
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: FLAG COMMISSION: MEANS OF OBTAINING PUBLIC COMMENT
DATE 9/8/00
CC: GILBERT
FILE

I have attached a draft of the minutes of the Flag Commission's August 21st meeting for your reference. The Flag Commission is considering the following means of keeping the public informed of its actions and of obtaining public comments. Given Dunn Lampton's statement yesterday that the Commission is costing taxpayers money, I wanted to advise you of these potential activities because there could be some costs involved.

- **Written correspondence from citizens:** The Commission inquired as to if comments should be sent to this office or a separate post office box. The Commission could rent a post office box for six months at a cost of \$32. I would recommend that Governor Winter announce at the Commission's September 18th meeting that comments may be sent to "Flag Commission, P.O. Box 139, Jackson, MS 39205-0139." This will enable the Commission to receive comments at no cost, but without a direct association to our office.
- **Acknowledgement letter:** The Commission would also like to develop an acknowledgement letter to send to all citizens who submit written comments. The Commission would incur costs in purchasing stationery and postage. The Commission could send postcards at a lower postage rate than letters, but there would be some costs involved in printing the postcards.
- **Public hearings:** Governor Winter discussed with me yesterday that he would like to hold one public hearing in each of the five congressional districts. The Commission would incur costs in publishing the legal notice of the hearings. We should be able to obtain a location at no cost.

- **Web page:** Lisa discussed this matter with you earlier. The Commission asked me to explore the potential for a web page on the state portal to keep citizens informed of Commission activities. David Litchliter of ITS is to have his staff call me to discuss the process and costs involved with a potential web site.

Please advise.