**LOUISIANA NAVAL WAR MEMORIAL COMMISSION**

Minutes of Commission Meeting

March 15 2018

4:00 p.m.

Members present:

Richard Brandt

Robert Hawthorne

Joe Jenkins

Kyle Kennedy

Henson Moore

Robert Schilling

Leonard Sedlin

Hans Sternberg

Roderick Wells

Members absent:

Lane Drake

Franklin Foil

Homer Rodgers

C.J. Krueger

Karen St. Cyr

Michael Vicari

John Wells

Others present:

David Beard

Tim NesSmith

Andrew Daire

Fritz Embaugh

Larry Muenzler

Mitch Verma

Call to order: At 4:00 o’clock p.m. the meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Henson Moore, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Schilling.

Agenda: The Chairman asked if there were any additions to the agenda. There were none. He stated that he would take the items slightly out of order.

Finances. The Chairman led a review of the financial statements for 2017. He pointed out that we are paying ORM slightly more than required for the current year. Commissioner Jenkins suggested that the excess not be more than $500 per month. Commissioner Sternberg said we should ask them to forgive most of the balance because in the commercial world it would not be legally collectible. The Chairman said that such discussions have taken place in the past and that he intends to re-urge our position at the appropriate time. The Executive Director confirmed that we have received payments totaling $55,000 for the Boot Camp period specified in the Greyhound contract.

Committee reports.

Commissioner Shilling reported that the new veterans’ memorial at the State Capitol will have a memorial wall. The Chairman said that he and the Executive Director met with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and have an understanding concerning cooperation and mutual sponsorship of events and activities. A discussion of our Memorial Wall and Hall of Honor followed. Commissioner Shilling confirmed that our criteria for the Hall of Honor are good and need not be changed. He expressed some concern about space for expansion. The Chairman charged the committee with studying that issue and making recommendations.

Commissioner Rod Wells confirmed that his committee is coordinating with other veterans’ groups to increase our involvement with them.

Executive Director report. A written report is in each Commissioner’s packet. The Executive Director pointed out that during the Greyhound shut-down, Andrew will complete an inventory of the artifacts. He also assured the Commission that they are continuing to seeks sponsors for various exhibits and activities. The Chairman commented on the attendance spreadsheet attached to the report, on new information boards for some of the exhibits, and on the initiative in searching for traveling exhibits and other measures to keep our displays fresh.

The Chairman announced that a quorum was present.

Minutes. On motion by Commissioner Brandt and seconded by Commissioner Shilling, the minutes of the last meeting were unanimously approved.

Key Performance Objectives. The Chairman called attention to the Key Performance Objectives for 2018 in each packet which were mutually approved by the Executive Committee and the Executive Director.

Strategic Planning Sub-Committee. Commissioner Sedlin referred to the report in each packet and explained that they met with the Baton Rouge Area Foundation on December 8 and have another meeting scheduled for April 10. The “hockey-stick” graph in the packets is an illustration of what to expect when beginning a fund-raising program. The Chairman suggested that Commissioner Jenkins be included in this effort and invited all Commissioners to attend and to help with this crucial undertaking.

Miscellaneous projects and plans. The Chairman called attention to the following items in each packet which have been approved by the Executive Committee:

* Marketing Plan for 2018;
* Capital Projects for 2018;
* Miscellaneous list dated February 13, 2018;
* La Tax Refund Donations Received report.

One item not included is a display case for the USS Louisiana model by Commissioner Kennedy which we hope will soon be on display. Commissioner Kennedy has a friend who has volunteered to construct the case. This item generated discussion with a consensus to have an event highlighting display of this ship model.

New Business and Public comments. The Chairman asked if there was any new business or comments from those not on the Commission. There were none.

Adjournment: The Chairman adjourned the meeting at ­­­­5:15 p.m.

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 Robert A. Hawthorne, Jr., Secretary