

THE NATIONAL AIR COUNCIL

Meeting of the Executive Board of Managers

A meeting of the Executive Board of Managers of The National Air Council was called December 8, 1947 at 3:30 P.M. in the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Hall of the American Museum of Natural History, pursuant to notice.

Present

Executive Board of Managers

Messrs. Burden
Carroll
Davison
Jones
Sullivan

Absent

Messrs. Bell
Pogue
Rickenbacker
Weatherhead
Wilson

Present

Board of National Governors

Messrs. Boots
Vandeburg

Present by Invitation

Messrs. Frazer
Kerlin
Miss Swann

Mr. Davison presided and Mr. Frazer acted as Secretary. The Chairman stated that a quorum was not present at the meeting, and after discussion, it was agreed that the meeting would proceed to record its views on all matters included on the agenda, the record of the meeting to be submitted to the Executive Board of Managers for their consideration and appropriate action thereon.

Mr. Sullivan presented a balance sheet as of November 28, 1947, and after discussion, this was approved and ordered filed with the minutes of this meeting. Mr. Sullivan then presented to the meeting a proposed program of activity for the Council, together with a tentative budget for 1947, 1948 and 1949 (and subsequent years in certain instances) which had previously been submitted to the Program and Finance Committee.

Mr. Sullivan recommended that, in view of the serious condition of U.S. military air strength, the state of the aviation industry as a whole, and the urgent need for a national air policy, a campaign of public information by the Council should be instituted at once. He added, however, that only certain of his recommendations with respect to this matter required initiation at this time, although the entire program should be considered as a five-year program, some parts of which would become permanent activities of the Council.

The program outlined by Mr. Sullivan included:

1. The preparation and issuance of printed and radio material with respect to the establishment of a constructive national air policy;
2. The preparation and distribution of data in support of military and civil air requirements;
3. An educational program embracing the award of scholarships, annual meetings between educators and industrialists and assistance to certain non-profit educational groups;
4. Expansion of the Council's motion picture service to include the production of new films;
5. The publication of a periodical, and
6. The eventual publication of an aviation annual reference work.

The total cost of the projects described together with administrative expenses was estimated at \$273,000.

Mr. Sullivan also presented to the meeting a proposal of Mr. Van Zandt dated December 3rd requesting an outright grant of \$10,000 in support of the publication of an aviation annual.

Mr. Davison and Mr. Burden presented the views of the Program and Finance Committee. After discussion, the meeting approved the program as submitted in full. The aviation annual reference work was endorsed in principle, but the meeting denied the request contained in the Van Zandt proposal, with a further proviso that any additional proposal would be considered only if it provided for ultimate ownership of such annual by the Council.

The Managers and Governors present recommended that the Council proceed with the public information campaign as outlined by Mr. Sullivan (Items 1 and 2 above), and that an initial sum of \$75,000 be appropriated immediately for that purpose over and above administration expenses. It was also recommended that a subcommittee be appointed to study requirements.

It was the expressed view of the meeting that action on a broad educational program, on a periodical, on an annual, and on a motion picture service (Items 3-6 above) and related activities be deferred until such time as the Council has obtained funds which can adequately support these projects.

The Executive Vice-President was empowered by the Board of Managers to make revisions in the budget subject to approval of the Program and Finance Committee, in view of the length of time between meetings of the Board and the frequent necessity for rapid decision. He was also authorized to make public statements in accordance with the Council's aims, purposes, and policies without prior formal approval of the Executive Board of Managers.

It was recommended that the Chairman of the Board, the Treasurer, and Mr. Bell meet with the Program and Finance Committee to develop a financing plan which was briefly described by Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Frazer, this meeting to be held if possible during the week of December 15th. It was also recommended that the entire Board of Managers be thoroughly informed as to the proposals brought before the meeting prior to the regularly scheduled meeting on January 5th.

Mr. Davison advised the meeting as to the communications he had received from Mr. Kettering with regard to the educational survey. It was recommended that this survey be terminated as of December 31st and a resolution was adopted by the Board extending the Council's thanks to Mr. Kettering and Mr. Squier for their services and assistance.

The meeting further approved the expenditure of \$2,500 for a meeting or series of meetings of educators and industrialists, this appropriation subject to ratification at the January meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was thereupon adjourned.

C. D. Frazer
Charles D. Frazer
Executive Secretary