

**NON-FLOOD PROTECTION ASSET MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
MINUTES OF THE RECREATION/SUBDIVISION COMMITTEE MEETING  
THURSDAY MARCH 5, 2015 – 2:30 P.M.**

The regular monthly meeting of the Recreation/Subdivision Committee of the Non-Flood Asset Protection Management Authority was held on Thursday, March 5, 2015 at 2:30 p.m., in the Lake Vista Community Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 6500 Spanish Fort Blvd., New Orleans, Louisiana after due legal notice of the meeting was sent to each Board member, the news media, and a copy of the call was posted.

Chair Ernst called the meeting to order at 2:39 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll was called which constituted a quorum.

**PRESENT:**

Chair Greg Ernst  
Comm. William Settoon  
Comm. Stanley Brien

**FURTHERMORE PRESENT**

Comm. Thomas Fierke

**ABSENT**

Vice Chair Darrel Saizan

**STAFF:**

Cornelia Ullmann – Chief Operating Officer  
Sharon Martiny - Non-Flood  
Capt. Craig Boudreaux – OLD Police  
Chuck Dixon – Marina Director

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Stanton Murray- Murray Yacht Sales  
Lynn Long – Lake Vista Property Owners Association  
Tom Long – Crime Prevention District  
Mike James  
John Kreher

**OPENING COMMENTS**

Chair Ernst advised that the water by Shelter No. 1 has made the roadway impassable. This will help illustrate the challenges the Authority faces maintaining green space and the improvements on Lakeshore Dr. Debris left after the storms clogs the drains between West End and the Mardi Gras Fountain.

**ADOPT AGENDA**

Comm. Settoon offered a motion to adopt the Agenda, seconded by Comm. Brien and unanimously adopted.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

February 5, 2015 Recreation/Subdivision Comm. Meeting minutes are deferred.

**REPORT ON CURRENT RECREATION/SUBDIVISION ISSUES**

The COO advised that \$1,000-\$2,000 from parking agreements is used for tree maintenance. Trees were cut behind Rail St., around St. Pius, in the parking circle along with one or two residences. Generally Roger Mattai of A Perfect Cut comes in with the best price and has the required insurance.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1) Discussion regarding Shelter 1 parking lot**

The Marina Director advised that the doors at Shelter No. 1 are rusting and the hasps are popping. Quote to replace the doors were received, but they are pricey. Iron gates were previously used for security purposes and may be used once again. Chair Ernst noted that it is worth consideration if hasps are being repaired every week. Restrooms are not operational at this time due to lack of water. The work is almost complete on all of the utility crossings. The COO advised that backflow preventers to restore water service are needed and are required by the S&WB. Prices range from a high of \$35,000 (price in a Boh Brothers for this project) to \$17,000 (price for similar backflow preventer that is included in the Shelter 3 replacement project). The electricity has been crossed over to the protected side of the levee and all of the vaults are energized.

### **John Kreher, resident of Lakeshore Pkwy.**

Mr. Kreher stated that he lives directly behind Shelter No. 1, and there is a tremendous problem with teenagers on Sundays from Shelter No. 1 to Landry's. The problem is escalating every weekend with the large crowds and lack of police protection. Having Lakeshore Dr. closed in one direction as it previously was would restrict the amount of traffic. Chair Ernst noted that the Authority is attempting to improve the situation on Lakeshore Dr. short of closing the lanes. There was an extensive debate last spring about that issue and the Board made the decision to reopen Lakeshore Dr. in both directions.

Chair Ernst addressed the two way traffic and noted that traffic was closed off between Marconi and West End and that policy changed. There is a reluctance to consider that issue without recommendation from Levee District Police because this issue was debated at great length last year. Capt. Boudreaux stated that closing off traffic will not eliminate the amount of people coming to the Lakefront. It's prettier than it has ever been and Shelter No. 4 will soon be open. Enforcement is the mechanism that controls crowds. Making traffic one way starts after that parking lot, and that parking lot is still going to be in a two way area.

### **Mike James, resident of West Lakeshore**

Mr. James added that the primary problem is loud music from cars and people that use Shelter No. 1. A sign saying that loud music is prohibited placed at Shelter No would help. Another option is to barricade the parking lot at night. Police do respond to complaints regarding loud music. Chair Ernst suggested posting a City ordinance sign by Shelter No. 1 that states loud music is prohibited.

