

*New Orleans Municipal Yacht Harbor Management Corporation*

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**May 12, 2015**

**6:30 p.m.**

**Lake Vista Community Center, 6500 Spanish Fort Blvd, New Orleans, Louisiana**

The meeting was called to order at 6:32pm and requested a roll call by Reginald Smith.

**Board of Directors Present:**

Ashlyn Graves  
Howard Rodgers  
Reginald Smith  
Thomas Forbes  
Warner Tureaud  
Connie Uddo  
Shannon Sims

**Board of Directors Absent:**

Alva See  
David Halpern

**A quorum was present.**

There were no amendments to the agenda.

The agenda was approved and adopted on a motion by Shannon Sims, seconded by Howard Rodgers and the motion was unanimously carried.

On a motion by Shannon Sims, seconded by Ric Smith, and unanimously carried, the amended minutes from the regular meeting of April 14, 2015 were approved.

**Action Items:**

1. Mr. Casey said that at the last meeting the Board had a discussion about the American Heart Association wanting to install some distance signage along the perimeter sidewalk in West End Park at their expense. MYHMC would agree to pay for the maintenance of the signs which are estimated to cost about \$80 each. Four signs will be installed marking the starting point, a quarter mile, a half mile, and the three quarter mile point toward the end of the path. The general consensus at the April Board Meeting was that although the signage would be a positive addition, the Board wanted to know how many signs would be installed along with the anticipated maintenance cost. The American Heart Assn. is working with Parks and Parkways to install distance signage in various parks throughout the City. The signs are approximately 12" X 18" and they are mounted on a painted post.

On a motion by Ric Smith, seconded by Connie Uddo, and unanimously carried, the resolution "Authorizing the American Heart Association to install distance signage in West End Park" was approved.

2. Mr. Tureaud said that the next item is something that he, Mr. Casey, and the City's Law Department have discussed. The City's Office of Homeland Security is planning to conduct a training exercise with City employees at the Breakwater Dr. Boat Launch. They will not be launching boats but they are planning a simulated rescue operation as if someone was trapped in a vehicle (a sanitized shell). The purpose of the exercise is to train NOPD, NOFD, and Homeland Security employees on the use of a new emergency air breathing kit. The Lease with the City requires MYHMC to hold the City harmless with respect to any litigation that may arise from the use of the City's Property in the West End Area. Mr. Casey was able to resolve this issue with the Law Department such that MYHMC will be given an exemption for this particular event as noted in paragraph three (3) of the Hold Harmless Agreement between the City and MYHMC which has been distributed to the Board and is attached as Exhibit "A" to the Resolution. The agreement has also been reviewed by Rebecca Dietz (Executive Counsel).

On a motion by Howard Rodgers, seconded by Ashlyn Graves, and unanimously carried, the resolution "Allowing the City of New Orleans Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness to use the Breakwater Drive Boat Launch for a training exercise" was approved.

