

Louisiana Naval War Memorial Commission  
Minutes of Commission Meeting  
November 18, 2021  
4:00 p.m.

**Members present:**

Robert Hawthorne  
Roderick Wells  
C.J. Krueger (By Phone)  
Joe Jenkins  
Richard Brandt  
Robert Schilling  
John Pugh  
Aaron Bayham  
H. Davis Cole

**Member absent:**

Larry Muenzler  
John Wells  
Jacob Perry  
Karen St. Cyr  
Jerald Juneau  
Earnest Buckner, LDVA Designee

**Others present:**

Rosehn Gipe  
Todd Maulding

**Call to order:** At 4:00 p.m. the meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Robert Hawthorne, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Joe Jenkins.

**Agenda:** The Chairman asked if there were any additions to the agenda. There were none.

**Determination of a Quorum:** Nine Commission members were present therefore there was a quorum.

**Minutes:** The minutes as well as seven other documents were emailed to all Commissioners prior to the meeting. There were no corrections or additions to the minutes or the other documents therefore, they were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's report:** Commissioner Muenzler was out of town and could not attend the meeting. Business Manager, Todd Maulding presented the treasurer's report. The utility bills have been much higher than normal. For that reason, we have asked the LSU School of Engineering to assist with troubleshooting the issue. Dr. Hayes will lead the group. They will be examining Kilowatt hours as opposed to usage. Our usage is 25% more than it should be. We are also in contact with a private firm to conduct an audit of the museum however there is no commitment at this time. The firm wants 10K to conduct the audit.

The work on the HVAC system Phase 2 has been completed; however, it is more than likely there will be a Phase 3 according to the Executive Director. Rosehn stated that financially all seems to be

going well and things were looking better each month. Overnights have been booked through next year. The City Grant has been approved for next year also. We need to get that 220k increased for the future of the KIDD/Museum. Inquiries will be done during the year to determine if that is possible.

The Louisiana Naval War Veterans Museum Foundation has scheduled the next "Roaring on the River III" event for March 24, 2022. The foundation has a list of 5 candidates to select from to receive the annual award at the banquet. The format is good and we will continue with it next year. Sponsorships and grants packages will be forthcoming in December. Chairman Hawthorne also pointed out the Exhibits committee at its meeting decided to allow the Foundation to determine whether or not to purchase the publishing rights to the book DD661.

The Chairman also brought up the 2022 Budget that all Commissioners received and emailed copy of prior to the meeting. There was discussions regarding hiring additional part-timers which is normal when the overnights increase as they are for next year. A motion to approve the budget was made by Commissioner John and seconded by Commissioner Richard Brandt. Motion passed.

**Nominating Committee:** Commissioner Joe Jenkins presented a slate of commissioners who will hold these positions next year if approved: Commissioner Hawthorne-Chairman, Commissioner Pugh-Vice Chairman, Commissioner Muenzler-Treasurer, Commissioner Bayham-Secretary, and Commissioner Cole-Member-at-Large for the Executive Committee. The floor was opened for nominees. There were none. Commissioner Richard Brandt made a motion to approve the slate and it was seconded by Commissioner Roderick Wells. Motion passed.

**Hull Restoration:** The Executive Director, Business Manager and Jim Johnson on very short notice, put together a 3.6 million dollar Capital Outlay Request for the KIDD Hull restoration. They did not have time to ask for permission from the Commission or the Foundation. As Commissioner Cole said "It's all an ask. And that's all you can do." So well done to our team of professionals. Now in addition to all of that you also need a required 25% funding match. Our Foundation member Henson Moore and Commission Chairman Robert Hawthorne will contact Secretary of Administration Jay Darden for a waiver letter.

The Executive Director's report began with updated and a revised Personnel Manual. Copies of the manual were emailed to all Commissioners prior to the meeting. Commissioner John Pugh provided helpful input and experience to the revision. There weren't any questions or comments regarding the revised manual. The Chairman called for a motion to approve the Personnel Manual. A motion was made by Commissioner Richard Brandt and seconded by Commissioner Davis Cole. Motion passed.

Rosehn and Tim attended the Historic Naval Ships Association meeting in Mobile, Alabama. Rosehn was elected to the Board of Directors for three years. Also, she met with Geoff Ibert of Phoenix International. His company specializes in underwater repairs and maintenance. Lance Thomas of Anode Solutions company can determine the KIDD's needs for cathodic protections. This has the potential to be a very productive conference. Finally, Tim and Rosehn attended the Louisiana Association of Museums conference where Tim is the current President. See the Executive Director and the Ship Superintendent/Educational Outreach Coordinator report for additional information.

There are plans in the works for Pearl Harbor Day December 7<sup>th</sup>. At 11:57am there will be some special events which will feature the Commanding Officer and two of his sailors from the present-day USS KIDD and the Admiral of the Eighth Coast Guard District. The Marine Corps Ensemble from Belle Chase has been confirmed.

**New Business:** Chairman Hawthorne recognized Commissioner Robert Shilling who announced that he was retiring and his time as a commissioner has been fulfilling and an honor. Bob informed the commission that the National Purple Heart Association National meeting will be held in Lafayette, Louisiana in 2022. He asked that each of us get a Purple Heart Challenge Coin from the KIDD store and he would pay for them. We wished him well.

Chairman Hawthorne has scheduled our 2022 meetings for April 28 and November 17 both at 4pm. Chairman stated that additional meetings can be scheduled if necessary.

**Adjournment:** The Chairman asked if anyone had further business for the Commission. There was none. Commissioner John Pugh made a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roderick A. Wells".

Roderick Wells  
Secretary