NEW ORLEANS
MILITARY & MARITIME ACADEMY

Meeting Minutes
23 February 2022
5:00p.m.

Meeting was called to order by Board President, Col Terry Ebbert, at 5:17 p.m.

Roll call – Col Terry Ebbert, Mr. James Bean, Mr. Doug Downing, Mr. Hudson Ellis, MajGen David Mize, Mr. David Welker (ZOOM).

Absent: Mr. Peyton Bush, Hon. Joseph Cao, Dr. Marcellus Grace, LtCol Tom Shinn, Mr. Tony Staines, MGySgt Melanie Young

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

2. Reports and Recommendations

A. Financial Report – Presented by the NOMMA Finance Director and Board Treasurer, Mr. Doug Downing. The school is a strong financial position with solid net worth and strong liquid position. Cash on hand covers approximately 7 months of average operating expenses. Plan to reduce SY2022-23 total enrollment presents additional challenges to the FY23 budget. We continue to develop the budget for ESSER grants and also confirmed that our renovations of computer science labs to create additional workspaces and increase social distancing is consistent with purpose and intent of the grant monies. Once the ESSER grant is approved, reimbursement requests can be submitted to close the federal and state grant actual vs budget shortfall. A discussion ensued with regards to reduced cadet population and planned campus expansion regarding what, if any, financial risk might be incurred.

B. General School Update – Commandant gave the update. Weekly COVID testing continues; there has been a significant drop in number of positive COVID cases. Still advertising/recruiting for a Special Education teacher. LDE annual visit scheduled for 24 February. Administrators and Maritime reps will be meeting with Canal Barge, post Mardi Gras break. 22 cadets and 2 staff will be participating on sailing voyage from Mobile, AL to Pensacola FL on the schooner Harvey Gamage from 13 - 19 March. JROTC intramural sports program still going strong. As part of Black History Month, approximately 45 cadets went to see “Fly” at the Jefferson Parish Performing Arts Center. It was a show about the Tuskegee Airmen and one of NOMMA’s Marine Instructors was in the show. It was very well received. Many cadets, staff members and our principal attended the Tet Festival at Mary Queen of Vietnam Catholic Church. It was a great opportunity to promote NOMMA; our principal was able to speak of NOMMA to more than 1000 attendees. We are very appreciative of Mr. Cao’s invitation. Our band recently marched in the Algiers Mardi Gras Fest and in multiple Mardi Gras parades in the GNO. USNA will be on campus 24 February to talk to cadets. We will have a NOMMA booth set up at the air show in March, at JRB Belle Chasse. We have a multitude of significant and time-sensitive projects underway, including federal grant application submissions, hiring efforts, and end of year activities planning.

C. Academic Update – Principal gave the update. Enrollment for SY 22-23 is a work-in-progress. Round 1 NCAP ended recently. Round 2 begins April. Our 8th grade goal is 125 cadets for 8th grade. Still about 40 vacancies for 8th grade. NOMMA will host We will host 3 Open Houses. Our current enrollment 909 cadets; this drop in enrollment can be attributed to several reasons and is not uncommon across the city. We received an email from NCAP in response to our reduced enrollment numbers request for SY 22-23; they offered an opportunity to discuss and support future years' enrollment numbers.

D. Facilities Update – NSTR

E. Development Update – NSTR

F. Nominating Committee – NSTR

3. Unfinished Business – Commandant provided.

A. Campus Expansion – NOMMA submitted a counterproposal to ADD on 1 Feb 2022; the proposal included 2 options. Discussion ensued in regards to funding sources to support build a proper school campus with standard high school facilities such as a gymnasium.

4. New Business – None

5. Public Comment – None.

6. Remarks from Board Members – None

7. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn at 6:05 pm by Mr. Downing, second by MajGen Mize; all in favor unanimously.

8. Next Meeting Date: March 30, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.