LOUISIANA NAVAL WAR MEMORIAL COMMISSION
Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting
USS KIDD Veterans Museum
305 S. River Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802
December 3, 2016
4:00 p.m.

Members present:

- Joe Jenkins
- Bob Hawthorne
- Kyle R. Kennedy
- Henson Moore
- Karen St. Cyr
- Hans Sternberg

Others present:

- David Beard, Executive Director
- Len Sedlin, Commissioner
- Tim NesSmith

Chairman Moore called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. The Chairman announced that all members are present so we have a quorum . Chairman Moore then asked for approval of the minutes of the prior meeting. The minutes of the September 8, 2016 meeting of the Executive Committee were approved without objection.

<u>Election of officers</u>. Joe Jenkins moved that we submit to the Commission for re-election the existing officers. The motion was duly seconded and after discussion was unanimously adopted.

Budget for 2017 and financial report. The Chairman handed out a proposed budget for 2017 and reviewed it in detail. The Committee asked questions and discussed various items during this process. Included in the budget are two new exhibits which could be deleted if funding cannot be obtained: 1) a WWI exhibit in April, and 2) a traveling Viet Nam exhibit which would be displayed from September through the end of the year. Commissioner Sternberg observed that the proposed budget seems conservative. The Chairman pointed out the actual expenditures and receipts so far this year are significantly below last year's budget. He also mentioned two projects which are not in the proposed budget but which he hopes to accomplish in 2017 if additional funding can be obtained: 1) renovation of the theatre, and 2) an introductory film by LPB. He also mentioned that we need to repay the \$10,000 outstanding loan balance under the Regions Bank line of credit if we are not able to do that this year. Commissioner St. Cyr stated that she may be able to help with fundraising from WBRZ. After discussion, the Committee agreed without objection to recommend to the Commission adoption of the proposed budget with changes suggested during the discussion.

<u>Veterans Advisory Council</u>. The Chairman summarized responses to a letter he sent out to various local veterans' organizations and suggested that we form a veterans advisory council which would meet periodically and explore ways we could better serve veterans and how they could help us. The Committee agreed without objection to submit this suggestion to the Commission.

<u>Key performance objectives</u>. The Chairman reviewed with the Committee his plan to meet with the Executive Director to work out performance objectives for the Executive Director for 2017 mutually agreeable to the Executive Director and to the Executive Committee.

Agenda for Commission meeting. The Chairman asked that Committee members please submit timely any items which should be on the agenda for the next Commission meeting.

<u>Chairman's report</u>. The Chairman reported that he met last week with Frank Simoneaux, the attorney representing the Commission in its suit to determine whether or not the Commission is subject to State civil service regulations. Mr. Simoneaux submitted a bill for approximately \$5,000 for services to date but agreed to reduce it after meeting with the Chairman. The Chairman recommended that the Committee authorize him to ask the Commission for approval to pay the invoice for the reduced amount and authorize Mr. Simoneaux to continue with the litigation provided he agrees that the total costs to the Commission for his fees and out of pocket expenses, deposition costs, as well as any court costs will not exceed the \$5,000 previously approved by the Commission plus another \$3,500 or a total of \$8,500. The Committee approved this recommendation without objection.

<u>Announcements</u>. The Chairman asked Tim NesSmith to bring the Committee up to date on his conversations with a movie producer concerning using interior spaces on the USS Kidd for scenes in a major movie. Tim reported that this project is in very early stages but that high-level representatives of the production company will be visiting the Kidd this Saturday.

<u>Public comments</u>. The Chairman asked if there were any other questions or comments from anyone. There were none, so the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,