



NORTH CAROLINA MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION

Minutes for Executive Steering Group (ESG) Meeting, 1st Quarter, February 4, 2020 **Wells Fargo Building, 23rd Floor, 150 Fayetteville Street, Raleigh**

Members Present

Grier Martin, Chairman
Frank Bottorff, Base Sustainability, Chair
Kirk Warner, Quality of Life, Chair
David Hayden, Economic Dev, Chair
Paul Friday, Installation Area
Sally-Ann Gupta A/R Sen Brown,
Legislative Affairs Chair
Sec Larry Hall (by phone)

Additional Attendees

Chris Hailey, LA for G. Martin
Chad Sydnor, Cassidy and Associates
Brandon Goodin, NCNG Association
John White, NC Petroleum Council
Jamie Norment, ACT
Kelly Jackson, DMVA

Members Not Present

Senator Harry Brown
Hon Chuck Allen, Installation Area

NCMAC Members Present

Rep George Cleveland

OPENING REMARKS: CHAIRMAN GRIER MARTIN

Chairman Grier Martin called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Chairman Martin welcomed everyone to the Executive Steering Group (ESG) meeting and had a roll call of attendees. The Group had a quorum.

CONSENT MINUTES: CHAIRMAN GRIER MARTIN

Chairman Martin asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the 4th Quarter meeting held on November 5, 2019. David Hayden made a motion to approve the minutes, Kirk Warner seconded the motion and it passed by a unanimous vote.

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS (DMVA) UPDATE: SECRETARY LARRY HALL

Secretary Hall thanked everyone for attend the meeting today. He wanted to give a quick update on things that the department has been working on. He said that everyone was aware that Fort Bragg has had a recent deployment and the largest in 33 years of active duty troops going to the Middle East on January 1. In that timeframe 3500 troops and then a follow on of troops and units, going on a 6-9 month deployment. In response to that deployment, and in concert with the USO of NC Fort Bragg, we conducted a support session for the families. We created an Expo with all the services that the State Departments provide in conjunction with what the military provides. Everyone may not be aware that the military may have certain constraints on resources and their ability to turn around requests and

**Minutes for 1st Quarter Executive Steering Group (ESG) Meeting
February 4, 2020
Page 2**

help folks in a short period of time. We had that event for those families, and it worked out very well. We had approximately 200 families attend the event. We also have the Family Readiness Group (FRG) Leaders from across the base come in and talk about additional issues that they have and how the State, USO of NC and Soldier Support Center can better serve them. It was a productive event. We will be taking that Family Expo to Camp Lejeune in the near future in conjunction with the USO of NC. This event was our idea, but we needed to reach out to organizations that had space and resources to make this event happen. We want to thank those partners and the folks at the Soldier Support Center. Last week we had an Aerospace meeting with Department of Transportation (DOT) and talked about the future of aerospace in NC. Many of the folks involved in the meeting are former military. That is an industry that we hope to have significant gains and employment for military personnel. The American Legion is having their quarterly event on Friday and Saturday, February 14-15, 2020. The Department will be attending. We have been working on a project with Jones County, which was hit tremendously by a storm. There are 2 American Legion Posts there that we have been working with to get funding and volunteer organizations to refurbish their Posts. We have had great success on this project. We were able to get Lowes Corporation to provide some additional grants. One Post received up to \$15,000 and the other Post we are trying to get that same support. We are also working with Team Rubicon to assist with some refurbishing. These are the events that we have been working on. Sec Hall also mentioned that UNC Board of Governors has a Military Affairs Committee and they go to meet with them about once a year. He met with them on January 7, 2020 and gave them an update on the pending issues that you heard about this morning. Chairman Martin said that he had spoken with that Committee a couple of months ago. He is pleased to know that they are very focused on these issues and reaching out to the Department and NCMAC for advice and guidance.

QUALITY OF LIFE (QOL) COMMITTEE: KIRK WARNER

Kirk Warner said that the QOL had a great meeting on January 23, 2020 and had every committee member in attendance for the meeting. We had good discussions as we always do. We started with the K-12 group and activities. We talked about a couple of issues. We started with the Purple Star program which we received a briefing on at the last NCMAC meeting. That program is underway and advertised. The applications have been sent out and due in late February with recognition in late April for military friendly schools that have met the criteria. This is in coordination with the Month of the Military Child which is April. The Purple Star program is going full steam ahead. Another topic was the Career and College Readiness Graduate Alignment Partnership (CCRGAP). So, if you meet the math requirement for a transferring senior that is not being recognized by our system, they may have to retake a similar course. Chairman Martin asked Kirk Warner to restate the information. Kirk Warner said that a transitioning family member that has a senior in high school and had taken the appropriate graduating course, a math course in particular, at the school system that he was in and then comes to NC and we (NC) have a specific requirement that they have to take a specific math course. There does not seem to be much room to maneuver around this. He thinks you can get a waiver but wanted to bring this up as a potential gap. Chairman Martin asked if the Interstate Compact address this matter? Kirk Warner said that it should, but there is a specific statute that we may need to tweak. The school military liaisons will get back to us on that topic. They are going to see how many military students that this might affect since a waiver may be hard to get.

