

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2015 AT 6:30 P. M.**

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**LOCATION: NORBP Boardroom  
13801 Old Gentilly Road  
New Orleans LA 70129  
Commissioner K. Lavon Burbank, Chairperson**

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call:

Absent	Present	Commissioners
	X	K. Lavon Burbank, Chairperson
		Vice-Chairperson
	X	Barbara Hornsby, Secretary/Treasurer
		Parliamentarian/Sergeant-At-Arms
	X	Dwight A. Barnes
	X	Wesley Bayas, III
X		Jessie Conerly
	X	Robby W. Knecht
X		Ann Duplessis
	X	Dwight Jarrett ( <i>entered at 6:38 pm</i> )
	X	Willie Jefferson
	X	Lawliss Turner
		Quorum: Start of Meeting Yes <u> X </u> No <u> </u>
Time: 6:30pm		Quorum: After Meeting Start Yes <u> X </u> No <u> </u>

**Staff Present: Keith A. Thomas  
Ayanna C. Fultz**

Guest(s) Present:  Yes  No  
FEMA Rep, Starlight Rep

**Public:**

**III. Review and Approval of the NORBP Full Board Agenda (2 Mins)**

- Motion to approve NORBP Full Board Agenda
  - Moved by: Commissioner Barnes
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Commissioner Jefferson

**IV. Review and Approval of the NORBP Regular Full Board Minutes (2 Mins)**

- Tabled until next meeting

**V. Chairperson's Comments (1 Mins)**

**VI. Park Administration Report (0 Mins)**

- No Report

**A. ACTION ITEMS (30 Mins)**

1. Board Appointment of Wesley Bayas (Chamber), Lawliss Turner (Port)
    - It was *motioned by Commissioner Barnes* and 2<sup>nd</sup> *by Commissioner Jefferson* that both Mr. Bayas and Mr. Turner be appointed to the NORBP's Board of Commissioners
  2. Office Manager Compensation Increase
    - It was *motioned by Commissioner Hornsby* and 2<sup>nd</sup> *by Commissioner Knecht* that the Office Manager's hourly rate increase from \$11.50 to \$18.00 based on Ms. Fultz's level of education and professional experience.
  3. Starlight Enterprise Center Lease Approval
    - Starlight Representative speaks on their business plans involving the NORBP's Enterprise Center.
    - Discussion amongst Commissioner ensues:
      - Pro: Income for the Enterprise Center
      - Con: Can they secure adequate financing? In talks with company since 2013.
    - Motion: To lease approximately 30,000 square feet of office space to Starlight at \$6/ sq ft for 2 years with designation of space to be determined, not to include utilities, and with negotiations regarding renewal to occur near/after the conclusion of the 2 year period.
      - For:7; Against: 1, ***Motion Carries***
  4. NORBP Website Release with Chamber of Commerce Event Date/Time (<http://www.thespearsgroup.com/norbp>)
    - Office Manager mentioned that she is attempting to secure a venue for the launch. She also spoke of the different businesses and organizations that would be invited to attend the event.
    - Commissioner Burbank that at least 50% of businesses in park will be invited to web launch event.
- There was a motion to move action item #6 to #5. After short discussion it was *motioned by Commissioner Jarrett* and 2<sup>nd</sup> *by Commissioner Barnes* that action items 5,6, and 7 be tabled to the Regular Board Meeting.

5. 2015 Park Programming - City Fund(s) Application Next Steps
6. BIZ New Orleans Advertising
7. Legislative Partnership Funding Request (2015 – 2020 Strategic Planning Funding)

**Budget**

<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2011</b>
\$135,000	\$384,679	\$320,910	\$563,684
\$199,350 (Potential)			

**Programming Budget**

	<b>Corridor Maintenance (Partner - City Dept. of Sanitation)</b>
\$Not Funded	\$15,000
	<b>Park Marketing (Partnership Needed)</b>
\$Not Funded	\$30,000
	<b>Enterprise Center Operations (Partnership Needed)</b>
\$149,433	\$281,208

Supplemental Funding Discussion for Organizational Operations

1. \$3,000,000 Park Streetscape Enhance/Maintain (3 Yr.) – Grass Cutting, Debris Removal, Signage, Landscaping
2. \$650,000 Enterprise Center Operations (2.5 Yr.) – Reinforce Business Relocation/Expansion/Start-up/Incubator Partnerships
3. \$200,000 Inter-Agency Staff (2 Yrs.) - Hire an Executive Director that reports to NORBP and NOBA or GNO, Inc. This candidate would guide: Partnership Development, Strategic Planning Process, and Enterprise Center/Park Marketing

**VII. New Business (2 Mins)**

**VIII. Old Business (2 Mins)**

- Mr. Morris representing FEMA updated Commissioners on status of FEMA claims. Ms. Diaz was identified as the designated authority authorized to sign all paperwork regarding NORBP claim.

**IX. Public Comments**

- No comments.

**X. Adjournment (1 Min)**

- It was *motioned by Commissioner Knecht* and *2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Jarrett* that the NORBP Special Board meeting be adjourned at 7:53 p.m.
- Commissioners agreed that a Sub-Committee would be formed consisting of Commissioners Barnes, Hornsby, Jefferson, Jarrett, and Burbank in an effort to tackle the millage.