

Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission
Meeting #26, Via Telephone
Tuesday, November 6, 2007, 2:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Present were Dr. Jean Bandler; Dr. Darrel Bigham; Dr. Gabor Boritt; Mrs. Julie Cellini; Ms. Joan Flinspach; Mr. Harold Holzer; the Hon. Ray LaHood; Mrs. Louise Taper; the Hon. Tommy Turner; and the Hon. Frank Williams. 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; and Mr. V. Suresh, Administrative Assistant. Congressional staff included Ms. Diane Liesman and Mrs. Joan DeBoer from Congressman LaHood's office. Mr. David Leroy, Chair of the Governor's Council and State Liaison Committee, was also present.

MINUTES

Mr. Holzer called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. He asked for approval of the minutes from the September 17th meeting. Ms. Flinspach noted that she had two areas with questions. Mr. Holzer recalled that Senator Bunning's list of projects needing attention from the public/private effort to improve sites before the Kentucky Bicentennial Inaugural events included the cabin, the parking lot and related areas. Mrs. Cellini confirmed her attendance at the last meeting and with those two additions the minutes were approved by the Commissioners after a motion by Dr. Bandler, seconded by Dr. Bigham.

FINANCE REPORT

Ms. Cunningham gave the Finance Report which [is attached](#). We are still operating under a Continuing Resolution. We have requested \$406,000 in addition to our current CR amount under the auspices of the Library of Congress' request. Mr. Holzer requested monthly reports of the ALBC Foundation balance and Ms. Cunningham will supply those.

DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Mr. Holzer asked Ms. Mackevich for the Development Report which [is attached](#). Ms. Mackevich thanked former Congressman Gray and former Senator Kemp for the enormous amount of time they have spent making funding requests and introductions. Congressman LaHood asked Ms. Mackevich to draft a fund raising letter for the co-chairs' signatures. Ms. Mackevich stated that we will know the result of several of our corporate requests by the end of the year.

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL AND STATE LIAISON REPORT

Mr. Leroy reported on the progress of the commemorative book. Approximately 30 states will be represented at the Kentucky Inaugural events. During their conference calls, each state representative gives a 1-2 minute report. The patterns developing that Mr. Leroy noted included: more and more programs at the grass roots level; numerous

grassroots websites connecting to the state sites which are in turn connecting to the national site. Lastly, he noted that many Governors and their representatives are involved at a public level.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. David Early gave the Communications Committee Report which [is attached](#). He cited the name of the new website (AbrahamLincoln200.org) which as of November 5th is hosted by the University of Illinois. The site can accept online donations in 90 seconds. As for the Virtual Store, there are meetings taking place between staff and the University of Illinois students who are developing a model and working on licensing.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS UPDATE

Judge Turner gave the update on the Kentucky events. He [asked Mr. Early to provide information on our website about ticketing](#).

ENDORSEMENTS

Judge Turner had to leave, so Mr. Holzer asked for the votes to be taken on the endorsements before he left. Dr. Bigham moved and Chief Justice Williams seconded a motion to approve the three projects recommended by the Education Committee. Motion carried.

Mrs. Cellini moved and Ms. Flinspach, among several, seconded a motion to approve all four of the Public Program projects recommended by that committee. Ms. Flinspach did note that one of the projects had been referred to Public Programs by the Education Committee due to a conflict of interest on the part of an Education Committee member.

RETURN TO PUBLIC PROGRAMS UPDATE

Dr. Bigham inquired about the invitations and when to inform staff of Commissioners attendance. Mr. Morgan requested that the Commissioners email either himself or Courtney Barefoot about their attendance at the Kentucky events. Mr. Holzer [requested that the ALBC staff send an email to all the Commissioners informing them as to the proper procedure regarding reservations, etc](#). There were no updates to the balance of the written report provided in the meeting packets, so it stood as presented.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Bigham gave this report. He noted the success of the second issue of the publication by the Organization of American Historians. (This is one of three in a series dedicated to the Lincoln Bicentennial.) He informed the Commission that considerable progress has been made for the conference at Howard University. Mrs. Rosenfeld gave an update of the involvement of Howard University Fine Arts Department. Music, art, dance and theater will all be part of the conference and a role is being created for some of the District of Columbia public schools. Dr. Bigham added that Dr. Ed Lindenthal was editing an issue of the *Journal of American History* dedicated to the Lincoln Bicentennial. Articles are being written by Dr. Allen Guelzo, Dr. Richard Carwardine and others. Also a one-man play on Frederick Douglass might be forthcoming.

FURTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Holzer asked if there was further business to come before the Commission. It was recommended that we meet via phone in December and/or January. Hearing no more business, Mr. Holzer called for a motion to adjourn. Dr. Bigham so moved and Mrs. Cellini seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan L. Flinspach