

Board of Trustees - Museum Division
January 13, 2020

Generated by Andrew Ponti

Members present

Dale Springer, Victor Govier, Lynn Fitrell, Peter Butt, Dr Regina M Faden, Peter Neus, Michael Blackwell, Amy Davis

Members absent

Christopher Shea, Eleanor Slater

Other Staff present

Karen Stone, Manager - St. Mary's County Museum Division

Meeting called to order at 8:32 AM

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Call to Order
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Moment of Silence

2. ROLL CALL

A. Roll Call

B. Introduction of Incoming Members

- We began with a membership update. Amy Davis has joined and was welcomed. Eleanor Slater and Christopher Shea have tendered resignations, and Bryan Barthelme's term expired.

C. Approval of Minutes from September 9, 2019 Meeting

- I move to approve the minutes of September 9, 2019 as presented.
- Motion by Lynn Fitrell, second by Peter Butt.
- Final Resolution: Motion Carries
- Yea: Dale Springer, Victor Govier, Lynn Fitrell, Peter Butt, Dr Regina M Faden, Peter Neus, Michael Blackwell, Amy Davis

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. Ad Hoc Committee Report

- The committee members gave no update, but Pete Butt began a discussion of what our purpose as a board is. Our charter says that we are to support the County Commissioners to ensure the Museum Division is running properly, with 8 steps we should be doing each year, including a review of use of funds and advice on the budget. Mr. Butt has a proposal that he will share for discussion prior to the next meeting to "get ahead of the curve" and possibly develop a schedule of activities throughout the year to fulfill these responsibilities.
- We discussed our recent presence, or lack thereof, in the Maryland State Tourism Guide and other tourism activities. Dr. Faden proposed a visit from Jason Aul from the Visit St Mary's MD organization to give an update on their activities and how we might enhance our presence.

B. BoardDocs

C. DNR/St. Clement's Hundred MOU

- The Museum Division/Natural Resources MOU is not yet final. The St. Clements Hundred have not yet seen the changes in the proposed lease; until they are informed by DNR, the changes will not be final. The agreement states that the Museum Division will oversee/perform maintenance on the island, and the Museum Division will work out details on what it will do with The St. Clements Hundred.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Monthly Reports & Upcoming Events - Karen Stone, Manager, St. Mary's County Museum Division

- The Museum staff has reviewed 2018/19 goals; all have been either met or are ongoing. The Division is working on a new 5-year plan for activities, but their primary 2020 goals are to increase attendance and the diversity of the audience. Some new programs have been developed. The Division is seeking grant funding to support a mailing to citizens who are not typical visitors and to make sure people throughout the county are aware of all of our offerings. This is a \$10,000 project. For a Maryland Heritage Area Grant, the Division is partnering with the Piscataway Tribe for the permanent display that will be at St. Clement's Island Museum, including obtaining some artifacts from the Smithsonian. The timing is good because the Piscataway are working on an 8 location project telling their story.
- There is a new calendar of events for 2020 that is very robust.
- Maryland Day: It is the "year of the Woman," and the Museum and NAACP are asking the new speaker of the House (the first woman speaker) to address the event. We are also trying to get the "Pride of Baltimore" here.

B. Department Update - Arthur Shepherd, Director, St. Mary's County Department of Recreation & Parks

- The MD Stadium Authority is facilitating a market and economic analysis study concerning the feasibility of a sports complex being constructed in St. Mary's County. The kick off meetings are being held on Monday and Tuesday January 13th and 14th. Sports leagues, St. Mary's College, College of Southern Maryland, Willows Recreation, and Visit St. Mary's MD are some of the groups that will be involved in the initial meetings.
- DNR plans to schedule a meeting with R&P staff in January to discuss the terms of a revised lease.
- Chair Dale Springer, Karen Stone and Arthur Shepherd met on December 18, 2020 to discuss the current MOU between the Friends of the Museum and Recreation and Parks. An MOU will be submitted to the Museum Board (possibly via email) for review and concurrence prior to seeking CSMC approval.
- ETHICS- Arthur Shepherd sought counsel from the County Attorney regarding potential conflict of interest concerning Dale Springer serving simultaneously as Chair of both the Museum Advisory Board and the Friends of the Museum. Mr. Weiskopf

advised that Mr. Springer submit a letter to the Ethics Commission regarding this matter. Mr. Springer was informed of this during the December 18th meeting.

C. Friends of St. Clement's Island & Piney Point Museums Update - Dale Springer, President

- The Friends are working on a grant from Maryland Heritage Area with the Division. The 2020 budget has been finalized to include work towards getting a Fresnel lens for Piney Point. The 2019 YTD books for the Museum stores have been reviewed. The biggest challenge right now is memberships, which have diminished over the years.

5. ADJOURN

A. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting

- Monday, March 9, 2020 at 8:30 in Room 14 of the Potomac Building, St. Mary's County Governmental Center, Leonardtown

B. Adjournment

- I move to adjourn the November 18, 2019 meeting of the Museum Division Board of Trustees at 9:32 AM
- Motion by Lynn Fitrell, second by Dr Regina M Faden.
- Final Resolution: Motion Carries
- Yea: Dale Springer, Victor Govier, Lynn Fitrell, Peter Butt, Dr Regina M Faden, Peter Neus, Michael Blackwell, Amy Davis