

Riverbanks Park Commission
Meeting Minutes
18 June 2020

Attendance Report

Commissioners Present (via Conference Call): Bud Tibshrary, Bob Davidson, Jan Stamps, Alana Williams, Phil Bartlett, Mike Velasco
Commissioners Absent: Mary Howard
Staff Present: Tommy Stringfellow, Christie Vondrak, Lochlan Wooten, Katie Eaton, Kathryn Masewicz

Call to Order

Chairman Tibshrary called the meeting to order.

Reading of the Minutes

The May 28, 2020 commission minutes were approved as distributed.

Bartlett motioned to approve the minutes, Velasco seconded, m/c unanimous.

Chairman's Remarks

Chairman Tibshrary reserved his remarks to the end of the meeting.

As this was his last meeting of his term as a Riverbanks Park Commissioner, Tibshrary remarked that it has been an immense honor to be associated with Riverbanks for the last 40 years. He is confident that he is leaving the chair position in good hands with incoming chair Bob Davidson. Tibshrary extends his best wishes for the future of Riverbanks. Commissioners and staff present shared their appreciation and kind words about Tibshrary's extensive service to Riverbanks.

President & Chief Executive Officer's Report

President and CEO Tommy Stringfellow provided the following report:

- Stringfellow reviewed the May financials. The park was closed to the public through May 22nd.
 - Membership- due to extension number appears inflated
 - Attendance- down 350,000
 - Operations revenue- down about \$3M in earned revenue due to closure
 - Fund balances- committed capital projects dollars are still frozen to ensure solvency over the coming months
- Next week June 23 general assembly back in session to determine where to allocate government funding for relief efforts. Riverbanks is requesting about \$5M of funding support.
- FY 20-21 Budget Review:
 - Projections based on attendance forecast for next year knowing will have to remain under a cap on daily attendance for foreseeable future
 - Both counties will be reducing their funding
 - Bartlett motion to approve the budget, Velasco second, m/c unanimous
Velasco shared his appreciation for the hard work that went into balancing the budget

- Lawsuit- slip and fall in WFJ. Did not accept the original offer. Hoping to settle out of court. Waiting for attorney selection

Chief Administrative Officer's Report:

CAO Christie Vondrak provided the following report:

- Since reopening on May 22 we have welcomed back 100 team members who were previously laid off. They had to participate in new safety and COVID policy trainings, but everyone has been enthusiastic and positive.
- We are experiencing staff who have been exposed to COVID but have not yet had any staff receive a positive COVID test themselves. We have protocols in place to keep staff safe and not return to work if exposed or experiencing symptoms

Chief Operating Officer's Report

COO Lochlan Wooten provided the following report:

- The first rhino has been delivered as of this week. She is doing well and adjusting to her new home at Riverbanks. The construction on the exhibit will continue while the rhinos will acclimate behind the scenes until the guest facing exhibit is complete (about 30 days).
- Since reopening we have welcomed about 70K guests (traditionally would be been about 100K). Numbers are lower due to daily capacity limits.
- Members versus paid ratio is about on par with normal
- Operations- will open kangaroo walkthrough and lorikeet aviary within the next two weeks
- Monday begins the first week of camp at a greatly reduced capacity and changes to procedures and policies to keep staff and campers safe
- Taking steps towards offering a high-risk guest visit time with mask requirement to allow for at risk supporters the opportunity to visit
- Membership is seeing a positive trend in renewals and purchases. The membership and communications teams are working very hard to maintain the volume of calls and interest

The meeting was adjourned.

Approved and adopted on the 16 day of July 2020.

Michael Velasco *Michael Velasco*, Secretary