A discussion was had regarding opening the shelters as soon as water is restored. The COO advised that metal pass through doors may be used so any water going in could easily be mopped up. Pole lighting cannot be put back up behind Shelter No. 1 as the parking lot is up against the levee. A pole was placed by the shelter to provide more lighting to that area. OLDPD were requested to park one visible police car on top of the levee behind Shelter No. 1 to provide a visible deterrent. Capt. Boudreaux advised that three reserves come out each Sunday and East Jefferson Levee District sends three police to assist. The parking lot by across from Landry's is two way traffic, and traffic blocks up easily. If traffic in the parking lot was marked one way it would alleviate people going back and forth. Signs could be erected and arrows could be painted in the street. Anyone proceeding in the wrong direction would be ticketed. A police car will continue to be placed on top of the levee each weekend as a deterrent. Chair Ernst requested staff obtain quotes on port-o-lets, and requested that item be included in the budget.

Capt. Boudreaux advised that if speed bumps were placed on Lakeshore Dr. the speed limit would have to be lowered to 15 mph. The speed limit is currently 25 mph. If someone hits a speed bump at 25 mph it will tear the car up. Speed cameras located around the bend by Landry's would be a good idea, but would take manpower hours. Every ticket must be reviewed and signed by a police officer before it can be mailed. NOPD and OLDPD jurisdiction overlap. With the Levee District's permission, NOPD can position officers anywhere and run radar, but NOPD will take in half of the money

from those tickets. Chair Ernst requested that the speed camera issue be placed on the April Recreation Agenda so interested parties can comment. The issue is safety.

The COO discussed fully operational restrooms that come on a trailer with steps and railings all the way up. The trailers are safe and cost approximately \$12,000, but need to be maintained. If the trailers are rented, they provide cleaning services. The trailers can be rented during the weekend and port-o-lets used during the week. The trailers have six restrooms and can be hosed out. A maintenance supervisor was added to the budget to follow-up on these issues. The Authority also has access to Westaff employees and \$100,000 was added to the budget for manpower. Until we get water to the shelters, the port-o-lets are the best option.

**2) Discussion regarding application for La. DOTD grant application for New Basin Canal Bicycle Path, Phase V. Deadline for resolution: 3/31/15. Total grant \$694,000. NFPAMA is to be the sponsoring entity. Required local match of 20%; for design engineering, construction administration and testing, managing and maintaining project; and for any legal liability incurred as a result of the project. Lakeview Civic Association to provide 20% matching funds of \$138,000.**

The COO advised that the grant requires a Resolution from the Authority since it is Non-Flood property. This grant requires a 20% match. Funds have been raised for the New Basin Canal Park and the Lakeview Civic Association is ready to go forward. A resolution is required by March 31, 2015. Lakeview Civil Association has offered to be responsible for the engineering, construction and maintenance plus the 20%. The original resolution for this project was approved in 2012 and the grant was just awarded in 2015. All DOTD rules must be followed and the COO must attend a mandatory three day seminar for grant requirements. Comm. Settoon clarified that the Authority's only involvement in the New Basin Canal Bicycle Path is that the Authority is the land owner of the New Basin Canal land.

Comm. Settoon offered a motion to participate with Lakeview Civic Association on this project, seconded by Comm. Brien and unanimously adopted.

**3) Discussion regarding application for La. DOTD grant application for Lakeshore Dr. Recreational/Operational Improvements. Deadline for resolution: 3/31/15. Total grant \$279,000. NFPAMA is the sponsoring entity and required local match of 20%; for design engineering, construction administration and testing, managing and maintaining project; and for any legal liability incurred as a result of the project. NFPAMA Match \$55,800.**

The COO advised that this grant is for striping and roadway maintenance. The Authority's match is \$55,800 plus engineering, design fees and maintenance. The Authority can pass on the grant or participate. As long as the Authority does not take the first federal dollar, it can withdraw from the grant program. If the project is turned down, DOTD will take that into consideration in future decisions. Chair Ernst recommended this project to the full Board.

**4) Discussion regarding application for La. DOTD grant application for Lake Vista Sidewalk/Multi-Use Path Repairs. Deadline for resolution: 3/31/15. Total grant \$400,000. NFPAMA is to be the sponsoring entity. Required local match of 20%; for design engineering, construction administration and testing, managing and maintaining project; and for any legal liability incurred as a result of the project. Local match \$80,000, subject to partnering with Lake Vista Property Owners Association or other entity.**

The COO advised that this project addresses concerns for the cracked sidewalks in Lake Vista. The 20% match is about \$80,000 which is not in the current budget. The Authority would have to explore a local match. The same precautionary language can be used in the resolution and the Authority could move this forward to meet the March 31, 2015 deadline. Comm. Settoon would recommend moving this forward and if the assurances became too onerous the Authority could. There are a number of specific questions that need answers in print before this moves forward. This project involves

widening the sidewalks by one foot and if the one foot is on the house side it will be a major issue.

