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HALL OF RECORDS COMMISSION MEETING

Annapolis, Maryland

December <sup>14</sup>15, 1972 10:00 a.m.

Called to order by Vice Chairman Dr. Richard Weigle.

AGENDA

1. Consideration of minutes of the last meeting.
2. Election of officers - New chairman required by retirement of the Honorable Hall Hammond as Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals.
3. Restrictions on use of records by the public at the Hall of Records - question raised by Honorable Louis Goldstein.
4. Would the Hall of Records Commission support the effort of creating a new division of government called, perhaps, "Department of History, Records and Culture?" It is called this by the State of North Carolina after installation of the cabinet system of state government, 1971.
5. If the answer is "yes", would the Commission recommend that the Hall of Records be included in this agency?

Members of the Commission are requested to make additions or changes in this proposed agenda.

HALL OF RECORDS COMMISSION MEETING  
December 14, 1972

A meeting of the Hall of Records Commission was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Dr. Richard D. Weigle, Vice Chairman of the Commission. There were present, in addition to Dr. Weigle, Mr. George R. Lewis, Secretary of the Department of General Services; The Honorable Louis L. Goldstein, Comptroller of the Treasury; The Honorable Robert C. Murphy, Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and Samuel Hopkins, Esq., President of the Maryland Historical Society. Others present were Mr. William Filby, Director of the Maryland Historical Society and Mr. Gust Skordas, Assistant Archivist of the Hall of Records.

The minutes of the last meeting, February 14, 1972, were approved without reading as they were distributed previously to the members of the Commission. Thereupon the Commission turned to the election of officers. Chief Judge Robert Murphy was elected Chairman and Dr. Weigle was re-elected Vice Chairman.

The question on restrictions of the use of records by the public at the Hall of Records was then considered. Mr. Goldstein, at whose request this question had been placed on the agenda, explained the case to the other members of the Commission: the proprietors of the Brice House in Annapolis had requested a copy of the microfilm of the James Brice Ledger. This microfilm copy is now in possession of the Hall of Records, the original having been loaned to us subject to restrictions by the Royal Arch Masons in the person of their High Priest, Mr. Frank White. Mr. White was asked to explain the reasons for the restrictions. It was then voted unanimously that Mrs. Wohl be allowed to have a print of the microfilm copy in return for which she would agree not to have other prints made and furthermore, that she would not have the entire

ledger printed. At this point, several issues which had been discussed at the last meeting, and so were recorded in the minutes, were taken up:

Mr. Hopkins reported that the Maryland Historical Society would be willing to furnish the Hall of Records with microfilm copies of the Scharf Papers relevant to the Government of the State of Maryland. The funds were to be provided by the State of Maryland. Mr. Lewis then stated that there might be \$5,000 in the budget of the Department of General Services to defray this cost. Mr. Goldstein then said if the budget of General Services could not muster the \$5,000, the money would be provided by the Board of Public Works from the contingent funds of the State. It was moved and passed unanimously that Mr. Hopkins' proposal be accepted.

Mr. Lewis was then asked to report on the planning for future space needs of the Hall of Records. He informed the Commission that he was going to ask for funds for extensive planning for the Hall of Records at the coming session of the General Assembly.

Dr. Radoff reported that we were committed to the Library of Congress not to repair any of the books which we received from them by virtue of an order of the Congressional Committee on the Library. That being the case, Dr. Radoff had no choice but to give one book, which was in need of repair, to a messenger, who was sent here for that purpose, by the Librarian of Congress. The book has not yet been returned after ten months, but a letter received from Dr. Mumford, Librarian of Congress, December 8, 1972, indicated that the book was in the process of being repaired and will be returned to the Hall of Records when the work is completed.

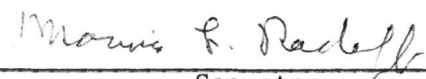
The meeting then considered numbers 4 and 5 of the agenda, which had to do with the possibility of the creation of a new agency of government, "Department of History, Records and Culture" and then supporting the transfer

of the Hall of Records Commission from General Services to this new department. The Commission looked with disfavor on this possibility, and after Mr. Lewis had explained some of the difficulties that the Archivist had had accommodating himself to the new system, it was agreed that the Archivist should cooperate better with the Department of General Services.

Dr. Weigle suggested that the Hall of Records Commission should meet semi-annually and Mr. Goldstein invited the members of the Commission to meet in his office next April after the Legislature had adjourned and at a time convenient to all.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. sine die.

  
Chairman, Hall of Records Commission

  
Secretary

NOTE : SCHARFF PAPERS ARE TO XEROXED NOT MICROFILMED  
AS MINUTES READ.