Minutes for 1st Quarter Executive Steering Group (ESG) Meeting

February 4, 2020

Page 3

Kirk Warner said they talked about military family homeschoolers. We talked about the student identifier and the good data that we have for Public Schools but with the Non-Public Schools (home schools) we can't get our arm around that information. One of the Military Liaisons has reached out to the Department of Non-Public Instruction staff who are nested in the Department of Administration (DOA). They have the data that we are looking for. Kelly Jackson said that Julie Fulton, Camp Lejeune Military Liaison has reached out to Dr. Flood, Director of Non-Public Instruction. Dr. Flood has emailed Julie Fulton the home school and Charter school information. Rep Cleveland said that the information is helpful but then they have to drill down to find the military home school children from that information. They will continue to mine the data or see if the student identifier can be used by the for the Non-Public Instruction department. Rep Cleveland said that he was working on some legislation for that topic.

Kirk Warner said they also talked about the Non-Custodial Enrollment issue and he would let Rep Cleveland talk about that topic during the Legislative Affairs Committee update. We also talked about In-State Tuition for military service members and their dependents. We are trying to come up with solutions for the gap areas in the currently legislation. Acceptance to a college verses enrollment in a college. Do we need a legislative fix or not? More to follow on this topic.

Kirk Warner said he had heard from the National Guard and they had a couple of items. One item was military parking at airports for Veterans and also free tolls for Veterans. These are benefits for Veterans in other states that we don't have in NC. The Adjutant General of NC (TAG) would like the NCMAC to look into these items. He said that he was not sure if this was a QOL or Economic Development issue. He will talk to David Hayden on this matter. They also brought up the military retirement tax relief topic which is being discussed by the Economic Development committee.

Another topic that has come up through the NC Bar Legal Assistance to Military Personnel (LAMP) committee is that Fort Bragg like most of the installations has a tax center. The legal assistance office hosts that. Fort Bragg normally does about 20,000 returns for the soldiers per year. They will not have the tax center open this year. The funding is not there so the Command has decided not to have a tax center open this year except for Gold Star families. Since we have had this deployment, they are usually deferred. That leaves a huge gap of about 15,000 tax returns that the families will have to get other assistance if they can't complete them themselves. They are normally simple return, but it is a perk that means something to the families. So, if the families are tagged \$150 per return, that is a big deal. He is going to follow up with the Garrison Commander and the Deputy Commanding General (DCG) that he has met with in early December. He sent a note out yesterday to try to highlight that issue. The BAR Association and BAR is looking at this. We are trying to find a solution to this matter. Chairman Martin asked if accountants had an equivalent to the BAR Association? Is it worth trying to coordinate with them? Kirk Warner said that he thought they did, since they are a professional organization. He said that Camp Lejeune would have their tax center this year but not sure what will happen next year. The National Guard is expanding to try to pick up about 1,500 or so more soldiers and airmen. Fort Bragg not having the tax center fully operational is a quality of life issue and we need to work on that matter. He will continue to work with COL Sounia, Garrison Commander Fort Bragg and he has a call into MG Kraft, DCG Fort Bragg. He wants to highlight to both of these Commanders that when you just strike the pen and say you don't have money to do this or it wasn't funded this year, that is not an acceptable solution for the number of folks that it serves and the benefit it has. Chairman Martin said that

**Minutes for 1st Quarter Executive Steering Group (ESG) Meeting
February 4, 2020
Page 4**

especially with the number of personnel they have deployed it is beneficial. Kirk Warner said that he would continue to work on this matter.

Kirk Warner said that he had 2 potential briefers for the NCMAC meeting. The first is a request from the USO of NC to give an update on the deployments and what they are doing. A Situational Report (SITREP) on what is happening now. Chairman Martin said that it would cover the no notice deployment and how quickly the USO responded to that. Kirk Warner said that it also falls into the Family Expo that was held at Fort Bragg. They would need about 10 minutes. The second request is from the NC Reserve Component Commander's Council (NC RCCC). The NC RCCC was held on January 10, 2020 and the 2 briefers that he would recommend were Aaron Harper, Vet Carolina, Atrium Health and Ilario Pantano, Syracuse/NC Serves. Ilario Pantano's presentation was awesome and something we should hear. We have had an NCServes presentation to the QOL and Paul Berry has presented to the NCMAC. He said that we need to put this on the agenda in the future. Chairman Martin said the NCServes does great work serving active duty and veterans.

David Hayden said that he wanted to add something to the tax center issue. He was a lawyer at Fort Bragg in 1980-2000. There has been a tax center as long as he can remember. It is incredible that they did not do it this year and probably too late to fix it for this year. You can ask the accountants to fill that gap, but they are not going to be able to fill that gap. There is going to have a huge impact on family members of deployed service members and those who are here and have to find an alternative to that issue. The families are going to expect the tax center to be available to them. The majority of the returns are very simple returns and take about 10 minutes to complete, but the comfort of having an organization that is part of the military that would get you through this is very comforting. He can't believe that Fort Bragg has approved that decision and not found funding to do that. His recommendation is that whenever we have contact with the Commanders or any of the leadership, ask them what the impact of that decision is. From those of us who have the experience and have seen the impact of that program, we recognize the value of the program to the families of the service members. The local business members will benefit from that decision, but that is just money out of the pockets of people who can least afford it. Chairman Martin asked Kirk Warner if there was any role for the Reserve Component to try to fill that gap? Kirk Warner said that he has raised this issue to the 134th as they are right there. Maybe they could do something on a weekend. Frank Bottorff asked if anyone had talked to the Commander to see what the mindset is? This is a significant investment of people. Kirk Warner said that he is still trying to get the truth on all of the information that he has been given. Frank Bottorff said that maybe someone needs to talk to Rodney Anderson or Arnold Gordon-Bray about this matter since they have a connection to the Fort Bragg leadership. Kirk Warner said that he, Chairman Martin and other NCMAC members had a meeting with Fort Bragg leadership and this was not mentioned. Chairman Martin said that he would talk to our NCMAC members from the Fort Bragg area about this matter. David Hayden said that he thought Rodney Anderson could be helpful on this matter. Chairman Martin asked Kirk Warner to check in with the Accountants to see if they could help with this issue. Chairman Martin will reach out to the 134th Reserve Component.

