger, Storey Charbonnet, Gayle Benson, Leila Eames, Frances Fayard, Olivia Manning, and Charles Teamer

Also attending: John Ellinghausen, legal counsel.

President Kelly Duncan called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the April 26, 2018 meeting were unanimously accepted as distributed.

Mr. Duncan reported that first on the agenda was a presentation by the Good Work Network. Ms. Laurie Conkerton, EVP, and CAO reported that Audubon is committed to hiring diverse suppliers in purchasing endeavors. She reported that Audubon partners with the Good Work Network to bring representatives from diverse suppliers together with Audubon purchasing staff. She then introduced Hermione Malone, President, and CEO of Good Work Network. Ms. Malone reported that on behalf of her board and staff she is recognizing Audubon Nature Institute with the 2018 Equity Ally Award for Audubon's diligent work in providing contracts and opportunities for diverse businesses.

Mr. Duncan asked for a motion to amend the agenda to move the Audubon Park Master Plan presentation before the financial presentation. (Ogden/Lambert/unanimous)

Mr. Duncan introduced Mark Ripple, Principal from Eskew, Dumez, who then presented the final draft of the Audubon Park Master Plan. Mr. Ripple reviewed the extensive public input process that included a dedicated website with a public comment function, online surveys, in-person surveys, and four well-attended public meetings. He then reported on aspects of the plan including endeavors to preserve and protect existing features, maintaining a balanced variety of activities, the importance of environmental stewardship and the role the Audubon Commission plays in preserving the historic natural landscape provided by the Park.

Mr. Duncan thanked Mr. Ripple, the members of the Commission and the members of the public for all their input on the master plan process. He stated that throughout the community engagement process Audubon was able to reach almost 2,000,000 community members. He further reminded everyone that, as with any master plan, it is important to remember that the Audubon Park Master Plan is a living document and can be reviewed at any time.

Mr. Duncan then asked for a motion to approve the Audubon Park Master Plan as presented and opened the floor to public input.

After public input was received and discussion among the Commission members the plan was approved unanimously. (Feoli/Harkins/unanimous)

Finance Report

Ms. Conkerton, EVP, and CAO reviewed the May 2018 Operating Budget (in thousands):

| MAY 2018 FINANCIAL DASHBOARD | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| (AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS) | | | | | | |
| NET OPERATING RESULTS BY FACILITY: | | | | | | |
| FACILITY | YTD ACTUAL 2018 | YTD BUDGET 2018 | BUDGET VARIANCE | YTD ACTUAL 2017 | PRIOR YEAR VARIANCE | TOTAL BUDGET 2018 |
| Aquarium/EGST | 6,085 | 5,233 | 852 | 5,811 | 274 | 6,556 |
| Zoo & Park | (491) | (909) | 418 | (186) | (305) | (5,349) |
| Butterfly Garden & Insectarium | 359 | 125 | 234 | 578 | (219) | 77 |
| FMASSC | (109) | (210) | 101 | (357) | 248 | (548) |
| Louisiana Nature Center | (119) | (127) | 8 | (8) | (111) | (355) |
| | \$5,725 | \$4,112 | \$1,613 | \$5,838 | (\$113) | \$381 |
| <i>Excludes capital revenues and expenses.</i> | | | | | | |

Ms. Conkerton reported that revenue is currently 39% ahead of budget which is 2% below last year. She stated that Audubon is in its busy season and is maximizing revenue. She further reported that Audubon is on track to meet its budget goal for 2018 and that through May 31, Audubon had approximately 1 million guests that visited Audubon attractions.

Mr. Duncan thanked the Eskew, Dumez, Ripple firm and the Audubon staff for all their hard work on the Audubon Park Master Plan. He then encouraged everyone present to continue to provide input.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Linda G. Baum
Secretary