



Board of Trustees Museum Division - May 04 2026 Minutes

Monday, May 4, 2026 at 8:30 AM

Room 14, Potomac Building, St. Mary's County Governmental Center, Leonardtown, MD

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Establish Quorum - Michael Blackwell, President
- B. Moment of Silence - Michael Blackwell, President
- C. Pledge of Allegiance - Michael Blackwell, President

2. ROLL CALL

- A. Roll Call - Michael Blackwell, President
 - Members Present: Connor Wolfe, Michael Brown, Kathy Bailey, Michael Blackwell, Rosa Hance, Caitlyn Socrates, Dan Kerns, Michele Reloba and Catherine Bowes.
 - Present for County: Ray Bivens, Director, SMC Recreation and Parks, and Karen Stone, Museum Division Manager.
 - Present for the Friends of St. Clements Island and Piney Point Museums: Janet Cooper
- B. Approval of minutes from March 2, 2026 Meeting - Michael Blackwell, President
 - Motion by Connor Wolfe
 - Seconded by Kathy Bailey
 - Approved as presented

3. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Update
 - Mr. Bivens provided an update on the FY2027 Museum Division budget request status.
 - Highlights included dedicated funding for museum maintenance
 - Upgrades to the shop building at PPLM
 - Improvements at the Interpretive Center and US Colored Troops Memorial
 - Repairs to the PPLM Keepers Quarters
 - Painting at the Old Jail Museum
 - Funds for a new Boat Mate at SCIM
- B. St. Clements Island Museum Construction Update - Karen Stone, Museum Division Manager

- Provided an update of the status of the new museum building construction at SCIM
 - The project is moving along to include foundational and infrastructure work
 - Adler is working on the exhibit concepts
- C. St. Mary's County Museum Division & Friends of St. Clements Island & Piney Point Museums Updates - Janet Cooper
- She highlighted the Dinner Cruises and the Rebels and Redcoats events
 - Events planned for the future include the First Landing Festival
 - Appraiser's Fair enhancements
 - Added that there is still time to register for the Dinner & A Cruise series; brochures provided
- D. Department of Recreation & Parks Department Update - Ray Bivens, Department Director
- Detailed the Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan update progress
 - The splash pad coming for Miedzinski Park
 - New rental opportunities at waterfront parks

4. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Division & Department Goals - Michael Blackwell, President
- As part of the Department's CAPRA (Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies) accreditation, the department is examining goals
 - Some new initiatives include offering more materials in other languages and offering more scholarships for youth
- B. Trustee Bylaws Review - Michael Blackwell, President
- Members reviewed the existing Bylaws and made updates to forward to the County Commissioners for approval

5. ADJOURNMENT - 9:45 a.m.

- A. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting: July 6, 2026
- B. Upcoming Events

May

9: Second Saturdays: Honoring Mother Earth for Mother's Day: A Community Cleanup & Sustainable Living Program (PPLM)

10: Mother's Day | Free Admission for Moms at PPLM from 10AM to 5PM

16: Drayden African American Schoolhouse Open House | 11AM to 2PM

16: Dinner & a Cruise: Picnic with local author Christine Trent | 4pm to 6pm

16: Armed Forces Day | Free Admission for Military & Families at PPLM from 10AM to 5PM

25: Memorial Day | PPLM & OJM open 10AM to 5PM

31: Dinner & a Cruise: Local History with Scott Gray | 4pm to 8pm

June

5: Leonardtown First Friday | OJM open 10AM to 7PM

6: Drayden African American Schoolhouse Open House | 11AM to 2PM

13: Dinner & a Cruise: Picnic with music | 4pm to 6pm

13: Second Saturdays: Freedom Walk: A Reflective Community Stroll in Honor of Juneteenth (USCT)

14: Flag Day Ceremony at Governmental Center | Museums/Friends Table
15 to 18: Junior Historian at PPLM | 10AM to 1PM
19: Juneteenth Observed | PPLM & OJM open 10AM to 5PM
19, 20, 21: Drayden African American Schoolhouse | 11AM to 2PM
19, 20, 21: USCT Interpretive Center | 11AM to 2PM
20-21: Patuxent River Naval Air Station Air Show
20: Juneteenth Event at Fairgrounds | Museums/Friends Table
21: Father's Day | Free Admission for Moms at PPLM from 10AM to 5PM
19: Summer Solstice | PPLM open 10AM to 8PM
28: Dinner & a Cruise: Local Pre-history with Julia King | 4pm to 8pm
27: Community, Culture & Cuisine in Lexington Park | Museums/Friends Table

July

3: Leonardtown First Friday | Old Jail Museum open 10AM to 7PM
4: Fourth of July | PPLM & OJM open 10AM to 5PM
4: Drayden African American Schoolhouse Open House | 11AM to 2PM

C. Upcoming Board Meeting Dates

- July 6
- September 14
- November 2

CAO

Mayor