

**City of Mandeville**  
**Special Events Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday, November 2, 2017 - 4:00 PM**  
**Mandeville City Hall Conference Room**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Guy Stacy at approximately 4:00 pm.

**Roll Call:**

Members present were: Guy Stacy, Jason Kaufmann, Asst. Police Chief Ron Ruple (MPD), Jay Crosby, Maria Radosta, and Secretary, Arnita Alexander. Chloe Henderson and Alia Casborne' were excused. Also present were Councilwoman Laure' Sica, Ms. Denise Gutnisky, applicant for the 2018 Mardi Paws Parade; Mr. John Lawrence, applicant for the Original Krewe of Orpheus' 2018 Mardi Gras Parade; and Ms. Christi Fair, applicant for the Krewe of Eve's 2018 Mardi Gras Parade .

**Minutes:**

Minutes of the October 3, 2017 meeting were reviewed. There were no additions or corrections. The Chairman asked for a motion to adopt the minutes. A motion was made with second by members of the committee to adopt the minutes as printed. The motion was carried and passed by unanimous vote.

**Old Business:**

1. Event: Mardi Paws Parade

Applicant: Scott's Wish and the Ian Somerhalder Foundation by Denise Gutnisky  
Date/Time: Sunday, February 18, 2018 / 12:30 – 4:30 pm (Rain Date: 2/25/2018)  
Location: Mandeville Lakefront

The Special Event application for the Mardi Paws Parade was recommended to the City Council for approval by the Committee at the October 3, 2017 meeting. It was placed on the November 16, 2017 Council agenda and was approved, with an exception by Councilwoman Laure' Sica. The exception was regarding safety concerns related to the parade route due to the width of Girod Street and its ability to accommodate the number of parade participants and the dogs. Ms. Sica suggested that the parade end at the Gazebo since that area was wider. She also was concerned about the end point of the parade due to crowding the previous year. Chairman Stacy explained that Capt. Miazza of the Mandeville Police Department was present at the previous meeting and these details were discussed at length. Asst. Chief Ruple reiterated that all of the Councilwoman's concerns had thoroughly been reviewed and that Ms. Gutnisky had been in discussions with Chief Sticker concerning these issues months prior to submitting her application. Asst. Chief Ruple further stated that the problems which

occurred last year were due to certain aspects of crowd control that were underestimated by the Police Department. He indicated that these issues have been recognized and will be rectified with a new plan of action going forward. Asst. Chief Ruple also explained that any matters concerning the public safety with events being held on city property are under the jurisdiction of the police department. The discussion was closed and the application was referred back to the City Council for final endorsement.

2. Event: Original Krewe of Orpheus 2018 Mardi Gras Parade

Mr. John Lawrence was present to represent the Original Krewe of Orpheus. A discussion was held regarding the financial condition and ridership of the Krewe. These matters were deemed satisfactory. In addition, because of the Krewe's Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the City, the Committee requested that Mr. Lawrence provide a copy of their Federal IRS Letter verifying their tax-exempt status to be included with their application. The chairman asked for a motion regarding this application. It was moved by Ron Ruple with second by Maria Radosta that the parade application be recommended to the City Council for approval, pending receipt of the IRS Tax-Exempt Letter prior to issuance of the parade permit. The motion was carried and passed by unanimous vote.

3. Event: Krewe of Eve 2018 Mardi Gras Parade

Ms. Kristi Fair was present to represent the Krewe of Eve. There was a brief discussion to confirm the logistics of the Krewe of Eve's 2018 Mardi Gras Parade. All concerns were addressed. However, a copy of the Krewe's Federal IRS Tax Exempt Letter is required to be included as part of their application in conjunction with their Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the City. Chairman Stacy asked for a motion regarding this application. It was moved by Ron Ruple with second by Jay Crosby that the application for the Parade be recommended to the City Council for approval, pending receipt of the IRS Tax-Exempt Letter prior to issuance of the parade permit. The motion was carried and was passed by unanimous vote.

Jay Crosby noted that the official map used by both Mardi Gras Krewes is outdated and needs to be updated. The Secretary agreed to see that the map is updated.

4. Event: NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Walks St. Tammany

There was no one present to represent this organization. However, this is a recurring event and a complete application was submitted. As such, Chairman Stacy asked for a motion regarding the application. It was moved by Ron Ruple with second by Maria Radosta to recommend the application to the City Council for approval with a waiver of the Lakefront Food & Drink Ordinance. The motion was carried and was passed by unanimous vote.

**Adjournment:**

There was no further business for discussion. Chairman Stacy asked for a motion for adjournment. It was moved by Jason Kaufmann with second by Maria Radosta that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was carried and passed by unanimous vote.

Arnita Alexander  
Recording Secretary