

**MINUTES of the W3R-USA 4th Annual National Leadership meeting  
held at Mount Clare Stables, Carroll Park, Baltimore, MD on April 13 – 14, 2007**

**Friday 13 April 2007**

**A gift was presented during dinner to Dr. Jacques Bossiere, retiring Chairman, in recognition and gratitude for his outstanding work to initiate and develop the mission of the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route. The gift is a two-volume book retracing the journey covering what is now the W3R-US trail, done after the Civil War.**

**Saturday 14 April 2007**

**Mrs. Ralph Burdick, (Kim) Chairman, called meeting to order at 09.15 AM.**

**Talisman interactive kiosk informations are now posted on W3R commons. W3R's goal is to rekindle the spirit of the revolution, to tell this human history and show how those who stayed in Washington's ranks made the difference. Thousands of users have access to the interactive kiosk. Discussion on W3R sound trails using emerging technologies along the trail. Funding is necessary to make it a viable program; a small grant from NPS will allow research, experiment and production. Jim Raleigh completed his tour of duty as chief of this technological committee.**

**B.J. Gerber announced that she is retiring from chairing the DC Committee and presented Acquanetta Anderson who will replace her in this capacity.**

**A tri-fold stamp window album from the US Postal Service commemorating the Yorktown Bicentennial of 1981 (and initiated by the late Pastor Stein-Schneider) was presented to Jacques Bossiere, retiring as W3R-USA chairman. In his farewell speech, Jacques Bossiere gave a short history of how W3R came to be - a CT Franco-American Commission on Cultural Affairs became the backbone of the present W3R-USA. He shared his thoughts on the identity of W3R and requested members to be faithful to the identity and make the souvenir of the American Revolution alive through task forces. He thanked Jim Johnson, Serge Gabriel, Christian Bickert, Ralph Nelson and Bob Selig for their invaluable contribution, as well as the artist David Wagner for the magnificent illustrations that give all of us a visual vision of the crucial page of American history.**

**Following a break for lunch, there was a roll call of the States; answering call were: Jim Johnson (NY), Win Carroll (PA), Serge Gabriel (CT), Robert Reyes (MD), Sallie de Barcza (NJ), Kim Burdick (DE), Kevin Vincent (VA), Betty Jane Gerber (DC), Roseann Gorham (RI)**

**A written report from each state is attached to these minutes; with the exception of Massachusetts which was not represented.**

***A financial statement -January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2006- was given by the Treasurer, Carl Nittinger. Total Income was \$6, 234.96, total expense \$6, 063.80. With a beginning balance of \$973.78, the amount of the ending balance is \$1, 144.94***

***A second financial statement - January 1, 2007 to April 12, 2007 was also presented. The total income of \$26, 515.00 reflects the NPS Grant of \$25, 000.00. With a beginning balance of \$1, 144.94, the amount of the ending balance is \$19, 212.61.***

***In other business, an October Regional meeting in Yorktown, VA. was set for Saturday 20 October, with emphasis on Gloucester, Jamestown and French Cemetery in Williamsburg.***

***Money was collected for purchase of wreath to be laid at the grave of Rochambeau in Thore-la-Rochette (France) in observance of the 200th anniversary of his death. The reading on the ribbon should be "L'Amerique se souvient". The ceremony will be planned by Nicole Yancey; in attendance will be Count Michel de Rochambeau and his family, Dr. Bossiere and Serge Gabriel who will also lay a wreath on behalf of the American Society "Le Souvenir Francais".***

***Dr. Bossiere, upon his retirement, was given the title of "Chairman Emeritus and Founder" by motion unanimously carried.***

***Revision of by-laws was discussed with study of 3 topics:***

- what by-laws say at present***
- what by-laws should say***
- Rationale for doing that***

***Work will be done by Sallie de Barcza, Jim Johnson, Serge Gabriel, Win Carroll and Kevin Vincent***

***Motion was presented and unanimously carried for the creation of an "Atlantic Committee" to highlight the all-important naval aid preceding Yorktown and the decisive engagement at the Chesapeake.***

***A TV documentary proposal "America's March to Yorktown" was presented. The approximate cost would be \$225,000 or \$22,500 per state. Copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.***

***Motion was presented and unanimously carried that "W3R support the America's March to Yorktown" film and encourage state organization to explore sources of funding for the project".***

***A regional Board meeting was set for June 23 at the Van Wickle House In Somerset, NJ. In the absence of this recording secretary, minutes will be taken by Ralph Nelson, Corresponding Secretary.***

***The meeting was adjourned at 4PM. Mount Clare Mansion was opened for tour.***

***Respectfully submitted, Nicole Yancey***