COUNTY OF YORK

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 1, 2016 (BOS Mtg. 11/15/16)

TO: York County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Neil A. Morgan, County Administrator

SUBJECT: Virginia World War I and World War II Commemoration

The Virginia World War I and World War II Commemoration Commission (the Commission) was created by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia during the 2016 Session for the purpose of guiding the commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of World War I and the 75th Anniversary of World War II in Virginia.

Primary goals of effort as stated by the Commission are:

Honoring our veterans: Honor the service of veterans, whose sacrifices can never be forgotten. When we remember yesterday's veterans we are also communicating to today's service members that they won't be forgotten, either.

Inspiring a desire to learn more: Provide opportunities for people to explore personal connections and highlight multiple perspectives of Virginia's role in World War I and World War II (e.g., battlefront and military support, home front and civilian support, Holocaust and stories of survival, and more).

Connecting through travel and tourism: Make it easy for visitors to connect to museums, memorials, and sites in Virginia related to World War I and World War II.

Preservation of historic sites: Encourage preservation and interpretation of significant sites in Virginia related to World War I and World War II.

The Commission has requested that each locality in Virginia form a local Commemoration Committee to assist the Commission with its mission and signature events and to plan, promote, and coordinate commemorative tours, events, and other activities at the local level. The York County Historical Committee has discussed the Commission's goals and has recommended that York County's efforts be coordinated by an ad hoc committee of the York County Historical Museum Board to serve for the duration of the Commemoration (2016-2020).

As you may recall, various events and activities commemorating the Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War were planned a coordinated by a similar ad hoc committee. The Historical Committee believes that an ad hoc committee approach organized by the Historical Museum consisting of representatives from the Museum Board, York County Historical Committee, local historic preservation organizations, veterans associations,

community groups, and governmental agencies in the region, with support as appropriate from the staff liaisons for the Museum Board and the York County Historical Committee.

The attached proposed resolution would indicate the intent of the Board of Supervisors to support the Virginia Commemoration and endorse establishment of an ad hoc York County Commemoration Committee. Establishment of a local coordinating committee will allow the commemorative events and activities scheduled in York County to be recognized by the Virginia Commemoration Commission in its publicity and promotional efforts.

Recommendation

I recommend adoption of proposed Resolution R16-98 to authorize participation in and support for the Virginia World War I and World War II Commemoration.

Carter/3337

Attachment:

- Proposed Resolution R16-98