



**SOUTH CAROLINA
CONFEDERATE RELIC ROOM &
MILITARY MUSEUM**

301 GERVAIS STREET | COLUMBIA, SC 29201
803.737.8095
CRR.SC.GOV

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

W. Allen Roberson

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 20, 2026

COLUMBIA, SC—The South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum Commission will meet on Thursday, May 21, 2026, at 10:30 A.M. This meeting will be conducted in person. Any member of the media or the public who may wish to attend is welcome! The meeting will be held in the Museum's Education Room. Please call (1 833 608-8266, conference ID: 979551#) if you need to attend remotely. The meeting agenda is as follows:

I. Greetings to the Commission, Members of the Media, and Visitors.

II. Review March 19, 2026 Meeting Minutes

III. Old Business

A. Personnel

1. Chief Curator Hire – Executive Director has Reviewed Applications and will be setting interviews
 - a. One on one initial interviews in person or by phone
 - b. Panel Interviews & Meet Staff
 - c. Plan to hire before end of June
 - d. If unsatisfied with interviews, we will repost. Hopefully that won't have to happen.
2. Collections Manager Hire – *Rachel*

IV. Ongoing Museum Operation

A. Exhibit Schedule

B. Attendance & Programs

1. 37,345 through middle of May
2. June 20 – SC in Vietnam Program featuring Bob Feller, a combat engineer in Vietnam, 1968-69, and CW Bowman will speak on his relations with the Vietnamese people
3. Will be planning additional programs for Fall

C. New Website – Plan to go Public by June 24 for the 130th Anniversary of the Museum

D. Collections - *Megan*

1. Wade Hampton Sword Commemorating Hampton's Promotion to Lt. Gen. and Commanding Officer of Confederate Cavalry for Army of Northern Virginia, presented by Governor Andrew Gordon Magrath

2. Conservation Report

E. FY27 Budget Request

1. Nonrecurring Appropriated Budget Request passed SC House of Representatives, but not the Recurring Appropriation Request.

2. Both Nonrecurring Request and recurring appropriated requests passed the SC Senate
3. Reconciliation will occur after Redistricting
4. Budget Request:
 - a. \$73,000 Increase in Existing Personnel Budget (Annual Recurring)
 - b. \$1,448,000, Nonrecurring for Expansion of the SC Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum into the Congaree Room in the Columbia Mills Building
 - c. \$81,279 FTE Position Curator of Interpretation & Exhibits (Annual Recurring)
 - d. \$118,263 Additional Annual Rent for Museum Expansion area (Annual Recurring)

V. Palmetto State Military History Foundation Treasurer's Report

VI. Next Meeting: Thursday, July 16 at 10:30 AM (We will have box lunches if at least 5 attend in person)

Any questions regarding these proceedings may be addressed to museum Executive Director Allen Roberson, 803-737-8096 or arobers@crr.sc.gov. The South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum Commission members are comprised of three members appointed by the Governor, two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, one member appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate on recommendation of the SC Division Commander of Sons of Confederate Veterans, two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and one member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives on recommendation of the President of the SC Division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Founded in 1896, the SC Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum is the oldest museum in the Columbia area and focuses on South Carolina's military history from the Revolutionary to the present.

** This meeting has been posted in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act*