NEW ORLEANS
MILITARY & MARITIME ACADEMY

Meeting Minutes
NOMMA Library
28 August 2024
5:00 p.m.

Meeting was called to order by Board President, Col Terry Ebbert, at 5:03 p.m.

Roll call – Col Terry Ebbert, Mr. Arnold Baker (Late), Mr. James Bean, Mr. Peyton Bush, MajGen David Mize, Mr. David Welker.

Absent –Mr. Doug Downing, Dr. Marcellus Grace, LtCol Tom Shinn.

1. Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve July 17, 2024 Board Minutes by MajGen Mize, seconded by Mr. Bush; all in favor unanimously.

2. Reports and Recommendations

A. Financial Report – Presented by NOMMA Finance Director. Cash & US T-bills of $8.2M ($6.5M in T-bills) represents approximately 7.6 months of operating expenses which represents a strong liquid position (July includes only 1 payroll as 7/12/24 is accrued back to 6/30/24. When it is included, coverage is 5.5 months). Total Net Assets of $13.9M is represents a strong financial position. Total Revenues of $1,101k - under budget by $(68k). State and Local under budget by $(82k) due to MFP budgeted at $13,940 on student count of 925 vs being paid at $13,463 on student count of 887. Other Income over budget - $13k – Interest Income. Total Expenses of $1,082k – over budget by $19k. Salaries and benefits under budget by $(35k) due to open positions. Property services over budget by $39k due to repairs, resulting in change in Net Assets before Depreciation of $19k which is under budget by $(87k). Capital Expenditures - Suite 112 renovations to date of $5k. Total budgeted is $175k.

B. General School Update – Commandant gave the update. Orientations are complete, including separate sessions for new employees, all employees, cadets, and parents. Regularly scheduled classes officially began on August 1st. Current cadet count stands at 941. Still have open seats in 8th and 10th grade. Multiple new laws go into effect this school year as a result of recent state legislature session. LAPCS and school attorneys drafting summary and templates for new/revised school policies. Met with Charles Chesnutt to discuss cadet participation in new 1-day educational cruise on MS river; involves presentation on city history and presentation on maritime industry; potential maiden voyage for NOMMA this Fall. NOMMA is one of two LA schools that has been selected for a civil rights monitoring review; involves desk audit and campus visit during 2nd semester to ensure compliance with various civil rights regulations. Cadet disciplinary issues continue; NOMMA works with cadet behavioral issues up to a certain point, but the academy is not an alternative school; continuing disciplinary issues with certain cadets dilutes the academy experience for other cadets; imperative that NOMMA maintains its high standard. NOMMA should be its own Enrollment and Expulsion authority, like all other LA Type-2 charter schools not located in Orleans Parish. We have started NOMMA's Bulldog of the Week

program for the new school year which has been a successful motivator for our cadets. Armed intruder drill completed this week. LDE to transition to a new school rating system beginning next school year; the new system relies heavier on standardized testing results (LEAP and ACT); only 10% of schools can earn a School Performance Score of "A". Upcoming October events include American Legion national convention color guard competition, ASVAB testing, US Naval Academy Admissions event at NOMMA.

C. Academic Update – Principal gave the update. Provided a detailed presentation on the new SPS (School Performance Score) metrics. 23-24 school year SPS/School Performance Score component and calculator review. The last data to certify is the Assessment and Progress Points, which is 25% of the school score—reviewed 25-26 SPS changes and potential impacts. Graduation rate is back over 90%. Volleyball begins tonight. Cross Country starts next week. Track & Field and Soccer are utilizing our Fitness Center for pre-season conditioning. We will host 3 wrestling meets this winter. We hosted our 1st Family Picnic in many years 2 weeks ago – weather was hot but a great showing by our families. Our band has been invited to participate in the 2025 Rex Parade.

D. Facilities Update – Finishing suite 112 renovation; converting into 2 classrooms (Criminal Justice/Public Safety and Maritime), two office spaces and 2 restrooms. All major construction is complete. Fire Marshal has approved; waiting on city approval for certificate of occupancy. HVAC issues on the main campus buildings have been significant; several have been resolved, others remain; we continue to troubleshoot and provide interim solutions through mobile air conditioner units. We are bringing in a group recommended by Jefferson Parish schools to conduct an HVAC assessment. NOMMA is installing a HVAC control unit at the Fitness Center procured through a grant. 4th District NOPD has made some progress in removing their property from former Fed City headquarters.

E. Development Update – Waiting for 501(c) (3) non-profit status for the NOMMA Foundation.

F. Board Membership Committee –

3. Unfinished Business – Commandant provided.

A. Campus Expansion/Capital Campaign Update – Working on plan to address concerns with original campus financing arrangement to prepare for new arrangement to support expansion plans. State Bond Attorney is reviewing all documents and will advise on our best way forward. Commandant has been asked to address the ADD Board in September in regards to our campus expansion plans.

4. New Business

5. Public Comment – None.

6. Remarks from Board Members – Mr. Baker reminded the board of upcoming NO Fashion Week.

7. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn at 6:52 pm by Mr. Baker, seconded by Mr. Bean; all in favor unanimously.
8. Next Meeting Date: 25 September 2024