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: SALLY-ANN GUPTA

Sally-Ann Gupta said that Legislative Affairs committee had a meeting on January 21, 2020 and the focus was narrower than the QOL committee meeting. We are getting good movement on the issue that we

**Minutes for 1st Quarter Executive Steering Group (ESG) Meeting
February 4, 2020
Page 5**

have. This topic came to us from the QOL committee and it concerns an existing General Statute (G.S.) that had some unanticipated ambiguities built into it. It is G.S. 115C-366(a3). There is a copy of the G.S. in your folder. This concerns came to us from Mr. Mike Archer, MCI-East attorney. He discovered when reviewing this statute that there are some issues when service members were deploying or extensive training. The language in the statute was ambiguous when it came to their children and assigning them to a Local Education Agency (LEA). One of the issues that he raised was that one of the qualifications was that the service member be on active military duty and deployed. That raised a question of what a deployment is or what constitutes a deployment. What about when you have someone that is on a training assignment in another state. It isn't a deployment but could be impractical for their child to be with them and re-enroll in another school when they just want to transfer supervision of their child to another family member or close friend and have their child enrolled in a LEA. In some cases, the LEA's were refusing to honor arrangements that the service member had made under our current affidavit system that is built into that statute absent of formal transfer of guardianship from a court which is not required under the statutory language. What we have sought to do is to revisit the language and clear up any ambiguities that we would have a uniform structure when any LEA was looking at enrolling one of these service members children. There should not be any confusion on what is required of them in terms of enrollment. Legal guardianship is not required and no court order awarding guardianship to someone else before enrolling them in a LEA. They do not need to be formally deployed but they could be on military duty and under orders.

We have added some language on page 2. "(1) h. "The parent or legal guardian is on active military duty, and the commanding officer of the parent or legal guardian provides in a signed letter that the parent or legal guardian's military orders prevent the parent or legal guardian from physically residing with the student. Assignment under this sub-subdivision is only available if the signed letter from the commanding officer of the parent or legal guardian is included with the affidavits required under subdivision (3) of this subsection, and the commanding officer indicates the time period that such military orders will be in effect. For purposes of this sub-subdivision, the term "active military duty" does not include periods of active duty for training for less than 30 days."

Sally-Ann Gupta said the letter from the commanding officer combined with the current affidavit system that we have in this statute is sufficient for any LEA to enroll any military child dependent. There is also a requirement that the active duty military training and orders not be less than 30 days. We now have added that language and we are actively looking to identify vehicles on both the House and Senate side to add this language to. Rep Cleveland said that he is not going that route at this time. Sally-Ann Gupta said they are now re-strategizing. We are looking to introduce this in the short session and assign it to a vehicle.

Chairman Martin asked what we need to do with this before the NCMAC meeting? Rep Cleveland said that we have done a couple of things and also addressed the affidavit and added some language to clarify the problems, so there are no doubts. Another bill that we have is about dependents that get accepted into college in NC and then their parent receives orders to change their station. The child has not enrolled but was accepted. We are addressing that issue too. We will also address the Military Identifier for Home school students. He is working with the Department of Administration (DOA), Non-Public Instruction. Rep Cleveland will bring these 3 documents to the NCMAC meeting and will need

**Minutes for 1st Quarter Executive Steering Group (ESG) Meeting
February 4, 2020
Page 6**

about 3 minutes to talk about the legislation that is being proposed and then we will introduce it coming from the NCMAC. Chairman Martin asked if Rep Cleveland would have all 3 documents in advance of the NCMAC meeting. Rep Cleveland said that he would have the documents for the NCMAC meeting and review them prior to the meeting.

Frank Bottorff asked if the NCMAC was going to have a Resolution of support for each of piece of legislation? Rep Cleveland said if you want to go that route. His concern was that he planned to introduce it from the Commission and the Commission has to vote on it. Chairman Martin said that you plan to recommend it to the General Assembly from the NCMAC. Frank Bottorff said that as long as verbal is ok. Sally-Ann Gupta asked about the military identifier. Rep Cleveland said that the current military identifier is for Public Instruction but no home schoolers. Sally-Ann Gupta asked if they had any privacy filters. Kirk Warner said yes they did. Sally-Ann Gupta said than the general public can't access which children are children of service members. Rep Cleveland said that was correct. Chairman Martin said that was dealt with when they did the military identifier for the Public Schools.

Chairman Martin asked Rep Cleveland to ensure that the documents were sent out to the NCMAC members prior to the NCMAC meeting. Rep Cleveland said that he would try to get the documents out by February 15, 2020. Chairman Martin wanted to ensure that all of the members had time to read each documents prior to the meeting. He said that he would work up a draft letter of support to send to the General Assembly. He will draft his letter in a way that does not talk about the vehicle that this may happen in.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: DAVID HAYDEN

David Hayden said that they met on January 14, 2020. He is going to cover 4 things. The meeting that happened on the 14th, good news from the National Guard and the NGAUS that will be in Charlotte, Strategic Priority homework and lastly the Defense Asset Inventory.

