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 June 23, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m. by Chairman Kenneth Pointer. Commissioner Sandra Davis 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; Sandra Davis, Vice Chair; Trina Hall; Jason Hughes; William Scheffy; Collis Temple, Jr.; and Rossie Washington, Jr. Commissioners Connie Bernard and Donna Collins Lewis were absent. Staff members present were Corey K. Wilson, Superintendent; Reed Richard, Assistant Superintendent of System Planning; Brandon Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Recreation; Aneatra Boykin, Chief Administrative Officer; Andrea Roberts, Chief Operating Officer; Tracy Fountain, Chief Financial Officer; Jim Fleshman; Angela Harms; Steven Knight; RaHarold Lawson; Cheryl Michelet; Mike Raby; Darlene Winfield; and Chris Marchiafava. Murphy Foster, legal counsel, was also in attendance. The rest of the audience consisted of other BREC staff and the public.

Public Comment
Chairman Pointer opened the floor for public comment on the agenda action items. He asked if there was anyone who would like to speak on any agenda action item. The Chairman recognized Richard Mahoney to speak. Mr. Mahoney expressed his opposition to an event BREC will be holding and stated his reasons.

After Mr. Mahoney left the podium, Commissioner Temple asked him to return to the podium to state his name and address. Mr. Mahoney complied with Commissioner Temple’s request.

The Chairman noted that the event Mr. Mahoney referenced was not on the agenda. The Chairman then asked if there was anyone else who would like to speak on any agenda action item. Hearing none, he closed the floor.

Adoption of Minutes
Resolved, That the reading of the minutes of the Recreation and Park Commission regular meeting of May 26, 2022 be dispensed with, and that they be approved as written.

Motion to approve by Mr. Washington
Second by Ms. Davis
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 to approve by Mr. Washington
Second by Mr. Temple
Unanimously approved

The following items were approved as part of the Consent Calendar:

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

Resolved, That the Commission approve the Routine Personnel Transactions from May 11, 2022 – June 8, 2022, as presented.

**Presentations**

Chairman Pointer recognized Superintendent Wilson who presented employee service awards to the following staff:

- **5 Years**
  - Clyde Anderson
  - Dominique Berry
  - Wallace Gourrier
  - Marcus Smith

- **10 Years**
  - Shannon Guidry

- **15 Years**
  - Carletta Jenkins

The Chairman recognized Reed Richard to provide the construction update. Mr. Richard stated that he wanted to take a moment to acknowledge another employee, Whitney Hoffman-Sayal. Mr. Richard stated that Ms. Hoffman-Sayal had set BREC’s trails and greenways division on the right course but would be leaving BREC to become the Downtown Development Director.

Mr. Richard returned to the construction update presentation referencing the first slide and explaining the information included on the slide for the BREC’s large construction projects. Mr. Scheffy noted that BREC’s two capital millages end in 2024. Mr. Scheffy wanted to know if BREC has money currently on hand and due to BREC in the future to complete these projects and the other upcoming projects. Mr. Richard stated that he believed BREC will have the funding necessary to complete the projects. Mr. Scheffy stated that he was not comfortable that the money was available because he hasn’t seen the numbers. There was additional discussion about funding for projects with staff tasked with setting up meetings with Mr. Scheffy and Mr. Temple to provide them more information.

The Commission viewed a brief video highlighting the Wine Walk at the Zoo and various events throughout the parish in the month of July.

**Reports of Officers and Standing Committees**

Mr. Pointer recognized Mr. Wilson for the Superintendent’s Report. Mr. Wilson stated that there were three Administrative Matters. He noted that BREC is required by law to name a journal of record every year in June. He then read the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Official Journal of Record for the Recreation and Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge will continue to be The Advocate; approve continuing the contract through June 30, 2023 to be used for the public posting of minutes, resolutions, budgets, and other official proceedings and announcements of said Commission as required by law for the current price of $0.33/agate line or less with the same terms and conditions.

*Motion to approve by Ms. Hall*
*Second by Mr. Hughes*
*Unanimously approved*
Mr. Wilson stated that BREC was asking all the mayors in the parish join the Commission in declaring the month of July as National Park and Recreation Month. He then read the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Commission approve designating July as NATIONAL PARK AND RECREATION MONTH in East Baton Rouge Parish and encourage all citizens to celebrate by taking part in their favorite sports, visiting the outdoors, or spending time and relaxing with family and friends.

