



VIRGINIA SESQUICENTENNIAL OF THE
AMERICAN CIVIL WAR COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

July 8, 2013, 10:00 AM
Speaker's Conference Room - 6th floor
General Assembly Building
www.VirginiaCivilWar.org

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
Speaker of the House of Delegates William J. Howell, Chairman
2. Partnership with Richmond Symphony - "A Sesquicentennial Remembrance Concert"
David J. L. Fisk, Executive Director, Richmond Symphony
3. Civil War 150 HistoryMobile - Options Beyond 2015
Cheryl Jackson
4. Approval of Logo Requests
5. Staff Updates:
 - “Help Desk” Sessions – Abingdon, Lexington, Richmond, Winchester, Quantico
 - Distinctions and Recognitions
 - Virginia Historical Society - Distinguished History Service Award (Luncheon and Award Presentation: July 17, noon)
 - AASLH Award of Merit - HistoryMobile and Legacy Project
 - Southern Legislative Conference - semi-finalist for State Transformation in Action Recognition (STAR) program
 - Signature Conference Series - Save the Date
 - Sat., May 31, 2014: "The American Civil War in a Global Context" (GMU)
 - Sat., April 18, 2015: "Causes Won and Lost: The End of the Civil War" (UVA)
6. Other Business
7. Adjournment

Members of the Executive Committee:

The Honorable William J. Howell, *Chairman*
The Honorable Charles J. Colgan, Sr., *Vice-Chairman*
The Honorable Algie T. Howell, Jr.
The Honorable L. Scott Lingamfelter
Dr. Paul A. Levengood
Dr. James I. Robertson, Jr.

Staff:

Division of Legislative Services:
Cheryl Jackson, Executive Director
Gwen Foley, Senior Operations Staff Assistant

House Committee Operations:
Scott Maddrea, Deputy Clerk

VIRGINIA SESQUICENTENNIAL OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR COMMISSION
Report of the Executive Committee

Speaker of the House of Delegates William J. Howell, Chairman

July 8, 2013

10:00 a.m.

Executive Committee members present: Speaker William J. Howell, Senator Charles J. Colgan, Sr., Delegate Algie T. Howell, Jr., James I. Robertson, Jr., and Paul Levensgood.

I. Call to Order

Speaker Howell called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

II. Partnership with Richmond Symphony - "A Sesquicentennial Remembrance Concert"

David J. L. Fisk

Executive Director, Richmond Symphony

Mr. Fisk presented a proposal for a farewell concert, in partnership with the Commission and the Richmond Symphony, to be held Memorial Day 2015. Envisioned as a capstone to Virginia's sesquicentennial commemoration, the concert will combine music, images, and narration in a profound exploration of the Civil War. As explained by Dr. Robertson:

Because the Civil War gave rise to more music than any other four-year event in history, Johnny Rebs and Billy Yanks were singing soldiers. The strong emotions so much a part of that bloodiest of American wars followed a dramatic pattern. Enthusiastic melodies ("The Bonnie Blue Flag") combined with romantic airs ("The Yellow Rose of Texas") to produce an early, positive motivation. While gospel spirituals ("Go Down, Moses") expressed guarded hope for 3.5 million slaves, the fervor of army life in time melted into loneliness ("Home, Sweet Home") and despair ("Tenting Tonight on the Old Camp Ground") Songs of praise modulated to emotions of hope ("When Johnny Comes Marching Home Again"). The war ended and the nation became whole, due in great part to some songs ("The Battle Hymn of the Republic") that will always be part of the national heritage we share.

Mr. Fisk recommends a 150-voice choir and 75-piece orchestra for the program, which will begin with the National Anthem and close with a fitting finale. The concert will be held on Brown's Island, with the Carpenter Center on hold in the event of inclement weather. It will be presented free of charge, with pre-registration required. Staff will reserve venues, coordinate with partners, and seek potential donors to off-set costs. The Executive Committee asked Mr. Fisk to work closely with Commission staff as the program is developed.

Dr. Robertson made a motion that the proposal be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Delegate A. T. Howell and passed unanimously.

II. Civil War 150 HistoryMobile - Options Beyond 2015

Cheryl Jackson

Ms. Jackson, joined by senior tour manager Noelle Baker, discussed the tremendous success that the HistoryMobile has experienced since its tour began in July 2011, and offered options for the future. The HistoryMobile has been to over 100 events and seen over 75,000 visitors, 40% of whom are students. It has been named a Leadership in History Award of Merit winner by the American Association of State and Local History (AASLH), and is a semi-finalist for consideration for the State Transformation in Action Recognition (STAR) program of the Southern Legislative Conference. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, as evidenced most recently by many thanks and appreciative remarks from visitors at the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg.

Originally, the HistoryMobile was envisioned to travel through spring 2015. However, the work of the Commission will need to be extended for an additional year, through June 2016, to allow time to publish the final volume in the Signature Conference series and complete final reporting. No additional appropriations are needed for the extended year, as the Commission can operate with the carry-forward balances that it has saved. The HistoryMobile tour can similarly be extended for an additional year with no additional appropriations needed.

Once the tour ends, whether in 2015 or 2016, the Commission will need to decide the final disposition of assets. Options include: (i) turning the tractor-trailer over to DMV to convert into a mobile customer service center; (ii) locating exhibits and other assets to museums across the state; (iii) continuing the HistoryMobile tour or redesigning it for future use.

Dr. Robertson made a motion to continue the HistoryMobile tour to 2016. The motion was seconded by Dr. Levenson and passed unanimously. The Executive Committee directed staff to determine which museums are interested in exhibit assets, and tabled discussion of the ultimate disposition of the HistoryMobile until a future meeting.

IV. Approval of Logo Requests

Ms. Jackson reported that the Commission has approved a total of 211 logo requests since 2009. Following is a list of pending applications to affix the Commission's logo that have been given provisional authorization since the last meeting of the Executive Committee, in accordance with established procedure. The list includes the following:

1. Warren Heritage Society (Fliers for lecture by G. Ecelbarger)
2. Warren Heritage Society (Fliers for lecture and tours by E. Bearss)
3. Warren Heritage Society (Fliers for lecture by P. Farris)
4. Warren Heritage Society (Fliers for lecture by P. Farris)
5. Fairfax County History Commission (Brochure)
6. Fairfax County History Commission (Program)
7. Blue Ridge Foothills Conservancy, Inc. (Newsletter)
8. Fredericksburg Area Museum and Cultural Center (Website and press release)

9. Brownsburg Museum (Banner)
10. Pulaski County Sesquicentennial Committee (Fliers)

Delegate A.T. Howell made a motion that staff recommendations for approval of logo applications be given final approval by the Executive Committee. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robertson and passed unanimously.

V. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.