

## Board of Trustees - Museum Division (Monday, January 11, 2021)

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

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

### 2. ROLL CALL

- A. Roll Call
  - Members Present: Regina Faden, Amy Davis, Lynn Fitrell, Michael Blackwell, Walter Boswell, Catherine Bowes, Michael Brown, Robin Finnacom, Laura Friess
  - Employees Present: Karen Stone; Arthur Shepherd
  - Members Absent: Victor Govier, Jeanette Pettit, Karla Langhus
  - Also present: Dale Springer, for the Friends of St. Clement's Island & Piney Point Lighthouse Museums
- B. New Member Introductions
- C. Current Member Introductions
- D. Approval of Minutes from November 9, 2020 Meeting
  - Corrected by Dale Springer (amount netted by the virtual Friends auction)
  - Motion by Michael Blackwell; seconded by Amy Davis. Passed unanimously

### 3. OLD BUSINESS

- A. MOU — Museum Division / Department of Natural Resources
  - All action we can take has been done, and we await developments from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources
- B. MOU — Museum Division / Friends
  - Dale Springer reports that this was being worked on at the last meeting of the Friends in December 2020
- C. Annual Report
  - It was agreed that Michael Blackwell will present a summary of last year's events at our next meeting to be adopted as an annual report

### 4. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Overview of the St. Mary's County Museum Division
- B. Overview of Relationships with the Friends, St. Clement's Hundred, and Other Organizations
  - Karen Stone presented a PowerPoint of the organization of the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Museum Division, our partners (Maryland Department of Natural Resources for St. Clements Island, The Friends, St. Clement's Hundred for Blackstone Lighthouse), our alliances (Unified Committee for Afro-American Contributions, Maryland Historic Trust and Department of Underwater Archeology, State and Southern Maryland Heritage Area Consortiums, and 7th District Optimists), the land and buildings that the division manages, various strengths and weaknesses, and the 2018-2022 Strategic Plan
    - Strengths: Undisputed claims: first landing; oldest lighthouse; best preserved African American Schoolhouse; Good financial support; Professional Staff; Mission-based events; Experiential tourism; Authentic experiences
    - Concerns: Lack of public awareness; Lack of adequate parking; Insufficient outreach programming; Outdated technology; Not living up to potential; Staff not being used properly
- C. Friends of St. Clement's Island & Piney Point Museums Update
  - The 501 C3 organization that supports the Museums, including applying for many grants and doing fundraisers
- D. Museum Division Update
  - Holiday Open House at St. Clement's Island Museum was well attended despite pandemic and got a nice photo in the paper
  - The Old Jail Museum was open for Leonardtown First Friday
  - Maddie Marx was hired as Amber's replacement as Fundraising Coordinator
  - Kristina Arnold was hired for the new position of Education Programming Coordinator
  - Katie Davis was recognized by the Department as an outstanding volunteer
- E. Department of Recreation & Parks Update
  - Wicomico Shores Golf Course is getting a new manager as Nick Isom takes a step back to be the Pro
  - There have been some retirements in the Department, including head of the Parks Division, and these slots are being filled
  - Arthur Shepherd congratulated staff for their professionalism and support of the public during the pandemic
  - Gave an overview of the upcoming budget process
- F. Trustees Update
  - Lynn will be sending out the complete strategic plan and a list of all the planned activities for 2021
  - Some activities will have to be modified, depending on the progress of ending the pandemic
  - Lynn encouraged our members to attend events to support them
  - She also suggested we will look at updating the bylaws, which are now 10 years old

### 5. ADJOURN

- A. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting
  - March 8, 2021, 8:30 a.m., Room 14, Potomac Building, St. Mary's County Governmental Center, Leonardtown, MD
- B. Adjournment
  - Motion by Robin Finnacom; seconded by Mike Brown. Adjourned at 9:40 a.m.