

Minutes
Chennault Aviation & Military Museum
State Governing Board Meeting
December 18, 2014

Members and Guests in Attendance

Jerry Hicks - Board President
Nell Calloway - Museum Director
Lee Estis - Chairman of *Endowment Board*
Terry Denman
Dr. Bob Webber
Alex George
Bo Shaw Jr. - Board Secretary

Invocation

Dr. Bob Webber

Pledge of Allegiance

Jerry Hicks

Reading of the previous meetings minutes

Bo Shaw Jr.

Director's Report

- 1) Nell reported that the *Museum's* new security system, which includes cameras, is up and running.
- 2) We have a new military airplane that will go on static display after its restoration. It is a Navy LTV A-7B Corsair II attack airplane. It was used during the Vietnam War and afterwards. It has been on display at an airport entrance in South Louisiana. Judge Harrison (a former Naval Aviator) was instrumental in the negotiations for us being able to procure the Corsair airplane. He worked with the Naval authorities to secure the aircraft for our *Museum*. Jerry Smith and crew did a great job of removing the aircraft from its South Louisiana location and transporting it to our *Museum*. It was a tremendous effort but went off with no damage to the plane or injury to the crew.
- 3) Nell shared her vision of a Chennault Institute that would someday be built on the lot that we have first rights of refusal to buy from Charlie Wilkes. This *Institute's* mission would be – among other things – to foster Chinese/American relations. Nell envisions teaching the English language to Chinese people and Chinese to Americans, also a sharing of our two cultures in an effort for us to live in peace with each other.
- 4) Lee Estes made a motion to support the *Friends*, and *Endowment Boards* in their quest to buy the land (2.9 acres) from Charlie Wilkes. This motion passed.
- 5) Nell reported that 2014 was a very good attendance year. The attendance number was bolstered by a great turn out during the *Veterans Day/Moving Vietnam Wall* week.
- 6) Nell recalled the most important events of 2014 which included the “Roast of former Louisiana Governor, Edwin Edwards”, “Run for the Red, White, and Blue”, “Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day” and many other great events.

- 7) The opening of the *Chennault Room* is running behind. There have been many delays but Nell and her staff will prevail.
- 8) Nell went to Houston several times in 2014 on fundraising and other events. She has established a working relationship with the new Consulate General of China there. He is over Louisiana and seven other states.

There being no other business, Jerry Hicks scheduled the next meeting for March 5th, 2015 at 4:00pm and then adjourned the meeting.