Lynn Long, Lake Vista Property Owners Association, advised that residents want to see the sidewalks repaired, but LVPOA cannot commit funding. This is a large amount for 700 households to contribute. Tom Long of the Crime Prevention District noted that breakage in the lanes is due to oak tree roots that have grown underneath sidewalks over the last 75 years. The Authority must also consider the damage to the trees. The sidewalks are 75 years old and need to be replaced. Residents are responsible for the sidewalks and the Authority is responsible for the parks. A legal description may be required to define where the park begins and the lane ends.

The COO advised that realistically, it would be two years before the project would start. Chair Ernst noted that the Authority may have enough revenue in two years to prioritize areas that most need repair, but \$80,000 is prohibitive for the Authority at this point.

#### **5) Discussion of the Lakefront/Park & Parkways FY 2016 proposed budget**

The COO advised that grass cutting is the majority of this budget. Ms. Wagener added that electricity is also a big expense due to the utility crossover project being almost complete and that water and electric will need to be paid for. The Flood Authority previously paid for the electricity, but this Authority is now responsible for everything on the dry side of Lakeshore Dr. Approximately \$100,000 was previously budgeted for electricity, but this amount should be reevaluated. An Entergy grant has been identified, and if the Authority changes to LED lights and purchases those lights from Entergy's provider, Entergy reimburses \$278 for each \$500 LED bulb. LED lights are expected to last years longer. The Authority would put up \$500 for each of the 1,700 lights. Chair Ernst suggested revisiting that issue in 2017.

Chair Ernst addressed the \$100,000 budget for Maintenance and requested a sub category dedicated to the port-o-let issue. Currently, there are no shelters in operation for public use. Mrs. Wagener advised \$10,000 is budgeted for port-o-lets for Lakeshore Dr. An additional \$10,000 is budgeted for Rentals, which could be anything from port-o-lets to equipment. The Authority currently pays for port-o-lets on Lakeshore Dr., which the vendor maintains twice a week. Chair Ernst suggested the number of port-o-lets be increased from the spring to the fall. If Shelters are not open the Authority must make provisions to alleviate complaints from residents regarding lack of restroom facilities. Chair Ernst suggested the \$10,000 budget for port-o-lets be slightly increased.

Grass cutting is contracted with Rotolo and the COO increased the number of cuts for next year. The COO recommends 24 cuts for South Shore Harbor and Orleans Marina and 19 cuts for Lakeshore Dr. More cuts can be budgeted when the Authority receives the tax millage. The Corps will do levee armoring, which starts at Shelter 1 and goes all the way down Lakeshore Dr. The Corps will cut, put down mesh, re-sod and then maintain the levee for approximately six months. In areas the District owns the Corps will go out 15 feet, which reduces the portion the Authority has to cut. The COO will begin discussions with the Flood Authority to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Non-Flood Authority to cut certain parts 15 feet from the levee out. This would be a long-term arrangement during the time of the levee armoring. Mr. von Kurnatowski's attorney is reviewing the Location Agreement and should have the timeline on the long term lease which includes cutting some of South Shore Harbor's grass.

Mr. Dixon advised that the grass at Orleans Marina is from the Promenade to the parking lot with one additional small strip. Grass by the boathouses and Pennick Dock must be trimmed and weeded. South Shore Harbor has a small area to be cut and the North Peninsula usually has four cuts per year, but has not been cut because dirt has been placed in that area. Neutral grounds at South Shore Harbor are cut by Westaff employees.

**6) Information from Strategic Partnering Meeting held with SLFPA-E 2/27/15**

The COO advised that the Corps is taking the lead on events for the 10 year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. Most Katrina video shot from around the world will take place in April. The biggest photo op is at the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal. Media is more concerned with Orleans Levee District, SLFPA-E and East Jefferson Levee District and has not requested use of any Non-Flood Authority property. There is expected to be more focus on construction, including the temporary pumping stations and the permanent pumping stations.

Tom Long advised that the Katrina 10 media centers are presently set up. The Convention and Visitors Bureau of New Orleans Tourism and Marketing Corp. is trying to organize media coverage. Media is currently doing film, reporting and news gathering in the spring for replay and publication at the end of August. More critical investigative work may come during the summer closer to the anniversary. The old levee board in effect on August 29, 2005 is expected to be a subject by the media.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING**

Chair Ernst announced that the next Recreation/Subdivision meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 2, 2015 at 2:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Comm. Brien offered a motion to adjourn, seconded by Comm. Settoon and unanimously adopted. The meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.