Motion to approve by Ms. Hall
Second by Ms. Davis
Approved by unanimous consent

Mr. Wilson read the resolution for the next item as follows:

Resolved, That the Commission approve proclaiming July 10 – 16, 2022 as NATIONAL THERAPEUTIC RECREATION WEEK in East Baton Rouge Parish, and urge all citizens to support this observance, and to promote and enhance the quality of life for persons with physical, mental, emotional and/or social limitations.

Under Communications, Mr. Wilson noted that BREC was in the third week of summer camps. Alerts have been sent out to remind staff to be aware of the heat and take precautions to protect staff, patrons, and animals. He then reviewed the monthly activity report. He noted that the report did not include participants at Burbank (Soccer Complex) or Team Toyota (Team Automotive Group Sportsplex at Perkins Road Community Park). He stated that BREC was working with those partners to be able to capture that information in the future.

Mr. Wilson informed the Commission that the 75th anniversary celebration would be held July 16 and touched on some of the highlights and challenges of BREC’s history. He stated that the goal is to make BREC even better over the next 75 years and to commit to serve all patrons.

On behalf of himself and the Commission, Chairman Pointer congratulated Mr. Wilson for a being named as one the Capital Region’s 100 Most Influential Black Men by the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Black Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Wilson thanked the Chairman and stated that he was honored to be included mostly because Mr. Temple was on the list. Mr. Temple stated that it was the first list he had been on with Mr. Temple. Mr. Wilson stated that he appreciates the service Mr. Temple has provided and certainly looks up to him when talking about influential black men in this parish and this city.

Mr. Scheffy stated that he has a question for the Superintendent. Mr. Scheffy referenced the event that was spoken about in the public comment period. Mr. Scheffy asked to be provided with the policies and procedures regarding use of BREC facilities for events.

The Chairman recognized Ms. Hall for the Finance Committee items. Ms. Hall asked Tracy Fountain to give an overview of her Finance Department assessment. Ms. Fountain then reviewed the Contracts and Bids item which had previously been awarded to another bidder who withdrew their bid. Ms. Fountain stated that in the future language would be included in bid approvals which allows the bid to be awarded to the second lowest bidder if the lowest bidder withdraws. Ms. Fountain then read the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Commission approve awarding Sealed Bid #1817 – Annual Contract for Ready Mix Concrete to the next lowest responsible and responsive bidder, Quality Concrete for the items and unit prices as shown on the bid tabulation sheet. The contract period will be
June 25, 2022 through May 31, 2023, with two (2) renewable 12-month options under the same prices, terms, and conditions not to exceed 36 months.

Motion by Mr. Temple
Second by Mr. Scheffy
Unanimously approved

Mr. Scheffy confirmed with Ms. Fountain that the audit would be delayed again this year. Mr. Scheffy stated that the Commission bears the major responsibility for allowing the audit to be late. He stated that the Superintendent also shares the responsibility. He continued that Ms. Fountain was responsible too, though she has only been at BREC a short time. Mr. Scheffy stated that he would like to get a small group to get together to work with staff on the issue of completing the audit on time and putting the necessary resources in place to insure it continues to be submitted timely.

Mr. Temple stated that he knows that it will take time for Ms. Fountain to get completely familiar with BREC. He stated that Ms. Hall and Mr. Scheffy can be a great help to her. Ms. Fountain stated that she appreciates the support. She stated that Robert Half is currently helping with 2021 issues, but the plan is to have them assist with writing some processes and developing some routines so that there will not be delays with the 2022 audit.

The Chairman recognized Ms. Davis for the Human Resources committee report. Ms. Davis asked Darlene Winfield, Human Resources Director, to review the item for approval. Ms. Winfield explained that this item was to correct the language in one part of the BREC Substance Abuse and Drug-Free Workplace Policy revision approved in 2021. Mr. Scheffy clarified what language was being added. Ms. Winfield then read the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Commission approve the revisions to BREC Substance Abuse and Drug-Free Workplace Policy, as presented.

Motion by Mr. Scheffy
Second by Mr. Washington
Approved by unanimous consent

Special Orders

Mr. Pointer then took up the appointments to standing advisory committees as follows:
Sandra Davis
Jason Fountain / Zoo

Motion to approve by Mr. Washington
Second by Mr. Temple
Unanimously approved

Adjournment

Chairman Pointer moved to adjourn, Ms. Hall seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m. without objection.