**Information and Discussion Items:**

1. The 2014 Financial Audit was presented by Valerie Lowery and Kerney Craft of Wegmann Dazet & Co. In the presentation, Valerie Lowery mentioned that in 2014 there was a slight increase in operating expenses and net assets decreased by approximately \$56,000 from 2013. It was confirmed that boathouse transfer fees were accounted for in the 2014 Audit. The Board was asked to review the report prior to the June Meeting.
2. Jay Proskovec of PCCP Constructors provided a presentation concerning the status of the construction of the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal Pumping Station. In his presentation, Mr. Proskovec displayed several aerial photographs that were taken around May 1<sup>st</sup> showing that the concrete flood walls have been installed, the generators are in place, the steel fuel storage tanks have been delivered, and two major concrete pours for the pump intake foundations have been completed. During the next thirty days, work will continue on a 24/7 basis and will include a variety of items such as the delivery and installation of the precast concrete "simulated brick" pump station walls, the generator remote radiators, and the recirculation line from the Orleans Marina to the Canal/Lake side of the pump station. It is anticipated that construction will be completed by the beginning of the 2017 Hurricane Season such that the restaurant parking lot will be used by the contractor until that time. Upon completion of the facility, it will be turned over to the State's Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority and the Orleans Levee District who will contract with the S&WB to operate the pumping station. A member of the audience asked Mr. Proskovec if PCCP would be repairing the "Dip" on West Roadway Dr., and he replied that the road was a City street and that it was not included in PCCP's contract. He did mention that PCCP was working with the Department of Public Works to repair several potholes on the street once the heavy construction traffic is completed.
3. Boathouse Leases and Supplemental Lease Agreements were discussed by Mr. Casey. The new owners of boathouse #115 on North Roadway Drive are proceeding with construction plans and they have expressed an interest in obtaining the extended lease. In a recent conversation with Rebecca Dietz (Executive Counsel), the ordinance allowing the extension of the three (3) boathouse leases that expire in 2019 is in the process of being drafted.
4. The FEMA Update was presented by Mr. Tureaud who addressed the recent WVUE news story concerning the Harbor and the status of the resolution of the FEMA Claim. Mr. Tureaud stated that MYHMC is continuing to work with the Law Department to eliminate boats that are squatters in the Harbor. It was noted that in the news story, Deputy Mayor Cedric Grant was quoted that the City is close to an agreement with FEMA. He is hopeful that the City will be able to release the terms of a proposed \$20 million settlement with FEMA in the next several weeks.
5. The Financial Report for April was presented by Ric Smith. MYHMC has total assets at the end of April of \$3,500,000 of which \$3,481,000 were current assets and the bulk of that was in cash totaling \$3,418,000 which is on deposit at Capital One Bank in various interest earning checking accounts backed by securities that protect MYHMC's funds. On the liability side, MYHMC has total liabilities of \$945,000 consisting of the NOAA bonds with \$505,000 in principal and current liabilities of \$440,000 of which \$184,000 is accrued interest on the NOAA bonds. That leaves MYHMC with fund balance of

\$2,553,000 of which \$1,459,000 is unrestricted and the remainder is restricted. For the month of April, MYHMC had total income of \$53,000, total operating expenses of \$55,500 which resulted in an operating loss of (\$2,400). Other net expense, which is the monthly accrual of interest expense, totaled (\$3,000) which resulted in a net loss of (\$6,000) for the month. For the year-to-date, total income was \$233,000 with operating expenses of \$221,000 which resulted in ordinary income of \$12,000. Total other expense amounted to (\$13,000) yielding a net loss for the year-to-date of (\$1,400).

6. The Economic Redevelopment Committee Report was presented by Mr. Rodgers. The Committee is in the process of coordinating a meeting with Rebecca Dietz and Deputy Mayor, Emily Arata to discuss the various issues associated with the redevelopment of the restaurant parking lot.
7. Mr. Casey presented the Executive Director's Report. There were three topics: 1.) The Personal Financial Disclosure Statement for 2014 required of the Board Members is due on May 15, 2015; 2.) On Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, Community Sailing is co-sponsoring a Soldier Ride with the Wounded Warrior Project. MYHMC will assist by sending a notice out to the email list of boathouse owners and slip tenants to come out to West End Park to cheer for the warriors at the end of the bike race; and 3.) A Boating Safety event sponsored by the Power Squadron and the Coast Guard will be held at the old lighthouse from 11AM to 2PM on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Other Comments and Issues from the Public:**

There was a question by Ricardo Gutierrez asking who can be contacted to help get the harbor put back together. Mr. Tureaud explained that the City's FEMA Claim is subordinate to the State, and hopefully they are just a matter of weeks away from resolving the settlement of the FEMA Claim. It is important to note that MYHMC does not control FEMA and the settlement process.

John Loe stated that he has submitted a public records request to get information pertaining to communications between the Mayor's Office and FEMA. He asked what was the purpose of the feasibility study? Mr. Tureaud replied that FEMA has a number of questions relating to the proper slip mix for the renovated facility and that the City has to play by FEMA's rules and regulations since they are providing the funding.

Corky Potts stated that he believes that the Board had done a great job in dealing with various issues.

A question was asked with respect to the status of the repairs to the Breakwater Drive Boat Launch. Mr. Casey answered that MYHMC has received the final agreement from the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Division of Administration with respect to the 75% grant to repair the facility.

**Adjournment:**

New Orleans Municipal Yacht Harbor Management Corporation  
Regular Board Meeting of May 12, 2015

On a motion by Howard Rodgers and seconded by Ric Smith, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:40pm.

**Date and Time of next meeting:**

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the Lake Vista Community Center.