

Board of Trustees - Museum Division

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Call to Order
 - 8:31 a.m.
 - Quorum established
- B. Moment of Silence
- C. Pledge of Allegiance

2. ROLL CALL

- A. Roll Call
 - Members Present: Lynn Fitrell, Walter Boswell, Michael Blackwell, Robin Finnacom, Mike Brown, Jeanette Pettit, Laura Friess, Amy Davis, Karla Langhus
 - Staff Present: Karen Stone, Arthur Shepherd
- B. Approval of Minutes from January 24, 2022 Meeting
 - Motion by Mike Brown
 - Seconded by Laura Friess
 - Approved unanimously as presented

3. OLD BUSINESS

- A. MOU - Museum Division / Friends
- B. Update on Strategic Plan
 - The Strategic Plan is not completed due to the many museum staff changes and the subsequent need to involve them. It is on track to complete by target date of June/July.
- C. Update on St. Clement's Island Museum Building Plans
 - Plans for the St Clements Island Museum are being prepared to submit to the Planning Commission.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Annual Report
 - Motion by Robin Finnacom to accept report
 - Seconded by Jeanette Pettit
 - Approved unanimously as presented
- B. Announcement of New Piney Point Lighthouse Museum Site Manager
 - In January, held interviews for Piney Point and we have hired Ken Burke. He is from Southern Maryland and has experience with the Smithsonian.
- C. Staffing & Hiring Updates
 - A number of positions are vacant or recently hired, leading to a discussion of why. It is difficult to attract/retain staff when many are part-time and there is substantial competition (higher pay, full-time benefits) from businesses and the base and contractors. The Division is accordingly looking to make the Education/Planning position full time.
- D. St. Mary's County Museum Division Update
 - 60 attended the Appraiser Fair in January.
 - Conducted staff training, with a good presentation by Arthur on how the Division fits into County Government as a whole.
 - The Old Jail Museum helped host the first annual Moll Dyer day in February in coordination with Leonardtown businesses and organizations.
 - Many grant requests are in process, including an upgrade to the St. Clement's Island Museum pier and new water taxi to allow for accessibility going to the island.
 - Working on accepting the Huseman house, next door, inspection complete; DNR to do work
- E. Friends of St. Clement's Island & Piney Point Museums and Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival Update
- F. Department of Recreation & Parks Update

- Arthur Shepherd gave a brief overview of the Recreation & Parks Department, including the renovation of Lexington Manor Passive Park and the Cherry Blossom Festival on March 26.
- Working on erosion control at Piney Point Lighthouse Museum.
- The application for National Accreditation (CAPRA) submitted today, with more work upcoming to ensure success.

G. Monthly Report & Upcoming Events

- Volunteers will be needed since the Division is down staff.
- Maryland Day will likely be heavily attended, with a presence from the Jesuit's, the Piscataway Tribe, some guests from the First Families of Virginia, various school choirs, and more.

H. Guest Presenter - Scott Gray, Executive Director, Patuxent River Naval Air Museum

- Mr. Gray reported that he appreciates coming into an organization with good facility, staffing, reasonable funding and board.
- Plans include increasing the number of events, enhancing educational programming, adding planes as they become available from the Navy.
- It is an ongoing challenge to reflect the Base's mission, which is to think 100 years ahead, and not focus on the past as museums often do.
- The museum staff and board are trying to think about how technology changes and to reflect future developments and foresee uses of museums.

5. ADJOURN

A. Announcements, Clarifications or Questions

B. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting

- May 9, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

C. Adjournment

- Motion by Jeanette Pettit
- Seconded by Laura
- Meeting adjourned at 9:42 a.m.