At the Economic Development committee meeting they had Evan Thompson, Chairman NC Veterans Council speak. He gave the committee an update on their support to try to get support for the tax exemption for military retirees. There was some discussion about what Evan Thompson had mentioned that some folks believe that it should include all retirees. He said that at this point their concern is military retirees and that is what they want to focus on. They will be reaching out to all of their subordinate organizations to have them reach out to their elected officials to support that.

David Hayden said they received a budget update from Frank Bottorff. They also got an update from Jamie Norment on Marine Corps Installation – East (MCI-East) and Fleet Readiness Center-East (FRC-East). They were introduced to our newest member from the Fort Bragg area, MG (R) Rodney Anderson. He was a former Deputy Corps Commander. He is the ideal person to reach out to about the tax center issue. Denny Lewis, Economic Development Partnership for NC (EDPNC) gave them an update on what happened at the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) conference behind the scenes. One of the primary reasons that we went to the conference was to support General Dempsey as he received the Marshall Award. Denny Lewis gave us a good update on all of the meetings and information that was gathered. Secretary Copeland, Department of Commerce and Secretary Hall, Department of

**Minutes for 1st Quarter Executive Steering Group (ESG) Meeting
February 4, 2020
Page 7**

Military and Veterans Affairs both attended the conference. There was some discussion that AUSA may be looking at a mid-year conference. There has been some talk about coming to the Triangle area.

He said they received an update from Scott Dorney, NC Military Business Center (NCMBC) and he gave them more granularity on the money that we recommended that the Legislature provided for them. That funding was provided for them and he gave them an update on how that money is being spent and the positions that it is being spent for. If you are on his email distribution list, you will receive information on his new hires throughout the state. They are value added to his organization. Chairman Martin asked if we should ask Scott Dorney to give us a briefing on how the funding has been spent. David Hayden said that he agreed with that recommendation.

He said they also got an update from Larry Coleman, Executive Director for the NC National Guard Association. The National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) would be holding their conference in Charlotte, NC in September 9-12, 2021. That is a big deal for the State of NC. All of the Adjutant General's (TAG) will be attending this conference. He recommended that the NCMAC consider hosting a reception for the TAG's and invite industry representatives to the reception. This is something that we should put on our long range calendar.

He said they also talked about the Strategic Priorities again. He had tasked them to identify 1-3 steps to accomplish these priorities. He will be sending out the homework assignment one more time to each of the members.

David Hayden said that the last topic was the Cluster Analysis. He has received the final report as they have completed the final phase of the project. It is a very comprehensive report and in draft form at this time. Research Triangle Institute (RTI) will be paying for a more comprehensive and colorful report for our use going forward. He said that the Economic Development Committee agreed that Defense Alliance of NC (DANC) had completed phase IV of the project and payment of phase IV should be processed. David Hayden asked Kelly Jackson to send out the draft Refresh to the NCMAC members. He also recommended that they give a briefing to the Full NCMAC at the February meeting. He said that they would need about 15-20 minutes for this presentation.

Paul Friday said that one of the Economic Development Committee meeting they had talked about who is who in the Economic world and having a better sense of that information. He said that we are reaching that juncture at the conclusion of this study. This gives us an opportunity to clear the air about roles and responsibilities for what the State funded entities do and what private companies do. He is spending a lot of time with Scott Dorney. There are a lot of folks on the industry side that think that they put things together and someone takes that and runs with that in a way that usurps the company's privileges in terms of how they want to interact and go after business. The State has set up a huge infrastructure to help grow the economy and our industry has to work with that in a way that benefits both. Otherwise it will be a duplicate of effort for businesses to put on events that the State already is getting paid to do. The speakers and the topics need to come from the industry that need the answers. Right now, those two are not aligned. We need to get these two groups together and to trust each other. He is working on that now and using the Cluster Analysis for that.

**Minutes for 1st Quarter Executive Steering Group (ESG) Meeting
February 4, 2020
Page 8**

BASE SUSTAINABILITY AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS (BS&CA) COMMITTEE: FRANK BOTTORFF

Frank Bottorff said that the Base Sustainability and Community Affairs Committee met on January 28, 2020. The discussion items were the 2 Community Grants. Also, the status of the 2 ongoing grants which are the City of Jacksonville and the monitoring wells for the aquifers and Allies for Cherry Point's Tomorrow (ACT) and the military influence overlay districts. Both of them are nearing the final phases. We need to have an update from both of them at the May NCMAC meeting.

He said that they had an update on the Cluster Analysis from Paul Friday. We also talked about the next round of Community Grants that will be going out soon. Kelly Jackson said that it would be sent out in the next week. It will be sent to all NCMAC members, and Mayors and City Managers around military installations. It will also be posted on the DMVA/NCMAC website. Frank Bottorff said that he would also do a follow on email.

We also received an update from Dewitt Hardee, Department of Agriculture on Sentinel Landscape and their quarterly update. One of their sub-contractors is NC State University (NCSU). Dr. Mary Lou Addor, NCSU would like to give the NCMAC a briefing on the Sentinel Landscape program. He thinks that this presentation would be helpful for the NCMAC members.

