

Commemorative Commission to Honor the Contributions of Virginia's Women
January 4, 2018 – 2:00 PM – Senate Room 1
Virginia State Capitol, Richmond, Virginia

Meeting Notes

Members in attendance:

Secretary Nancy Rodrigues, Senator Whipple, Susan C. Schaar, Jacqueline Cook Hedblom, Dr. Sandra Treadway, Lissy S. Bryan, E.J. Scott, Krysta Jones and Colleen Messick

On January 4, 2018 at 2:00 PM the Commemorative Commission to Honor the Contributions of the Women of Virginia met. Senator Whipple called the meeting to order. In addition to Senator Whipple, Secretary Rodrigues, Susan C. Schaar, Jacqueline Cook Hedblom, Dr. Sandra Treadway, Lissy S. Bryan, E.J. Scott, Krysta Jones and Colleen Messick were in attendance. The meeting began with a review of the December 4th Groundbreaking Ceremony. 700 individuals were in attendance, including over 50 women in uniform. Secretary Rodriguez noted the ceremony was the largest event Governor McAuliffe has participated in while in office. Colleen Messick, Executive Director of the Virginia Capitol Foundation, went over the latest Financial Report (see file) with the Commission. The biggest news from the report was Towne Bank's pledge of \$250,000 in support of the Women's Monument which will be paid in two installments in May 2018 and May 2019. This pledge has helped the Commission meet the goal of the Cabell Challenge Grant, which will now release \$400,000 to the Capitol Foundation. Jonas Courey then reviewed past and upcoming fundraising events, noting the importance of following up with event sponsors for attendee lists. Commission members also discussed the need to make a developmental plan to streamline all social media accounts for the monument to better inform the public. Holly Eve, of the Department of General Services and agent to represent the Commission at the contract negotiations between the Attorney General's office and the contract

with Daniel and Co., went over the Plaza Payment Schedule from Daniel and Co. with the Commission (see file). Senator Whipple then discussed the upcoming for photo shoot for the twelve bronze statues. Studio EIS will come down to Richmond from New York to do the shoot and the Commission would like to make it a fundraising event. Nancy Rodrigues asked Holly Eve to write a letter to Ivan Schwartz to make the arrangements for transporting the model of the monument as discussed in the letter she received (see file). Secretary Rodrigues made a motion to authorize a contract from Studio EIS for the photo shoot in the amount of \$89,000 as noted in the letter from Elliot Schwartz dated November 7, 2017. The motion was seconded by Susan Clarke Schaar and agreed to by the Commission 9-0.

Mary Margaret Whipple asked if there had been any changes to the current legislation regarding the Women's Monument. Susan Clarke Schaar noted there was one change, former Secretary of Administration Lisa Hicks-Thomas will be appointed by the Senate Rules Committee to take Mrs. Alsop's place on the Executive Committee. Susan also mentioned the idea of hiring a professional to reach out nationally for the Monument. This person would need to have experience writing grants with an educational component. The Commission plans to take the idea under consideration and also suggested sending letters to all those who nominated individuals for the Wall of Honor. Nancy Rodriguez informed the members that the final approval is needed for the names on the Wall of Honor in order for Daniel & Co. to begin work. The list will be sent electronically and by mail to the Commission Members asking them to call or email by the following week with their approval or concerns. Senator Whipple moved the Commission adjourn. Ms. Schaar seconded the motion. The Committee adjourned 9-0.

