

MINUTES OF THE MAY 11, 2015, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE MEETING

The Executive Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution (“Smithsonian”) held a teleconference meeting on May 11, 2015. Participating were Executive Committee and Board Chair John W. McCarter, Jr. and Committee member David Rubenstein. Committee Vice Chair Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson was unable to participate.

Also present by invitation of the Committee were Acting Secretary Albert Horvath; Counselor to the Chief Justice Jeffrey P. Minear; Chief of Staff to the Secretary Patricia Bartlett; Office of the Regents Writer-Editor Julie Bindelglass (recorder); Director of Advancement and Philanthropic Giving Virginia Clark¹; Acting Under Secretary for Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer John Lapiana; General Counsel Judith Leonard; Deputy Chief of Staff to the Regents Rachel Parker; and Chief of Staff to the Regents Porter Wilkinson.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. McCarter called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 26, 2015, MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee approved the draft minutes of the March 26, 2015, meetings without modification.

DISCUSSION OF THE JUNE 15, 2015, BOARD MEETING AGENDA

A copy of the draft agenda for the June 15, 2015, Board meeting was provided to the Committee. Mr. McCarter highlighted a presentation from the Director of the Smithsonian Associates and a tour of the Arts and Industries Building.

2015 REGENTS PUBLIC FORUM

Chief of Staff to the Regents Porter Wilkinson led a discussion about plans for the annual Regents Public Forum. She reminded the Committee that the Board is committed to hosting one public forum annually. Ms. Wilkinson recommended that the 2015 public forum be held in conjunction with an Executive Committee meeting later this year so that Secretary-Elect Dr. David Skorton may participate. The Committee agreed and the public forum will be held in late 2015.

¹ Ms. Clark participated in the executive session

REGENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHANGES TO BOARD MEETINGS

Ms. Wilkinson then led a discussion on potential changes to Board meetings. The Office of the Regents solicited recommendations for improving the content and format of Board meetings and materials from the Regents. Among the recommendations were the development of a consent agenda, greater reliance on written committee reports, an annual strategic meeting, a cohesive continuing education program, and reduced staff attendance. The Committee provided Ms. Wilkinson with feedback, which will be incorporated when the recommendations are presented to the Governance and Nominating Committee for consideration.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee then conducted an executive session.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John W. McCarter, Jr.
Chair