

**Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission
Meeting #25, In-person and Via Telephone
Monday, September 17, 2007, 12:00 p.m.**

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ATTENDANCE

Present were Dr. Jean Bandler (phone); Dr. Darrel Bigham (phone); Dr. Gabor Boritt; the Hon. Jim Bunning; Mrs. Julie Cellini (phone-2000000); the Hon. Richard Durbin (arrived soon after meeting started); Ms. Joan Flinspach; Mr. Harold Holzer (phone); the Hon. Jesse Jackson, Jr.; Mr. Jack Kemp, Lincoln Cabinet (phone); the Hon. Dirk Kempthorne, Secretary of the Interior; Mrs. Lura Lynn Ryan; Mrs. Louise Taper (phone); the Hon. Tommy Turner; and the Hon. Frank Williams (phone). ALBC staff present included Ms. Eileen Mackevich, Executive Director; Mrs. Jennifer Rosenfeld, Deputy Director; Mr. David Early, Communications Director; Mr. Alan Kirschner, Development Director; Mr. David Morgan, Development; Ms. Sharon Cunningham, Finance Contractor; Mr. V. Suresh, Administrative Assistant and Ms. Laura Graham, Intern. Congressional staff included Ms. Diane Liesman and Mrs. Joan DeBoer from Congressman LaHood's office; Mr. Bill Beaver from Senator Bunning's office; Mr. Ken Edmonds from Congressman Jackson's office; and Mr. Pat Souders from Senator Durbin's office. Staff from the Department of the Interior included Ms. Vicki Dixon, Ms. Ashley Carrigan and Mr. David McMillen. National Park Service staff included Mr. Ernie Quintana, Ms. Phyllis Ellin, and Mr. Keith Pruitt. Advisory board members, volunteers, and other guests included Dr. Vernon Burton and Mrs. Georganne Burton; Mr. John McCarthy, Dr. Joseph Reidy, Mr. John Dinome, Ms. Jodie Kanter, Mr. Jonathan Moore, Mr. Lindy Casebier, and Mr. Vince Reusing. Ms. Linda Wheeler covered the meeting for the *Washington Post* and *Civil War Times*.

INFORMAL DISCUSSION

Prior to the actual meeting an informal discussion was held. Judge Tommy Turner led this discussion which focused on the budget, marketing of the new pennies, new collaborators, individual and corporate support.

Ms. Cunningham explained the impact of the Continuing Resolution on the budget. We are operating from the 2006 budget levels. Congressional staff indicated that the new national budget might be passed in December, but this is not certain.

Ms. Mackevich reviewed some of the ideas for marketing the new penny designs. Mrs. Cellini has suggested having a scavenger hunt. Another suggestion was to have artists throughout the United States create art sculptures with pennies. Ms. Flinspach suggested collaborating with Junior Achievement under their teaching savings initiative. Mr. Holzer adding that using cell phone technology to make the marketing interactive would be a good idea. Ms. Flinspach asked if we did that, would the cell phone companies be willing to pay us a percentage of their fees. Dr. Bandler recommended pursuing Ely Lilly's use of Abraham Lincoln in their television commercials to see if they could be approached for corporate support.

The informal meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

MINUTES AND FINANCE REPORT

Judge Turner called the meeting to order at 2:09 p.m. He welcomed all attendees and asked them to introduce themselves. Those on the phone also introduced themselves. The minutes of June 27th were approved as presented on a motion by Chief Justice Williams, seconded by Dr. Bandler. Motion carried.

Judge Turner then asked Ms. Mackevich to present the Finance Report. Ms. Mackevich requested that Ms. Cunningham review the budgets. She commented on the effect of the Continuing Resolution, presented the 2008 budget and gave the status of the three gift funds (reports attached). Judge Turner asked for questions. There were none. Ms. Flinspach moved the approval of the entire Finance Report including the 2008 budget. Mrs. Ryan seconded the motion and it passed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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Judge Turner called for the Executive Director's report (attached) Ms. Mackevich highlighted the report and Judge Turner asked for questions. Dr. Bandler asked for a recap of the events of February 12, 2009. Ms. Mackevich noted that there will be a wreath laying in the morning, the Statuary Hall event at 2:00 p.m., and the Library of Congress exhibit opening and reception at 4:00 p.m. The Kennedy Center event is scheduled for February 2nd. There were no other questions.

