

New Orleans Military and Maritime Academy  
Meeting Minutes  
11 December 2017  
5:00p.m.

1. Roll call – Col Ebbert, Mr. Bean, Mr Bush, Mr Downing, Capt Grace, Mr. Downing, , Ms. Finkbeiner, Mr. Reiss, Mr. Welker, Mr. Shinn Absent: Mr Charpentier, Mrs McCall, Mr Staines.
2. Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve by Mr. Downing; second by Mr. Bean; all in favor.
3. Reports and Recommendations
  - a. Financial Report – Mr. Downing gave financial report.
    - i. Overall financial position remains strong, highly liquid. Shortfalls due to timing issues, grants received later in the year. Over 2 ½ months op reserve.
    - ii. Audit is complete and went well.
    - iii. Update on FDIC discussions – FDIC declined NOMMA offer and we are awaiting further news. Purpose of the letter was to document that we made the offer and have been constructive regarding a solution. We will continue to service the debt as we historically have.
  - b. Academic Update – Dr. Garcia provided the academic update. Nothing material to report.
    - i. Open house being held this evening and some discussion on the OneApp regulations and requirements thereof.
    - ii. Discussion of recent article related to school performance in New Orleans. NOMMA was ranked at #1 among the 15 top performing New Orleans area schools for 2016-2017 school year, along with positive commentary on the program.
  - c. Facilities Update – COL Schlafer gave facilities report.
    - i. Recently renovated new building and have moved classes to the space.
    - ii. Discussion of water damage repair that is being done on JRTOC Bldg floor for third time over Christmas break due to work not being satisfactory.
    - iii. Facility is undergoing Energy audit to determine ways to improve energy efficiency.
    - iv. Hired independent party to test lead levels in the water in anticipation of any possible scrutiny from Orleans parish. Consultants found that our water was clean and fit for consumption. We will continue to track developments with Orleans Parish.
4. Type II Lawsuit Update – COL Schlafer provided the update.

- a. State Supreme Court decision expected early next year, so we are anticipating in January.
- b. COL Ebbert provided additional background on the issue and explains why it is so important to school's charter.

## 5. Old Business

- a. Development Updates – COL Schlafer provided the update.
  - i. Received \$300K grant from Youth Force NOLA over three year period.
  - ii. NO Jazz & Heritage provided \$3K.
  - iii. Pro Bono Publico provided grant.
  - iv. We continue to work potential grants and working with Allison Tiller as consultant.
  - v. We have exceeded goal for the year.
  - vi. CAPT Grace discussed other potential candidates, including Otto Candies.
- b. Campus Expansion Update – COL Schlafer provided the update.
  - i. Discussion of additional expansion beyond current additions. We are working to get plans/permitting done, with goal of renovations being completed by 1 May.
  - ii. Discussion of capital needed for the expansion, which we have not raised yet. Needs include:
    - 1. Gymnasium
    - 2. Classrooms
    - 3. Drill field
  - iii. Statue of GEN John A. LeJeune is being offered to us by Mrs Phyllis Taylor, so we need to develop plan to have it delivered.
  - iv. Mr. Reiss moved to allow school to determine appropriate location for the statue in the future, second by Mr. Downing. Motion was approved unanimously.

## 6. New Business

- a. Board Member Update/Recruitment – COL Ebbert provided update.
  - i. Discussion of Mr. Reiss' departure from the Board and thanked him for his service to the school.
  - ii. Welcome to Tom Shinn as new Board Member.
  - iii. Mr. Reiss mentioned that we are currently at 11 with recent additions and his departure. Charter allows for 15 Board Members, so he is meeting with Mrs. McCall regarding several new nominees.
- b. DoE Engagement – COL Schlafer provided update.
  - i. Discussion of incident related to MFR Marine sending pictures of students without proper uniform to National JRTOC HQ, and NOMMA response.

- ii. LA Dept of Ed reps contacted NOMMA regarding a series of allegations/complaints about NOMMA. NOMMA leadership met with and spoke with DoE reps and provided a thorough written response to all allegations. A DoE rep visited NOMMA to tour our Opportunity Class facility and NOMMA Annex spaces – facility was deemed compliant and appropriate.
  - c. Upcoming Events – COL Schlafer mentioned upcoming events and will release calendar of various events.
    - i. Recently hosted drill competition on NAS Belle Chasse and event was highly successful (NOMMA could not compete given we were hosting).
    - ii. Marine Corps Birthday Ball was successful on 3 Nov.
    - iii. National Geographic recently did photo shoot of the school. We will find out soon what the result is.
- 7. Public Remarks – None.
- 8. Remarks from Board Members
  - a. Mr. Reiss thanked the Board for his involvement and expressed interest in continuing to be involved with the School.
  - b. COL Ebbert thanked the Board and staff for their involvement and contribution to the school.
- 9. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn by Mr. Reiss, second by Mr. Downing. Motion was approved unanimously.