



Battle of New Orleans Commission Jan. 29, 2015 Meeting Notes

Commissioners present: Chairman Henson Moore, Mike Bayham, Michelle Braden, Ed Cailleteau, Elizabeth McDougall, Mark Romig, Katie Tommaseo, and Mark Zelden

Absent: Bill Hyland, Gary Joiner, Rep. Nick Lorusso, Bill Schultz, and Roger Villere.

BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

CHAIRMAN
HONORABLE
W. HENSON MOORE, III
BATON ROUGE

MIKE BAYHAM
CHALMETTE

EDWARD O. CAILLETEAU
BATON ROUGE

WILLIAM HYLAND
CHALMETTE

GARY D. JOINER, PH.D.
SHREVEPORT

REPRESENTATIVE
NICK LORUSSO
NEW ORLEANS

ELIZABETH MCDUGALL
ARABI

MARK ROMIG
NEW ORLEANS

WILLIAM A. SCHULTZ
NEW ORLEANS

KATIE TOMMASEO
ARABI

ROGER VILLERE, JR.
METAIRIE

MARK ZELDEN
NEW ORLEANS

Administrative:

Chairman Henson Moore welcomed newly appointed commissioner Michelle Braden to the group.

Comments on commemorative events:

The National Park Service was commended for its work on the coordinated events of the week. Chairman Moore thanked Mark Romig for securing and coordinating the Marine Corps Band performance and the fireworks show.

Tim Pickles said the reenactments were the largest War of 1812 reenactment held in the United States.

Education:

The curriculum is at the printer and will be officially launched at a press conference on Oct. 17 at the Historic New Orleans Collection. The Lt. Governor will host the press conference. Notice will be sent to Commissioners and the public.

Moore stated that the reprinting of the nine pamphlets is still going forward. The Commission however a letter of authorization is needed. The Commission will receive 500 copies of the compilation once printed.

Moore also stated that the Ron Drez book will be issued by the LSU Press in November and that he is working with them in organizing a press event about the book release.

Budget:

Moore discussed the Louisiana Historical Legacy account with the Commission. He restated that the LHL, a registered non-profit, was created by Randy Haynie to help subsidize fundraising efforts for both the Louisiana

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Bicentennial Commission and the Battle of New Orleans Bicentennial Commission to help fund each commemoration. Upon completion of the Louisiana Bicentennial of Statehood commemoration, a fund balance was moved to the Battle of New Orleans Commission. Moore stated that the fund balance was to be used to assist the Commission in funding its efforts but was never intended to be depleted in lieu of further fundraising efforts.

Mike Bayham questioned the use of the funds and stated that he thought that since no other commemorative events are expected to occur in the next few years, the Commission should use the funds for the Battle of New Orleans. Moore repeated that the intention of Randy Haynie's creation of the non-profit was not to fully fund the Battle of New Orleans commemoration and that the Commission should raise funds to support its efforts.

Events:

Moore told the Commission that Lt. Governor Dardenne agreed that a VIP reception is a good idea and that it should take place. Moore thanked Bayham for introducing the idea of the reception. The Commission approved to move forward with the VIP reception and approved a budget of \$10,000 for the event.

Chairman Moore discussed the possibility of hosting a fireworks show. The commission agreed that the show would add to the commemoration and that research should be done on how to orchestrate the show and how to fund it.

Reports:

Alliance Memorial:

Chairman Moore told the Commission that the National Park Service had approved the idea and initial design of the memorial and that it will now go to the next phase which is securing a fundraising mechanism. Moore reported that he and Lt. Governor Dardenne, along with British Consul General Andrew Millar had visited three British companies which have business interests in Louisiana about possibly donating to the memorial. No word yet on their response.

Moore also stated that the project has grown larger than when originally conceived and that the next phase is to create a plan for perpetuity. The project may not be complete until after the Commission sunsets in 2016 and maintenance must be addressed.

He addressed the proposed plaque to list the names of the U.S. killed in the battle. He said that someone within the Louisiana Department of Public Affairs had been assigned to work on the project, but little had been done. The flag pole project has now been placed within the memorial project delaying its installation. Guy Hughes with the NPS apologized for any mixed expectations about the flags being placed prior to the Jan. 8 date. Allison Pena said that if the poles are not up by then, the period flag may be flown in commemoration.

Mark Tullos, Director of the Louisiana State Museum gave an update on the upcoming Battle of New Orleans exhibit slated to open to the public on January 11, 2015. Emmy Hicks/LSM also stated that a digital light show will be shown on the façade of the Cabildo, St. Louis Cathedral and the Presbytere as part of the commemorative weekend.

Public Comment:

Tim Pickles gave an update on the re-enactments planned. He said over 1,500 participants are expected. He plans to start clearing the property for the re-enactments soon.

Meeting adjourned.