

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MUSEUM DIVISION
ST MARY'S COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION, PARKS, AND
COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**September 10, 2007
Drayden African American School and Piney Point Lighthouse, Museum and Historical
Park**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT	BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT
Lewie Aldridge, Jr. James Banagan Rose Davis Helen Dorsey Steve Dunlap George Kennett Shirley Leyland John Madel Tom Tudor	Millie Huseman (E) Herb Walling (E)

ADVISORS PRESENT	ADVISORS ABSENT
Debra Pence, Museum Director Phil Rollins, Director Recreation, Parks, & Community Services	

The Board of Trustees assembled at the Drayden African American Schoolhouse (circa 1890) to view the new interpretative panels and the other improvements to this historic site. We toured the building and the grounds and departed for the meeting at the PPLH, M & HP.

Call to Order

President Lewie Aldridge, Jr., called the meeting to order at 08:35 am. The Board pledged allegiance to the flag and observed a moment of silent reflection.

Roll Call

The Secretary called the roll and announced presence of a quorum.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the July 9, 2007 meeting and the agenda for this meeting were delivered electronically to Board Members. George Kennett moved that the July 9, 2007 minutes be approved. John Madel seconded the motion and the motion passed by voice vote.

Old Business

Debra Pence, Museum Director reviewed her July report and emphasized that education events and visitor participation are on the increase at all museum sites. She reported that she has not received a reply to her letter to the Stewart family.

After a discussion concerning the increase in visitors to all of the museums, Steve Dunlap moved that the penny box used at Piney Point be relocated to Drayden African American Schoolhouse. The penny box has been successful in collecting visitor data to Piney Point and should help with collecting the same data for Drayden AAS. The motion was seconded by George Kennett and approved by a voice vote of the board.

New Business

Debra Pence discussed her August report that was sent electronically to the board members. A dedication ceremony for the Blackistone Island Light House is planned for October 27 about 3 pm. She reported receiving a grant from the Maryland Historic Trust for exhibits and interpretative signs for the boat house. She expects the boat exhibit to be completed in late fall next year.

Debra briefed the board on a name change for the Piney Point complex. The committee that worked on the interpretative plan suggested the name change. After a discussion, Helen Dorsey moved that the board approve the use of the name Piney Point Lighthouse, Museum and Historical Park. The new name more adequately describes the function of the complex. The motion was seconded by Jim Banagan and approved by a voice vote of the board.

Lewie Aldridge, Jr., reported that the Friends had sold out the Murder at the Lighthouse party and that everyone had a fun evening last Saturday. Because of the exhibits in the boat building, a new location for this fun event will be required next year.

Rose Davis expressed appreciation for Steve Dunlap's effort in producing the Annual Report to the Board of County Commissioners.

Up-Coming Activities were discussed and the Senior Citizens Day remains TBD for a schedule. The event is being reviewed by the staff.

George Kennett reported that the US Navy will hold a Veteran's Day Ceremony at the USS Tulip Memorial off Cross Manor Road. Eight US Navy sailors were buried there after the November 11, 1864 explosion.

Designated as a fourth-rate gunboat, *Tulip* was assigned to the Potomac Flotilla Base, where it served until lost 11 November 1864. With a full head of steam in both boilers, the starboard boiler exploded and the vessel sank just off Ragged Point, Virginia.

Maryland Maritime Archaeology's two year effort to recover artifacts removed from the site in the late 1960s has resulted in more than 1,500 artifacts being returned to the Naval Historical Center. All classes of artifacts are represented in the collections, including armament, military uniforms, navigation equipment,

kitchen items, toiletry items, medicinal bottles, ship's hardware, tools and engine room items.

This important Civil War period grave site has been nominated for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Board of Trustees is tentatively scheduled to present our Annual Report to the Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday, September 25. The time is TBD.

Adjournment

With no further business, Shirley Leyland moved to adjourn, second by John Madel. We adjourned at 09:40 am.

Next Meeting Date/Location

The November meeting would be held at Recreation and Parks on November 19, 2007 instead of November 12, 2007 because the county complex will be closed for the Veteran's Day Holiday. See the corrected table below.

The table below is the meeting schedule for calendar year 2007. **Red** indicates a change.

2007 MEETING DATES	MEETING TIME	MEETING PLACE
January 8	08:00	SCIM
March 12	08:00	Recreation & Parks Conference Room
March 25	TBD	Maryland Day SCIM
May 14	08:00	Recreation & Parks Conference Room
July 9	08:00	Recreation & Parks Conference Room
September 10	08:00	Drayden AASH and PPLH&HP
November 19	08:00	Recreation & Parks Conference Room

Respectfully submitted,

/S/

Steve Dunlap, Secretary