

MUSEUM BOARD MINUTES

Meeting held at Potomac Room

County Governmental Center

September 9, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order 8:35 a.m. The following members were present: Stephanie Waikart, Helen Dorsey, James Banagan, Ellie Slater, Lynn Fitrell, Brian Barthelme, Mary Farrar and Susan Gough; staff members: Debra Pence and Brian Loewe. Members excused: Dale Springer, Patricia Friend, Steve Dunlap.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance and observed a moment of silence. Minutes of the July 2013 meeting were unanimously approved.

Mary Farrar was welcomed as the board's newest member.

OLD BUSINESS

The Jazz event was very successful with a record 900 in attendance.

One hundred guests were recorded for the National Lighthouse Day at St. Clement's Island and 161 were recorded at Piney Point Lighthouse.

The restoration project is ongoing at Piney Point lighthouse keeper's quarters and tower. Additional funding will be provided by the Friends of St. Clement's Island and Piney Point Museums to complete elements of the project not included in the original grant. The grant portion of the project is scheduled to be completed by January 30, 2014..

Debra will relay kudos from the Board to Kim Cullins, Tom Emery and the detention center crew, for their exceptional work.

Approximately one hundred guests were in attendance at the SMC Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours held at Piney Point.

NEW BUSINESS

August

The Piney Point Pirate Day received \$1,200.00 in sponsorships that will help to underwrite future education projects at the site. There were 48 registered children and approximately 55 parents and volunteers involved in the event.

Children's Day had 470 participants which was 170 more than expected. This is possibly due to moving the event to mid-August to avoid other events in the county

going on during late July. Marketing and outreach also contributed to a bigger attendance for all the summer events.

Murder Mystery dinner fund raiser continues to do well.

A shortened “Finer Points” version of the newsletter will arrive in a few weeks.

STAFF

Brian Loewe reported that the preservation project of the Keeper’s Quarters at Piney Point is progressing well.

ST. CLEMENT’S HUNDRED

Helen Dorsey reported that more volunteers are needed to assist with tours of the Blackistone Lighthouse. She also discussed the Hundred’s efforts to address the erosion issue at the south end of the island near the lighthouse. Communication is ongoing with DNR about their concerns.

Delegate Johnny Wood and Beverly Bailey Wood met with Secretary Hill regarding erosion on St. Clement’s Island. Funds for repair are earmarked for FY 2015 and 16.

MISCELLANEOUS

Twelve lighthouses paid to participate in the Maryland Lighthouse Challenge, Piney Point Lighthouse and Blackistone Island were two of the 12. Tokens were given out to participants for each lighthouse seen and a final prize given for those visiting all 12 through the weekend.

“Smithsonian Day” allowed participants to free admission into museums in the country. Since St. Mary’s County is in partnership with the Smithsonian on this, Helen asked if future grant monies would be available. The answer being there are not any grant monies associated with the event.

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The next Board meeting will be November 18 at 8:30 a.m. at the Potomac Building.

Meeting adjourned, 9:10 a.m. after motion was made and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Waikart, secretary