

**RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION  
FOR THE PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE**  
**Regular Meeting – 5:00 p.m.**  
**BREC Administration Building**  
**6201 Florida Boulevard**  
**Baton Rouge, Louisiana**  
Commission Minutes  
January 25, 2024

**Call to Order**

A regular meeting of the Recreation and Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge (BREC) was held at BREC's Administrative Offices on January 25, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. by Chairman Kenneth Pointer. Commissioner Dwayne Rogers offered the invocation. Commissioner Rossie Washington, Jr. led the pledge of allegiance. Roll was taken and a quorum of Commissioners was present including Kenneth Pointer, Chair; Donna Collins Lewis, Vice Chair; Dwayne Rogers, Treasurer; Clarice Gordon; Trina Hall; Collis Temple, Jr.; and Rossie Washington, Jr. Commissioners Jason Hughes and Nathan Rust were absent. Staff members present were Corey K. Wilson, Superintendent; Brandon Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Recreation; Andrea Roberts, Chief Operating Officer; Angela Harms; Darlene Jarvis; Steven Knight; RaHarold Lawson; Cheryl Michelet; Mike Johnson; Katrina Coots-Ward; Rhonda Williams; and Chris Marchiafava. Murphy Foster, legal counsel; Dee Blake, Executive Director of Baton Rouge Zoo Foundation; and Carl Stages, Executive Director of BREC Foundation, were also in attendance. The rest of the audience consisted of other BREC staff, and the public.

**Public Comment**

The Chairman announced that public comment would be allowed prior to a vote being taken on any agenda action item and explained the process to be observed.

**Adoption of Minutes**

Chairman Pointer read the following resolution:

Resolved, That the reading of the minutes of the Recreation and Park Commission Meetings of December 20, 2023 be dispensed with, and that they be approved as written.

Mr. Pointer recognized Mr. Rogers who stated that he would like to make a correction to the minutes regarding his resolution for deferring the compensation study from the previous meeting. Mr. Rogers stated that making it retroactive to January was not meant as part of his resolution. Ms. Marchiafava stated that she would make the correction and would bring the minutes back in February for approval also.

Chairman Pointer read the following resolution:

Resolved, That the reading of the minutes of the Recreation and Park Commission Meetings of December 20, 2023 be dispensed with, and that they be approved as amended.

Motion to approve by Ms. Hall

Second by Mr. Rogers

Unanimously approved

**Consent Calendar**

Resolved, That the Recreation and Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge does hereby approve the Consent Calendar items.

Motion by Mr. Washington

Second by Mr. Temple  
Unanimously approved

The following item was approved as part of the Consent Calendar:

**Acceptance of Recommendations from the Human Resources Advisory Committee**

Resolved, That the Commission approve the Routine Personnel Transactions from December 7, 2023 to January 11, 2023.

**Presentations**

Chairman Pointer recognized Superintendent Wilson who invited the representatives of the Baton Rouge State Fair Foundation to the podium for a presentation. Cliff Barton, Chairman of the Greater Baton Rouge State Fair Board, introduced Stan Prutz who is the President of the Baton Rouge State Fair Foundation Board. Mr. Prutz thanked BREC for the 40-year partnership that has enabled the foundation to distribute almost five million dollars to BREC and dozens of charities throughout the community. Mr. Barton gave a brief history of the fair and working with BREC over the years. He offered thanks to the BREC staff members who helped prepare the fairgrounds this year. Mr. Barton then presented the Superintendent with a check for \$8,373.87 in revenue sharing and requested it be used for the summer camp program.

The Commission viewed a brief video highlighting various upcoming events throughout the parish during the month of February.

**Reports of Officers and Standing Committees**

Chairman Pointer recognized Superintendent Wilson to provide the Superintendent's report. Superintendent Wilson stated that there were a couple of items under Administrative Matters. He then read the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Commission authorize the Superintendent, to execute all documents necessary for the settlement of Alexis Thomas' general liability claim in the amount of \$37,000, as recommended by legal counsel.

Motion by Mr. Rogers  
Second by Mr. Washington  
Unanimously approved

Mr. Washington made a motion to approve the following resolution from Hancock Whitney Bank and authorize the signatures of the officers, Chairman Kenneth M. Pointer, Treasurer Dwayne E. Rogers, and Superintendent Corey K. Wilson:

**RESOLUTION OF A STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATING UNDER  
AUTHORITY OF A BOARD, COUNCIL, OR OTHER TYPE GOVERNING BODY**

Hancock Whitney Bank

Name: BREC  
Address: 6201 FLORIDA BLVD  
City, State and ZIP: BATON ROUGE, LA 70806

A. We, the undersigned, certify that: we are the Chairman and Secretary/Clerk of the above-named State or Local Government (hereinafter referred to as the "Governing Authority") duly created, organized, and operating under the Constitution and Laws of the State of LOUISIANA, Federal Employer ID Number 72 - \* \* \* \* \* and; that the following is a true, correct, and certified copy of a resolution adopted at a meeting of the Governing Authority, properly called and duly held on January 25, 2024 and; that this resolution has been properly entered into the minutes of the Governing Authority, having not been modified or rescinded.