FUNDRAISING & LINCOLN CABINET UPDATE

Mr. Kirschner, Development Director, gave the fundraising report. (attached) He noted that we will hear from Johnson & Johnson in a month. Judge Turner asked Mr. Kemp to add any updates he might have, but he had had to leave the meeting earlier and was no longer in attendance. Judge Turner asked for questions. There were none.

REMARKS BY SECRETARY KEMPTHORNE

Judge Turner introduced Secretary of the Interior, Dirk Kempthorne. Secretary Kempthorne spoke of his stories of his great grandfather who had fought at Antietam. He would like to see an event (concert, etc.) take place at the Lincoln Memorial every night of July 2008. He stated that the National Park Service will be a strong partner. Judge Turner asked for questions for the Secretary. He informed the Secretary that a private historic preservation group has raised \$250,000 for a match to be used for improvements for the Kentucky National Park Service sites. Congressman Jackson added his appreciation of the support from the Secretary. He asked what Congress can do to assist the Secretary's initiative. Senators Durbin and Bunning echoed the appreciation for the commitments already made. Senator Bunning asked that specific Kentucky National Park Service projects be attended to before the February 2008 events. These projects were the cabin, the parking lot, and ??????????. Secretary Kempthorne noted that the National Park Service has \$800,000 in discretionary funds available. He also urged the importance of public/private partnerships. Judge Turner stated that the \$250,000 he had just mentioned could be used toward these projects.

REPORTS

Communications Committee—Judge Turner asked for this report. Congressman Jackson was asked to make his announcements. He announced that the website will be unveiled tonight at a reception at Fleischman Hilliard and invited all of the attendees. He also announced that the LOC will be the permanent host for our website. Judge Turner requested that Dr. Burton speak briefly about the University of Illinois' offer to host the website until such time as it will become part of our legacy and be turned over to the LOC. Secretary Kempthorne added that he would like to see high profile cell phone technology available at the Lincoln Memorial via an 800 number. He would like visitors to be able to dial a number to hear the Gettysburg Address and the Second Inaugural. Mr. Early highlighted the features of the new website. His report is attached.

Public Programs Committee—Judge Turner asked Ms. Flinspach to comment on the attached report. She asked Judge Turner to review the attached report on the Kentucky events. He asked all the Commissioners to send their lists for the invitations to him by October 1st. Dr. Bigham asked if a Commission meeting was planned in conjunction with the Kentucky Inaugural events and Judge Turner indicated that one is not planned yet. Mr. Morgan described the events as both celebratory and educational. Mr. Holzer noted that C-SPAN will broadcast all of the events.

Communications Committee—Judge Turner returned to the Communications Committee report for an update by Mrs. Rosenfeld on the Penny designs and the Commemorative Coin. (Report attached.) Mrs. Rosenfeld said that the U.S. Mint has asked for a two week extension on

the Commemorative Coin project and that the new timeline is attached. Judge Turner reminded those present that the funds raised through the sale of the Commemorative Coin were matching and that we had to have the match on hand. The funds from the Mint will not be available until 2010.

Education Committee—Judge Turner asked Dr. Bigham for his committee's report (attached). Dr. Bigham noted the numerous projects that the Education Committee is undertaking and added his support for additional staffing. He asked Dr. Reidy to present the information on the planning for the international conference on *Emancipation and Race in the Age of Lincoln* to be held at Howard University. Dr. Reidy outlined the three days of sessions for the conference. Judge Turner commented that the educational component continues to shine. Dr. Bandler added that the educational work done will be a legacy because it will influence the study of Abraham Lincoln for years to come. Judge Turner asked if there were questions. No questions were asked.

ENDORSEMENTS

Judge Turner brought up the endorsements as the next agenda item. He asked that Dr. Bigham discuss the educational projects submitted for endorsement. Dr. Bigham stated that the Education Committee has reviewed all of the requests and recommends that all be approved. Dr. Boritt so moved and Mrs. Ryan seconded the motion. Motion carried. Ms. Flinspach stated the same on behalf of the Public Programs Committee. Mr. Holzer moved that they be endorsed and Dr. Bigham seconded the motion. It carried.

NEXT MEETING

Judge Turner asked for input regarding a meeting in November. Ms. Mackevich noted that with the Continuing Resolution our current level of funding does not afford us an in-person meeting in November. Dr. Bigham recommended a phone meeting. Judge Turner will work to arrange an in-person meeting in conjunction with the Kentucky Inaugural events in February 2008. He recommended that the Commissioners reserve time for a phone meeting in November.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Bandler moved that the meeting adjourn and Judge Turner seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan L. Flinspach
Secretary

