NEW ORLEANS
MILITARY & MARITIME ACADEMY

Meeting Minutes
25 January 2023
5:00p.m.

Meeting was called to order by Board President, Col Terry Ebbert, at 5:11 p.m.

Roll call – Col Ebbert, Mr. Baker, Mr. Bean, Mr. Bush (ZOOM), Mr. Downing, Mr. Ellis, Dr. Grace, MajGen Mize, Mr. Welker (late)

Absent – LtCol Shinn, Mr. Staines, MGySgt Young

1. Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve October 26, 2022 Board Minutes by MajGen Mize , seconded by Mr. Bean; all in favor unanimously.

2. Reports and Recommendations

Financial Report – Presented by the NOMMA Finance Director and Mr. Downing. School is in a strong financial position, based upon our current financials. Cash is still strong. 8.4 mn. Accts payable is high due to a late insurance bill. Net Assets of 12.3 mn. Revenue is 21k above budget. Currently expenses are 470k under budget. MFP ahead of budget but will turn around with updated student counts. Donations and Grants ahead of budget. Salaries and benefits are under budget due to not attaining 100% staffing levels. Annual financial audit was complete with no findings; recommendations provided regarding exceptions to LS statewide audit procedures. Investment options were previously discussed in regard to Treasury bills. Motion was made by Mr. Downing to accept the recommendation of investing in T-Bills, seconded by Mr. Baker; all in favor unanimously. Discussion ensued on Yellow Bus transportation requirements, for now and in the future.

B. <u>General School Update</u> – Commandant gave the update. Homecoming week concluded last week; very successful; included well planned events by our administration including Senior class sponsor. NOMMA Boys and Girls won their respective Homecoming soccer games this past Friday. Homecoming dance held this past Saturday and was well-attended. According to our latest SPS grade, released in November, we are now a B-rated school and second highest rated open-enrollment high school in Orleans Parish. Current student count is 865 cadets. We are adjusting target enrollment slightly upward for SY 2023-24 to 895; numbers due to NCAPS in early Feb. Based on NCAPS demand report, currently on target for enrollment numbers, by grade, with exception of 8th grade, trending low, but about where we were this time last year and met target last year. We've had several successful Open Houses and our new ad campaign has been well received. Employee recruitment is continuous, still looking to fill positions in SPED, Math, Science – historically hard-to-fill subject positions. We lost 2 counselors since last board meeting, but just joined a bilingual replacement for one of the vacant positions. Other vacancies due to teachers on military leave, medical leave. NOMMA Band invited by Senator Bill Cassidy to

participate in National Independence Day on 4 July in Washington DC. We are coordinating with the Arkansas Military & First Responder Academy (AMFRA) reps to support their stand-up; AMFRA wants to embed selected staff with NOMMA this Spring (March). JROTC and Band will be supporting numerous events, color guards, and parades during Mardi Gras season. Planning student recruitment event at Belle Chasse Academy. We have lost 2 Marine Instructors from our roster since last our last meeting: currently at total of 11 MIs. Both Boys and Girls soccer teams qualified for playoffs; three (3) NOMMA wrestlers participating in state tournament. LHSAA suspended our Boys varsity basketball team for 2 years due to forfeiture of 2 games in a single day). NOMMA has filed an emergency appeal due to circumstances surrounding the decision to not participate. Emergency appeal denied; NOMMA will be presenting appeal during the regularly scheduled meeting of LHSAA executive council in April.

C. Academic Update – Principal gave the update. 2021-2022 SPS: 82.9 B. 2022-23 focus areas and key SPS components are LEAP and ACT. Completed Events: Semester Exams, Homecoming, LEAP Retakes. Upcoming Events: ACT March 7, LEAP Connect, ELPT, Youth Force NOLA internships, Maritime NOMMA/LabMar Internship, Maritime Day 2/14, Mardi Gras participating in 6 parades, Sailing Ships of Maine recruitment sailing the last week of March.

D. Facilities Update – Commandant provided. Operations Director procured 2 yellow buses. 6 volunteers are receiving their training toward receiving their CDL. One bus is a 19 passenger while the second is a full-size 48 passenger bus.

E. Development Update – Commandant provided. Received a $15k donation from Pro Bono Publico (philanthropic arm of Rex) and a $125K Mr. Canizaro who had pledged $200K to NOMMA over 5 years. This completes Mr. Canizaro's pledge. Continue to work with Development Consultant on other opportunities.

F. Nominating Committee – Commandant provided. NSTR.

3. Unfinished Business – Commandant provided

A. Campus Expansion – Mr. Capraro joined via ZOOM. Negotiations ongoing with ADD re Draft Purchase Sale Agreement for 3 property parcels and Draft Lease Agreement for the fitness center. Members met with ADD via ZOOM. Environmental issue needs to be remediated. NOMMA does not want to include pool in lease due to costs to maintain. New Orleans Pool & Spa rep came to assess the pool and offered costs for options to either maintain the pool or decommission it correctly, which includes draining, drilling holes, and filling it in with dirt. Discussion included need, value of also having a cover. Cost to shut down will include a significant one-time cost, but less expensive than maintaining the pool over time. Cost estimates available and have been disseminated to NOMMA working group.

B. NOMMA Foundation – By-laws and Articles of Incorporation have been submitted to the attorney; NOMMA will need to sign and have notarized prior to submission. Anticipate at least six (6) months from time of formal submission to establish the Foundation.

4. New Business – None

5. Public Comment – None

6. Remarks from Board Members – None

7. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. by Dr. Grace, second by Mr. Welker; all in favor unanimously.

8. Next Meeting Date: 29 March 2023.