Frank Bottorff said that the committee talked about the Strategic Plan. He has a revised timeline for that process. We need to get the Request for Proposal (RFP) ready for review. This is a legislative requirement due November 2020. The Association of Defense Communities (ADC) Conference is scheduled for February 9-12, 2020. The NCMAC is sending Rodney Anderson, Paul Friday and Will Best. There are other NCMAC members attending the conference funded by their cities (Goldsboro and Havelock). There will be a good contingency from NC.

Frank Bottorff said that there had been a suggestion to have FRC-East give a briefing to the Commission on their economic impact to the state and what they do. Then it went into a broader discussion about having one of the installations groups give a briefing at each of the NCMAC meetings. So, at each meeting we get an update on what is happening at the installations and their economic impact to the state. He recommended having FRC-East start the briefing at the next NCMAC meeting and they have a standard briefing that they can give to the NCMAC.

Frank Bottorff said that the committee received an update from Dennis Goodson, Seymour Johnson Air Force Base. They continue to work on the Rocky Forge wind turbine issues up in Virginia which is a big issue. This has an impact to one of the low levels that Seymour Johnson uses. Another discussion item was the use of that low level that is not logged with a lot of usage. He said that he didn't think that it was not being used, but just not being logged. One of the feedback items was that we need to go back to the installation Commanders and ensure that for the low levels that we are using, that they talk to all of the Commanders of the operational units. That even if it is on the weekend and generally they don't call in advance, they are supposed to schedule them in advance, but if they don't and the scheduling authority is not open, you just call the radio and say I am coming in and is anyone on the route. If you don't hear back you just fly it. Frank Bottorff thinks that there is a lot of usage that is not being logged. The due-out is to talk to the operations commanders about ensuring the usage is being logged.

**Minutes for 1st Quarter Executive Steering Group (ESG) Meeting
February 4, 2020
Page 9**

Frank Bottorff said that we are getting close to the Census date and recommend that we have an update from Ron Massey or Bob Coats. We are in the cross hairs for this event. We also talked about our lobbying contract with Cassidy and Associates. That was a one year contract with 2 additional option years. We need to renew the contract immediately. Chairman Martin asked when the contract ended. Frank Bottorff said the end of March. He asked Chairman Martin if he thought that the ESG had the authority to approve the renewal of the contract or did it need to go to the Full NCMAC? Chairman Martin said that this contract was for 1 year with 2 optional years. Frank Bottorff said that was correct. Chairman Martin said that he recommended that this go to the Full NCMAC for approval. Rep Cleveland said that he recommended that the Full NCMAC say yes or no to the renewal. He said to just say it is up for renewal and have someone make a motion. Chairman Martin said that he wanted the members to be notified prior to the meeting about the renewal and have it on the agenda. Kirk Warner said that he thought the ESG should only approve emergency type matters.

Frank Bottorff said that for the BS&CA committee we have the following items for the NCMAC meeting. The Census, Lobbying Service renewal, Sentinel Landscape briefing and potentially FRC-East briefing. We had another topic that doesn't need any action on at this time is an Intergovernmental Service Agreement (IGSA) issue. The City of Goldsboro is trying to work an IGSA issue with Seymour Johnson about landscape maintenance. The city lawyer is saying that he is concerned and don't think they have the authority from the legislators to do these types of things. He thinks there are differing opinions out there for this and potentially this already exists. They are looking into this issue and the different areas of legislation that is out there. They may come back to us to work on the language modification in the short session to ensure that the language is clear that a city has the authority to do IGSA's for their supportive installation. Chairman Martin said to let him know if Frank Bottorff hears back from them. Frank Bottorff said that he asked them to work on language to be considered if we need to go that way.

Paul Friday said that in May it will be the 20th Anniversary of the National Sentinel Landscape program. And hosted in NC in Beaufort. Given that this Commission approves funding for Sentinel Landscape it would be worthwhile for a presentation to be made or at least someone to attend that event. The Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS) will be meeting but it is a celebration of the Anniversary for Sentinel Landscape. Chairman Martin asked Paul Friday to get the details on this event and send that information to Kelly Jackson. She will share that information with this group.

BYLAWS TASK FORCE (TF): KIRK WARNER

Kirk Warner said there was nothing to report on the Bylaws.

FINANCE AND BUDGET TASK FORCE: FRANK BOTTORFF

Frank Bottorff said that this is the updated expenditures to date. He said that there was a copy of the expenditures in their folders.

Expenditures 2019-2020

Lobbying Service	July – January	\$178,500
Facilitator Service	August – September	\$4,640

**Minutes for 1st Quarter Executive Steering Group (ESG) Meeting
February 4, 2020
Page 10**

EDPNC	July – January	\$90,000
Cluster Analysis	July – January	\$120,149.00
Stipend/Per Diem	July – January	\$427.45
Travel	July – November	\$4,959.46
Office Supplies	September	\$182.10
Conferences	October – January	\$2,096.50
MISC	July – October	<u>\$441.25</u>
Total:		\$401,385.76

Frank Bottorff said that the funds are being expended by the plan and there are no surprises on the expenditure spreadsheet. He said that with the full budget it is worth taking time at the full commission meeting and talking about what we need to do before the next round of committee meeting and specifically this one. We came into this budget year with \$1,677,299.75 and we did not get any money from the Legislature and he doesn't think they will make that up at this point. He thinks we are looking at the next budget year to receive funds. He wants the Commission to be ready for a worse case scenario. We had a budget of \$1.4 million and he doesn't think we will spend all of that funding and we have about \$260,000 in the bank. We have been asking for \$1M per year. If we look at what our budgeting has been and then you look at the following expenses; NC4ME at \$40,000, EDPNC at \$120,000 and that one is mandated in the legislation, Sentinel Landscapes at \$150,000; Community Grants at \$110,000 per year, and lobbying service at \$306,000 that adds up to \$751,000 that is our recurring funds that we have planned out of a \$1M budget per year. The administration and conferences that we have planned are \$40,000 for each which is \$80,000. That makes the total \$831,000 out of \$1M for the year.

