

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 11, 2015, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Executive Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution (“Smithsonian”) held a meeting on December 11, 2015, in the SC Johnson Conference Center at the National Museum of American History in Washington, DC. 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 in the meeting.

Also present by invitation of the Committee were Secretary Skorton; Counselor to the Chief Justice Jeffrey Minear; Acting Chief of Staff to the Secretary Greg Bettwy; Office of the Regents Senior Researcher & Writer Jennifer Ehlinger (recorder); Physical Security and Business Operations Deputy Director Douglas Hall; Under Secretary for Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer Albert Horvath; 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 approximately 12:38 p.m. and noted that the Board of Regents’ annual public forum will take place at 2:00 p.m. that afternoon in the Warner Brother’s Theatre of the National Museum of American History.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee approved the draft minutes of the November 12, 2015, meeting without modification.

BOARD MEETING AGENDA REVIEW

A copy of the draft agenda for the January 25, 2016, meeting was provided to the Committee. Mr. McCarter noted that the luncheon presentation will be delivered by National Museum of African American History and Culture’s Senior Manager for Donor and Council Relations Tasha Coleman and Associate Director for Curatorial Affairs Dr. Rex Ellis, who will provide an overview of the opening plans for the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

COMMITTEE CHARTER REVIEW

Chief of Staff to the Regents Porter Wilkinson reminded the Committee of its responsibility to review its charter on an annual basis to ensure that it is following best practices for governance. Ms. Wilkinson asked the Committee to review the charter and bring any questions or recommendations to the attention of the Regents’ Office. Any recommendations or proposed amendments will be addressed and reviewed by the full Committee at subsequent meetings.

SECRETARY’S REPORT

Secretary Skorton updated the Committee on Smithsonian activities and the positive progress of his reorganization initiative.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee then conducted an executive session to discuss the current measures the Smithsonian has in place in terms of security preparedness. The Committee also discussed the possible Smithsonian presence in London, future use of the Arts and Industries Building, and personnel and litigation matters.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John W. McCarter, Jr.
Chair