LOUISIANA NAVAL WAR MEMORIAL COMMISSION
Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting
USS KIDD Veterans Museum
305 S. River Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802
September 8, 2016
4:00 p.m.

Members present:

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

Others present:

- Mark Tullos
- Rebecca Robert

Chairman Moore called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. The Chairman announced that a quorum of the committee was present. Chairman Moore then asked for approval of the minutes of the prior meeting. The minutes of the May 17, 2016 meetings of the Executive Committee were approved by unanimous consent.

Executive Director Search Committee Report: Bob Hawthorne reported that the Committee met on June 7, 2016 at which meeting all members were present and approved a "call" document for the position was sent shortly thereafter to veterans and military groups and to the museum community through mass communications channels. Seven resumes were received and distributed to the committee members by Mark Tullos. The Committee met on July 26, 2016 and prioritized the applicants. The top two were interviewed by telephone a few days later. Coincidentally, those two visited the Kidd Museum at separate times on Saturday, August 6, 2016, and toured the museum and the ship. The top rated candidate, David Beard, was invited to meet with the Committee in Baton Rouge on September 2, 2016. Over the course of approximately three hours, met with various members of the Committee including Bob Hawthorne, Henson Moore, Carol Gikas, Hans Sternberg, Kyle Kennedy, and Karen St. Cyr. Mark Tullos was also present. During the next few days, Bob Hawthorne elicited comments from each committee member present concerning David Beard. Based on a consensus from those comments Bob Hawthorne asked the Executive Committee for authority for the Search Committee to proceed with a vetting process on David Beard, including contacting references and others who might be able to provide pertinent information. If the result of that process seems favorable, Bob Hawthorne would like permission for the Search Committee to negotiate tentative contract arrangements with David Beard for presentation to the Commission. Kyle Kennedy moved that the permissions requested be granted. Joe Jenkins seconded. Considerable discussion followed with each Search Committee member present expressing his or her observations concerning David Beard. After the discussion ended, the Executive Committee unanimously approved the motion.

<u>Museum closure</u>. Mark Tullos reported he has made three separate requests for lost compensation because of the street closure in front of and leading to the Museum: Mayor's office, FEMA, and

CRT/DivAdm. Fortunately, the closure occurred during the time of year when attendance is lowest so the cash loss is only approximately \$15,000.

<u>Mark Tullos</u>. The Chairman pointed out that tomorrow is Mark's last day as Interim Executive Director and he thanked Mark for his leadership. Mark instituted a number of improvements in office procedures, in marketing, and in planning which will be beneficial for many years.

<u>Commission meeting</u>. The Chairman asked the Executive Committee members to submit any agenda items as soon as possible. It will be distributed by e-mail in the near future.

Maury Drummond remembrance. The Chairman announced that a donor has volunteered a sum to pay for a plaque in remembrance of Maury Drummond's contributions to the Museum. Joe Jenkins moved that a plaque be installed Bob Hawthorne suggested a display area in the Museum as an addition to or in lieu of a plaque because more detail could exhibited than in a plaque. The motion was seconded and unanimously adopted. The Chairman appointed Kyle Kennedy to head up this project.

<u>Fundraising</u>. Hans Sternberg observed that in the private sector it is common to incentivize professional fundraising personnel. The Executive Committee acknowledged that this would be helpful and should be considered within permitted legal parameters.

<u>Strategic considerations</u>. In response to various comments from those present, the Chairman listed some possible organizational changes which might considered in the future.

<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 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert A. Hawthorne, Jr, Secretary