B. To be resolved that:

- (1) The Financial Institution named above is designated as a depository for the funds of the Governing Authority and has complied with all laws governing its authority to open and operate a bank account.
- (2) This resolution shall continue to have effect until express written notice of its recession or modification has been received and recorded by this Financial Institution.
- (3) All transactions, if any, with respect to any deposits or withdrawals by or on behalf of this Governing Authority with this Financial Institution prior to the adoption of this resolution are hereby ratified, approved and confirmed.
- (4) Any of the persons named below, so long as they act in a representative capacity as agents of the Governing Authority, are authorized to make any and all other contracts, agreements, stipulations and orders which they may deem advisable to open an Account(s) with the Financial Institution and for the effective exercise of powers over said account(s) to transact business concerning funds deposited in, moneys borrowed from, or any other business transacted by and between this Governing Authority and said Financial Institution and; endorse checks and orders for the payment of money and withdrawal of funds on deposit with this Financial Institution, subject to any restriction(s) stated below. The Governing Authority agrees to, shall be bound by, and otherwise liable for, the terms and conditions of all such contracts, agreements, stipulations and orders. It shall be the responsibility of the Governing Authority to provide written notice to this Financial Institution should the authority if any of the agents it has so authorized to transact business on its behalf have been terminated, allowing the Financial Institution reasonable opportunity to act. This Financial Institution shall incur no liability for acting in good faith upon the representations of said agents until such notice is properly given.
- (5) Any and all prior resolutions adopted by this Governing Authority and certified to this Financial Institution as governing the operation of the Governing Authority's account(s), are in full force and effect, unless supplemented or modified by this authorization.
- (6) The Governing Authority hereby agrees to the terms and conditions of the Hancock Whitney Bank Deposit Agreement in relation to any account having been properly opened by any authorized representative of the Governing Authority and authorizes the Financial Institution to, at any time, to charge the Governing Authority for all checks, drafts, or other orders for the payment of moneys that are drawn on the Financial Institution.
- (7) I hereby confer the powers listed above to the person named, who is authorized to have full power and lawful authority to exercise the same:

C. I further certify that the Governing Authority has, and at the time of adoption of this resolution did have, full power and lawful authority to adopt the foregoing resolution(s) and to confer the powers granted to the person herein named;

Kenneth M. Pointer                      Chairman  
Corey K. Wilson                      Superintendent

Dwayne E. Rogers                      Treasurer

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name on the date set forth below.

Kenneth M Pointer	Chairman	Signature	Date
Dwayne E Rogers	Treasurer	Signature	Date
Corey K Wilson	Superintendent	Signature	Date

The motion was unanimously approved.

Under Communications, Superintendent Wilson reviewed the for 2023 activity report and stated that the year-to-date attendance was up by 32% over last year in part due to the new turf at Oak Villa and Central Sports Park. Having the new turf in place resulted in fewer games being cancelled. He stated that the attendance at the Zoo was up due to a very successful Zoolights display with over 20,000 attending. The Superintendent noted BREC / BREC Foundation received a \$1,200 donation from a new partner, Jersey Mike's, for the Send a Kid to Camp campaign. He told the Commission about ribbon cuttings at Cadillac Street Park and Church Street Park and several Community Advisory Committee events. The Superintendent congratulated Commissioner Trina Hall on being promoted to Assistant Chief Administrative Officer by the Mayor.

**Reports of Special Committees**

None

**Special Orders**

The Chairman stated that the next item was the election of officers. Mr. Pointer asked Mr. Rogers to conduct the election for Chair. Mr. Rogers opened nominations for Chair. Mr. Washington nominated Mr. Pointer for Chair and Mr. Temple seconded and moved to close nominations. Since there were no further nominations, Mr. Rogers declared Mr. Pointer elected as Chair of the Commission.

Mr. Pointer opened nominations for Vice Chair. Ms. Hall nominated Ms. Donna Collins Lewis for Vice Chair and Mr. Washington seconded. There being no further nominations, Mr. Pointer stated that Lewis was elected as Vice Chair.

Mr. Pointer opened nominations for Treasurer. Mr. Temple nominated Mr. Rogers, seconded by Ms. Hall. There being no further nominations, Mr. Pointer stated that Mr. Rogers was elected as Treasurer.

**Unfinished Business and General Orders**

Chairman Pointer stated that there was an item under Unfinished Business regarding the Compensation Study and read the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Commission approve BREC's 2022 – 2023 Compensation Study with Gallagher Benefit Services, as presented.

The Chairman stated that the resolution was a revision to the resolution on the agenda.

Mr. Temple made a motion to approve the revised resolution.

Mr. Washington seconded.

The resolution was unanimously approved.

**New Business**

Chairman Pointer stated that the item under New Business was the cooperative endeavor agreement with Front Yard Bikes. He then read the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Commission approve the amended and restated cooperative endeavor agreement with Front Yard Bikes, as presented.

Motion to approve by Mr. Temple

Second by Ms. Lewis

The Chairman then recognized Ms. Jennifer Carwile to speak on the item. Ms. Carwile spoke about the positive impact Front Yard Bikes is having on the community. Referencing the CEA, she stated that she would like to see Front Yard Bikes spend their money on programming and for BREC to spend their money on the building.

Chairman Pointer the recognized Dustin Lafont, Executive Director of Front Yard Bikes, who gave a brief history of Front Yard Bikes, the collaboration with BREC, and some details about how the program works to provide skills and opportunities to the young people in the community. After learning about their work, Mr. Rogers was totally comfortable moving forward.

The Superintendent thanked Mr. Lafont for the work he does with the youth. Mr. Temple also commended Mr. Lafont for his involvement in in the community.

The resolution was unanimously approved.

The Chair stated that there were no budget amendments at this time and asked for a motion to delete Item B. Approval of 2024 Budget Amendment from the agenda and consider it at a later date.

Mr. Washington made a motion to delete.

Mr. Temple seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

**Adjournment**

Ms. Lewis made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Washington seconded, and Chairman Pointer adjourned the meeting at 5:48 p.m. without objection.

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Corey K. Wilson, Superintendent  
and Ex-Officio Secretary

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Kenneth Pointer, Chairman