There are other things that we have talked about such as the strategic plan rewrite and the UNC proposal that we will talk about later. There is also a proposal that is being drafted by the Defense Alliance of NC that is related to that for economic development marketing. We have more items than we have funds to support. All of these great ideas will not fit in the bucket. We will need to priorities items at the next meeting. If we plan to add items we may need to delete some other items. He just wanted to inform everyone that we may have some decisions to make moving forward. We may need to put a team together or have this group work on that effort. Chairman Martin said that once the ESG has a recommendation, then they would bring that recommendation to the full NCMAC for approval. Frank Bottorff said yes. Chairman Martin asked if we will be ok until the ESG can bring something to the commission members at the May 2020 meeting. Frank Bottorff said that is what he thought. If we have about \$400-500 left in the fund balance at the end of this fiscal year and then depending on the budget success of the legislature next year, we may need that just to get us through the highest priority including lobbying and other items. There may be some things coming 1 July and we don't have an approved budget and adds money to the account, then we may have to make some decisions for next fiscal year. He just wanted to ensure that the ESG members are aware of the finances at this time and that we may have some hard decisions to make.

Chairman Martin asked what Frank Bottorff recommended to present to the Commission members at the February meeting? Frank Bottorff said that he planned to update them on expenditures and tell them that over the next 3 months we plan on developing a list of priorities. Paul Friday asked if there

**Minutes for 1st Quarter Executive Steering Group (ESG) Meeting
February 4, 2020
Page 11**

was movement afoot to or was it dismissed with regards to the session that you will be starting prior to July, is there a place holder or anything? Frank Bottorff said that is a good question. He said that in the last budget they approved only recurring funds and didn't approve non-recurring funds. Is there any anticipation that they will go back and refund the non-recurring stuff? Rep Cleveland said that there was a possibility.

INSTALLATION COORDINATOR UPDATES: CHAIRMAN MARTIN

Chairman Martin asked the Installation coordinators if they had any comments.

Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune: Paul Friday said that he had just had a meeting at Camp Lejeune with the Command and G-7 staff. There were 2 issues that were discussed. The first issue was the Non-Custodial Enrollment which has already been covered. They are all very grateful for all of the work that has gone into this topic and the drafting of legislation for this and the In state tuition. The second item was on the SERPPAS and spent a lot of time on that topic. The state has put a lot of time into this and it is good that we are hosting this event in May. He thinks it is important to send someone to this event.

Fort Bragg: Kirk Warner said that he had mentioned the meeting with the DCG MG Kraft and the Garrison Commander in early December. At the Garrison Commander meeting they presented to him to get him up to speed on what the NCMAC is doing and touches that we have with Fort Bragg and that area. We talked about some infrastructure issues that are mainly dealing with the Department of Transportation (DOT) and access to the installation mainly from the Southern Pines area. We also talked about K-12 issues and we have members from the NCMAC that are from the Fort Bragg area. It was a very robust meeting and just a couple of weeks before the Brigade short notice deployment. It was also before the tax center issue came up. There was nothing unique, but they now know us and about the NCMAC. They also know about our priority of effort. It was a good public relations visit and information dissemination visit. Chairman Martin said that it was a good visit and he and Kirk Warner were along for the ride. We walked into the Corps Headquarters with NCMAC members MG (R) Anderson, MG (R) Reeder, and BG (R) Gordon-Bray so we had their complete and undivided attention. These gentlemen are very well respected at Fort Bragg. Kirk Warner said that they will be meeting with the Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC) staff to have the same conversations. Paul Friday said that Camp Lejeune has started inviting all of the area representatives and to let them know that they are welcome to attend the meetings. Is that what is happening at Fort Bragg? Kirk Warner said that they initiated these meetings with the Fort Bragg leadership. Also, that they do need to have these meetings on a regular basis. Then they can share this information with all of the NCMAC committees. Kelly Jackson said that she attended a meeting that same day that was hosted by the Garrison Commander and the area Superintendents. It was a good meeting and each Superintendent had an opportunity to share information about their school districts.

Marine Corps Air Station. Cherry Point: Frank Bottorff said that he did not have anything to report at this time.

Seymour Johnson Air Force Base: No update.

STRATEGIC RETREAT UPDATE: KIRK WARNER

We have wrapped that up and need to get it into a sharable form for everyone. He thinks it will be part of the foundation for the Strategic Plan. He said that we need to get everything to Kelly Jackson and get the final form completed. It will be useful for a variety of things. It will shape where we are going and an overview. With this document and the Annual Report on Expenditures, these 2 documents allow you to speak to organizations. We need to get this information on a slide deck that we can share and could be part of our Strategic Communications Plan. Both of these documents are very useful. Paul Friday asked when Kirk Warner thought we would have the 2-3 specifics under each item? Someone could get asked what we are doing to accomplish that goal. Kirk Warner said that we could ask one more time to give us that information. David Hayden said that he was going to reach out to his committee one more time for that information. Kirk Warner said that after that, this will be the final document. Frank Bottorff said that we did this for a very low cost and then we will pay more funding to glorify this document. Kirk Warner said that this is going to be the core document and we need to use those other dollars wisely. He said that he would reach out to the Chairman of each committee and get their final information. They need to have that information completed in the next 2 weeks. Paul Friday said that we also need to reach out to the Chairman of the NC Commander's Council for their input. Frank Bottorff said that no matter what we do we need input from the communities and installations. Kirk Warner said that he needs the Chairman to send in bullet point examples in the next couple of weeks. Frank Bottorff said that what matters the most are the implementation steps.

