

Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission
Meeting #29, Via Telephone
Wednesday, January 16, 2007, 2:00 p.m. EST

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. Lura Lynn Ryan; and the Hon. Tommy Turner. 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. Courtney Barefoot, Development, Ms. Sharon Cunningham, Accounting; and Suresh Venkitaraman, Executive Assistant. Congressional staff included Ms. Diane Liesman and Mrs. Joan DeBoer from Congressman LaHood's office. Ms. Phyllis Allen from the National Park Service (NPS) and Mr. David LeRoy of the Governor's Council and State Liaison Group were also present.

CALL TO ORDER

Congressman LaHood called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. He asked for approval of the minutes of the December 11, 2007 meeting. Dr. Bandler moved their approval and Mrs. Cellini seconded them. The motion carried.

KENTUCKY INAUGURAL EVENTS

Due to votes in the House of Representatives, Congressman LaHood requested that we move to the Kentucky Inaugural Events as our first agenda item. He raised two concerns he had—1.) that the White House might be hosting an event that conflicts with the Kentucky event in Louisville and 2.) that both programs might be too long. Congressman LaHood indicated that the White House will dictate the program on February 12th. Judge Turner said that he had informed those working on the program that it might be edited. He assured Congressman LaHood that the White House instructions would be followed. Congressman LaHood indicated that he and Judge Turner would talk later regarding the Louisville program. Judge Turner cited the publicity surrounding these events and commented that he believes that we will sell all of the premier packages.

D.C. PENNY REVIEW

Congressman LaHood brought up the action item of the D.C. penny. Mr. Holzer presented the committee's choice of #19 in the (attached) drawings, #20 as a second choice and #1 as a third alternative. Images 19 and 20 represent the unfinished capitol dome and image 1 is Abraham Lincoln seated in the Brady chair looking at a map of the United States with the phrase, "the Union Preserved" or "One Nation." Mr. Holzer reminded the Commissioners that the profile of Lincoln will remain on the front of the coin and that a second image of Lincoln on the back is repetitive. Mrs. Ryan, Congressman LaHood and Ms. Flinspach expressed concerns about the need for explanation to accompany the image of the unfinished capitol dome. Congressman LaHood called for the question and the vote supported the committee's recommendation. Image #19 will be the preferred image submitted to the US Mint with #20 and #1 in reserve. Congressman LaHood had to leave the meeting to vote. Mr. Holzer now chaired.

FINANCIALS

Mr. Holzer returned to the agenda and asked for a report on the financials. Ms. Cunningham reviewed the [attached](#) 2008 budget. She noted that the postage line includes funds for the Mother's Day event mailing in Indiana. The funds under "reception" will be used for the State Liaison breakfast in Kentucky. The website line item will allow us to add Phase II to the website. Judge Turner moved and Mrs. Ryan seconded a motion to approve the budget. The motion carried. Ms. Cunningham announced the balances of the LOC Gift Fund and the ALBC Foundation. She noted that the breakdowns of expenses and balances of these two funds are detailed in the [attached](#) reports. Mr. Holzer asked if all of the Commissioners have contributed funds. Ms. Mackevich stated that some had not. Mr. Holzer asked that all the Commissioners contribute. Further detail regarding Commissioners activities will be attached in future reports.

DEVELOPMENT REPORT AND STATE LIAISON REPORT

Before Mr. Kirschner gave his report, Mr. LeRoy stated that he had to leave and that he would like to report on behalf of the Governors Council and State Liaisons. Mr. LeRoy informed us that 26 states will be represented in Kentucky. He is finishing a 5-tiered fund raising strategy to help the states raise funds for their celebrations. He noted that this might assist the federal ALBC, by mitigating requests to fund state activities.

Mr. Kirschner gave the Development Report which is [attached](#). Ms. Flinspach asked how much had been received from unsolicited requests through the website and the mail. Ms. Cunningham responded that approximately \$10,000 had been received. A report on the success of the Miami program was made by Mr. Holzer and Ms. Mackevich.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Holzer asked for the Executive Director's report. Ms. Mackevich noted that the report was [attached](#) and asked for questions. Ms. Flinspach asked about Congressman LaHood's meeting with Dr. Billington regarding the LOC exhibit. Ms. Liesman reported that Dr. Billington agreed to proceed with planning for the exhibit. Mr. Holzer informed us that the accompanying book is under contract. Ms. Flinspach asked if the exhibit planning that was underway included traveling the exhibit to the four locations throughout the country and Ms. Liesman and Mr. Holzer both indicated that the plans included travel.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS REPORT

Ms. Flinspach and Mrs. Cellini gave this report noting jointly their praise for Judge Turner's leadership in managing the inaugural events in Kentucky. The reports for Kentucky and the other Public Programs are [attached](#). Ms. Flinspach asked Ms. Mackevich to review orally the events for February 12, 2009. Ms. Mackevich stated that the day will open with a morning event at the Lincoln Memorial that will be held in timing with the morning news programs. There will be a heated tent at that location. The second event that day will be the afternoon ceremony held in Statuary Hall at the Capitol. At 4:00 p.m. the Library of Congress will formally open their exhibit with a reception and a program including a ribbon cutting. The Lincoln's Birthday Gala will not be held on the birthday. Venues other than the Kennedy Center are being researched for this event. [The staff will provide the Commissioners with an outline of the 2/12/09 events.](#)

Dr. Bigham asked about a closing event. Dr. Boritt said that he thought that it was the November, 2009 Gettysburg event. At one point in time, Springfield was discussed as a feature

location for a February, 2010 closing event. Mrs. Cellini offered to bring this topic up for discussion with Mr. Beard, the Executive Director of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. [Ms. Flinspach will send Mrs. Cellini the contact name, address and information showing how Indiana involved the Midwestern scout troops in the Indiana Mother's Day event.](#)

Judge Turner requested that we return to the Kentucky Inaugural Events to cover some details. Mr. Holzer asked him to proceed. Judge Turner asked Mr. Early about C-SPAN's coverage of the event at the birthplace. Mr. Early said that C-SPAN is focused on February 5—super Tuesday in the Presidential campaign, but that he will see to it that C-SPAN covers the events. Mr. Holzer stated that he is writing an op-ed piece for the Sunday, February 3rd Louisville *Courier Journal*. Mr. Morgan requested that Judge Turner supply him with a copy of the map and plan from the NPS for the 12th. A question arose as to whether an extra 100 premier packages are available for sale or not. Judge Turner will work with Mr. Morgan to resolve this.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Holzer asked Dr. Bigham to present the Education Committee Report. Dr. Bigham referred to the [attached report](#). There were no questions and Mr. Holzer asked Dr. Bigham to comment on the committee's endorsement recommendations.

ENDORSEMENTS

The endorsement requests are [attached](#). Dr. Bigham moved that the Education Committee's recommended endorsements be approved and Ms. Flinspach seconded the motion. The motion carried. For the Public Programs Committee Mrs. Cellini recommended the Illinois ALBC activities but recused herself from the vote on them and Ms. Flinspach recommended the Fort Wayne exhibit on Hugh McCulloch, but recused herself from that vote. Dr. Bigham moved for endorsement and Dr. Bandler seconded the motion. It carried.

FURTHER BUSINESS AND ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Holzer asked if there was further business to come before the committee. Judge Turner reiterated that he and Mr. Morgan will resolve the 400 vs. 500 seat count. Mr. Holzer asked for a motion for adjournment. Mrs. Ryan so moved and Dr. Bigham seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan L. Flinspach