

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 1, 2016, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AFTERNOON MEETING

The Executive Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution (“Smithsonian”) held a meeting on June 1, 2016, at the Smithsonian Castle in Washington, DC. Participating were Executive Committee and Board Chair John W. McCarter, Jr.; Vice Chair Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson; and Committee member David Rubenstein*.

Also present by invitation of the Committee were Secretary Skorton; Counselor to the Chief Justice Jeffrey P. Minear; Acting Chief of Staff to the Secretary Greg Bettwy; Under Secretary for Finance & Administration/Chief Financial Officer Albert Horvath; Acting Provost/Under Secretary for Museums & Research Richard Kurin; General Counsel Judith Leonard; Deputy Chief of Staff to the Regents Rachel Parker; Director of the Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery Julian Raby and Chief of Staff to the Regents Porter Wilkinson.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. McCarter called the meeting to order at approximately 1:03 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee approved the draft minutes of the March 31, 2016, morning and afternoon meetings without modification. The Committee also approved an amendment to the minutes of the January 14, 2016, meeting to include additional information about the topics covered in executive session.

COMMITTEE CHARTER REVIEW

The Committee’s Charter requires that the Committee “review and assess at least annually the adequacy” of the Charter and “annually evaluate its own performance with respect to the requirements of the Charter.” The Committee reviewed the Charter and recommended two modifications, which would revise the Charter’s language to accurately reflect current Committee practices and align it with the language used by other Regent committees. Upon duly made and seconded, the following motion was approved:

VOTED that the Executive Committee recommends that the Governance and Nominating Committee recommend to the board of Regents the approval of the proposed amendments to the Executive Committee’s Charter.

SECRETARY’S REPORT

The Secretary updated the Committee on the state of the Smithsonian. He discussed his recent trip to Cuba where he was part of a cultural exchange delegation, organized by the Presidents’ Committee on the Arts and Humanities. The Secretary is currently working with the Cuban government to develop a Memorandum of Understanding regarding future interactions between the Smithsonian and Cuba, including a specific effort to feature Cuba at the 2017 Folklife Festival.

**Participated by telephone*

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee then conducted an executive session. The Committee received an update on the Smithsonian's collaboration in London and next steps for the project, since the Board's vote on May 1, 2016, to approve the long-term partnership with the Victoria & Albert Museum (V&A). Final discussions with the V&A are still in progress and conceptual planning is in the early phases. A public announcement can be expected later in June.

The Committee then continued discussions regarding donor cultivation and hiring for the Arts & Industries Building. The space is currently being used as a special-events venue, with a wide-range of options for future use of the historic building still being considered.

Lastly, the Committee received updates on personnel matters related to the staffing and organization of senior management, including the searches for the positions of Provost/Under Secretary for Museums & Research; the Director for the Office of Communications and External Affairs; Assistant Secretary for Education and Access; Margaret and Terry Stent Director of the Smithsonian American Art Museum & Renwick Gallery of Art; Director of the Anacostia Community Museum; and the Director of the Asian Pacific American Center.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John W. McCarter, Jr.
Chair