Kirk Warner said that then we can take the changes and roll all of this up. Frank Bottorff said that guidance will be to take this and then do the community meetings. The lessons learned from the first time was that we need input from the Commission and then we go out to the major communities and installations. Then come back to get a draft and then go back out to the communities or also have a Raleigh meeting with a representative from each community. Then have one more community meeting before we finalize it before the NCMAC meeting or a review committee from the NCMAC. The review team will be part of every phase. Sally-Ann Gupta said that was a lot of coordinating. Frank Bottorff said that we were tripped the first time by having the consultant doing this without a sufficient amount of community interaction. Sally-Ann Gupta said, and they got angry about that. Frank Bottorff said that all of the communities got angry. This will be a guide or cheat sheet that we can use to build to this product. Frank Bottorff said that the priorities will be the foundational element of the Strategic plan. Rep Cleveland asked if it would be beneficial to send it out to certain individuals that have worked with the NC Military Affairs Commission for comments? Frank Bottorff said yes. We don't want to surprise anyone but want good thoughtful input as we move forward. Kelly Jackson said that she needs to reach out to Bryan Ayers, NCCC about comments that they currently had on this topic.

CASSIDY AND ASSOCIATES: CHAD SYDNOR

Chad Sydnor from Cassidy and Associates gave the members a lobbying update. He said the House Democrats are going to make a decision this week on whether to bring back earmarks in some way shape or form. That will be interesting to see going forward. They have a few junior members in vulnerable seats. He said that he had sent an email out to the entire Commission over Office of Management and Budget (OMB) that there is a plan to reprogram \$7.2 billion of FY20 money to the Border Wall. That is similar to what the President did with FY19 money. He has been quietly talking to a number of Senators and he recently talked to his former boss Senator Boozman, who chairs the Military

**Minutes for 1st Quarter Executive Steering Group (ESG) Meeting
February 4, 2020
Page 13**

Construction Appropriations. We talked about trying to urge the White House not to do this. They currently have more money than they can spend, and they don't need to move more money in FY20. We will have to see how this plays out. The 2 pots of money that they are going to pull from are Counter Narcotics and Military Construction. The number on military construction is \$3.7 billion and for reference it was \$3.6 billion last year with 3 NC projects impacted. There is more to follow on that. His conversations with some of the Senators on that topic is that this is a very difficult talk and subject to discuss with the President.

The National Defense Appropriations (NDA) season is ramping up and the House has already put out their schedule. The subcommittees will markup on April 21st -22nd and the full Committee marking up April 30th. Then it will be on the floor of the House in mid-May. He would estimate that requests will be into NDA Committee members and NC does not have a committee member but he thinks that Congressman Murphy could get on an Armed Services committee and the requests are due in by March 15th. Appropriations season is also coming up. Ms. Granger of Texas and the ranking members of appropriations has her deadline as soon as this Friday. Considering that the federal budget is not going to be released until February 10th that makes it difficult to submit appropriations requests. He would estimate that most of the Congressman and Senators asked for appropriations requests by last February to early March. The federal budget is coming out on February 10th. There were some rumors that the Justification books that provide you with granular detail that you need might be delayed but it appears that they will be on time. There may be some agencies that have a few missing pieces here and there, but the Services will have their Justification books out with the federal budget on February 10th.

Our Congressional delegation was notified that the Army is standing up a 4th Corps and Fort Bragg was notified that they are under consideration to host the 4th Corps Headquarters. This would be Fort Bragg's 5th 3-Star Command if they are selected. He has sent an email to both MG (R) Reeder and BG (R) Gordon-Bray to see if they can gather any information to see if they can support this. Chairman Martin asked Chad Sydnor to also email MG(R) Rodney Anderson about this matter. Chad Sydnor said that this is another Corps Headquarters with a EUCOM focus. The personnel footprint would be about 630 service members. Since it is aligned with EUCOM, they want it in the Eastern time zone. He thinks that the Army base that has the most compacity is Fort Knox, KY. He thinks because of congestions and crowding issues, Fort Eustis which is a Joint Base has the same problem as Fort Bragg and that is a concentration of Senior Officers and Commands. Fort Bragg has one 4-Star Headquarter and two 3-Star Deputy Commanding General (DCG) which is under the 4-Star. Then four 3-Star Commands and two 2-Star Commands. That would be an enormous amount of Senior Leadership at one installation which has national security implications if the base was ever targeted. Chad Sydnor cautions people to have expectation management on whether the Army will select Fort Bragg to host the 4th Corps Headquarters because the Army has a methodical as do all of the services on this evaluation process. We will see what comes back on this. He thinks that there are other bases that have the capacity for this. Fort Bragg has been dealing with some housing issues and is standing up a Security Forces Assistance Brigade which is a O6 level command. Fort Bragg has approximately 72,000 service members plus Department of the Army (DA) Civilians and family members.

