

Board of Trustees - Museum Division (Monday, March 10, 2025)

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Establish Quorum (8:30 a.m.)
- B. Moment of Silence
- C. Pledge of Allegiance

2. ROLL CALL

- A. Roll Call
 - Present: Conner Wolfe, Catherine Bowes, Kathy Bailey, Caitlyn Socrates, Karla Langhus, Lynn Fitrell, Michael Brown, Michael Blackwell
 - From County: Karen Stone, Ray Bivens, Andrew Ponti
 - Absent: Valmora Lewis
- B. Approval of Minutes from January 27, 2025 Meeting
 - Motion by Karla Langhus
 - Second by Catherine Bowes
 - Approved unanimously

3. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Recruitment of New Trustee Members
 - Due to other commitments or extenuating circumstances, several members have left the board: Robin Finnacom, Katherine Ross, Laura Friess
 - The board is asked to recruit possible members
- B. Division Budget for New Fiscal Year
 - The capital budget hearing passed without change to the Museum's request
 - The county budget is on hold until the state and federal budget amounts are clearer

4. OLD BUSINESS

- A. St. Clement's Island Museum New Building & New Water Taxi Update
 - The new building is out to bid; interested contractors (about three or four) have visited the site. The bid process will close soon.
 - Demolition will begin after the Jazz Festival.
 - Plans for what can go to Piney Point are in place and the mural is scheduled to be moved.
 - The exhibit money may have been put back into the CIP budget recently, having been taken out for a time.
 - Looking to bring in the museum design team ASAP. A script is nearly complete for the origin story, with the Piscataway working on their part.
 - In discussion with the Commissioners about what will happen with the water taxi for now—whether it will go to Piney Point or not. It will run during building construction.
 - The new water taxi is scheduled for July of 2025.
- B. St. Mary's County Museum Division & Friends of St. Clement's Island & Piney Point Museums Updates
 - The Friends are planning a party for current members.
 - The Friends will be the last people in the building before it closes and the first again once it reopens.
 - They got a \$10,000 grant from Maryland Humanities Council for upkeep and a \$4,000 from Maryland 250 for hosting the upcoming Rebels and Redcoats event.
 - In January, Second Saturday program was held at Piney Point Lighthouse Museum; Appraiser Fair at SCIM went well with 82 people participating; Division held safety training sessions for all staff
 - In February, the Annual Report was distributed; Community Day was held at SCIM and Piney Point where local postcards were brought in for scanning; Division was featured on WBAL TV with story and site visit at Drayden African American Schoolhouse; Held first Stuffed Animal Sleepover at Piney Point; Grant was received from MD 250th in support of Rebels & Redcoats; Staff attended the Small Museum Association Conference as sponsor/exhibitors and participants; Pre-bid meeting with contractors held at SCIM
- C. St. Mary's County Department of Recreation & Parks Update
 - Ray is learning about the various division in the department more, having toured the museums.
 - The parks are in good shape.
 - Looking to extend the Three Notch Trail by two segments.

- Looking to replace two-decade old software with a new system, preparing to go through a vendor selection process.
- The critical area request for Snow Hill Park has been approved by the commissioners; sightlines in the area will be improved.
- Questions: will state or federal budget have any effect on the Recs and Park Budget? Short answer: no direct effects expected now.
- The Point Lookout State Park will go to a reservation system for entrance during summer weekends, with no admission without a reservation. It may cut down on the number of visitors who formerly came and then might go to another park.

5. ADJOURN

A. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting: May 12, 2025

B. Upcoming Events

March

25th: Maryland Day at SCIM with MD Secretary of DNR

April

4th: Author Talk with Patrick O'Donnell

5th: Rebels & Redcoats

12th: First Landing Wine & Arts Festival

26th-27th: Black Diamond Civil War Weekend

26th: 19th century magic with Peter Wood

27th: Ceremony with Keynote Speaker, Clara Barton

Both Days: book launch: Shipwreck on the Potomac: Disaster in Pursuit of Lincoln's Killer by Karen Stone

May

9th: Evening Farmer's Market opens for the season at PP

C. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Lynn Fitrell

Seconded by Michael Brown

Adjournment at 8:58 a.m.