Next week in San Antonio, we will be hearing a lot about the Defense Community Incentive Program (DCIP) program that the appropriators did fund for FY20. It will be administered by the Office of

**Minutes for 1st Quarter Executive Steering Group (ESG) Meeting
February 4, 2020
Page 14**

Economic Adjustment (OEA) in the Department of Defense (DoD). They still need to promulgate the proximity to the base and other things. The devil will be in the details. Frank Bottorff said that will be important because that will be a touchy subject. We need to track this and as soon as there is information we need to get that information out to the communities. Chad Sydnor said that the cost share piece of that is for folks like Goldsboro and Havelock, the way the law is written is beneficial for Jacksonville but not for Fayetteville.

We got a new Congressional map and after the Census we will get another Congressional map. With the new Congressional map, Mr. Butterfield will take Seymour Johnson Air Force Base (AFB) in the next Congress which David Rouser currently has. So that is something to look at. Mr. Walker will not be running, and George Holding will be retiring. There will definitely be a change in the landscape.

NEW BUSINESS: CHAIRMAN MARTIN

Chairman Martin said that there had been discussion at the last couple of NCMAC meetings on strategic communications. That we need to do more of it. We received a proposal from UNC TV to address that. He said that he didn't think that there needed to be a recommendation made at this time. He just wanted to put it before the Executive Steering Group to come to a decision on how they might proceed and have the NCMAC evaluate this proposal or any other proposal that they could receive reference strategic communications. Kirk Warner said he thought that this proposal was very good. Paul Friday said that he had been part of 3 of these with UNC TV and Fort Bragg has done 4 with UNC TV. They do excellent work and they give it pretty good exposure. His concern is what is their appetite for what they have to do with communications. What are all of the pieces? With this as a stand-alone, this could consume every dollar that we were projected to spend, and the reach is not as large as they pretend. But through the redundancy you do get these numbers because you do get the same series or program 3 or 4 times during a year. So, if you miss it the first time, you can see it later. The group that is watching UNC TV is a small sliver of the total that we are trying to reach. He can't criticize the quality of work. Rep Cleveland said that their audience in relationship to the population is very small. But he thinks it is a good idea and would benefit us. Also, the idea of getting a licensing ability for us to use it ourselves going down the road, should be done. His last comment is to add New River Air Station to the list of installations. Paul Friday said that he was not sure who initiated this, but they have a compilation of all of the ones that they have done on the installations and those alone, many people are not aware of. Chairman Martin asked the members if he needed to appoint a group composed of members of the NCMAC who have expressed an interest in strategic communications and take a look at this proposal. We talk about strategic communications and it is vague. He is sure that each member has a different thought of what strategic communication is. So, this proposal could be in sync with what some of them think the strategic communications should be but not for others. If he appoints a group to review this proposal, that will provide some type of consensus and clarity on where NCMAC as a whole wants to go with our strategic communications. One thing that he wants to get a big look on this is and because it is from another state agency, we would not be required to put it out for a bid but could do a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). If anyone from this group wants to be on this committee, let him know. He will go back through the minutes to see who has shown an interest in this topic. Frank Bottorff said that there were members who have shown an interest in this topic and this proposal looks very good. When we decide on the strategic communications plan, how much should go to this and how much to other medias. Chairman Martin said that all of this goes into our budget priorities. Rep

**Minutes for 1st Quarter Executive Steering Group (ESG) Meeting
February 4, 2020
Page 15**

Cleveland said that he wanted to say it again that whatever we do, we need to be able to use that information ourselves because we can get local TV stations to play these things for us. Chairman Martin said he expects the committee to have a lot of recommendations on how to do this. Paul Friday said that the ones that he is aware of there was no charge for them to be produced since they met a need that UNC TV itself wanted to get out there. So, there is another approach with this is to look at what themes UNC-TV wants to get out and approach them with that. If they think there is a market for their viewership, they will come in and do the filming. Kirk Warner said that he recommended that it was not people from the Executive Steering Group.

Chairman Martin asked Kelly Jackson to talk about the Report for the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on General Government. Kelly Jackson said that everyone had a copy of the report and it needed to be turned in this week if possible. It was done like the report for the last year. Chairman Martin asked the group members to review the document and get feedback to Kelly Jackson by Friday, February 7, 2020. Rep Cleveland recommended that we removed the 19-20 expenditure information. Chairman Martin said that the date for feedback was close of business February 7, 2020.

AGENDA FOR FULL NCMAC:

DMVA Update	Secretary Larry Hall (15)	
Committee Updates	Committee Chairpersons (10 each/40)	
Task Force Updates	Task Force Chairpersons (10 each/20))	
NCCC Update	Michael Scalise (10)	
Census update	Bob Coats (5)	
DC Update	Chad Sydnor/James McCleskey (15)	ESG
Veterans Affairs Commission	Jane Campbell (15)	Chairman Martin
Defense Cluster Analysis	Kirsten Reith, RTI (20)	Econ Dev Committee
Sentinel Landscape	Dr. Mary Lou Addor (15)	BS&CA Committee
USO Programs	Kelli Willoughby (15)	QOL Committee
NCMBC Funding/Staff	Scott Dorney (10)	Econ Dev Committee
Lobby Service Renewal	Frank Bottorff (5)	ESG
Association of Defense	Frank Bottorff during his BS&CA time with the attendees.	

Chairman Martin said that he wanted to thank all of the committee chairman and members of the ESG

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Martin asked for a motion to adjourn. Rep Cleveland made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by David Hayden and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:02 pm.