

Maryland Military Monuments Commission Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, January 9, 2018  
Epiphany Chapel and Church House  
1419 Odenton Rd.  
Odenton, MD 21113

Present: Jeffrey Cann; Commissioners Jewitt, Kurtz, McKown, Morrill, Schnell, Soderberg, Villanueva, Wisniewski; Staff Karen Kennedy

Absent: Chair McCord, Commissioners Martel, Rude, Toomey, Dooley, Balkoski, Plumb, Stone

Guest: David Craig, Executive Director, Maryland World War I Centennial Commission

Host: Reverend Phebe McPherson

Jeffrey Cann, Assistant Secretary of Operations at Maryland Department of Planning, chaired the meeting in Chair McCord's absence.

Assistant Secretary Cann:

- Called the meeting to order at approximately 1:10 pm. Introduced himself, welcomed commissioners and guests on behalf of Chair McCord.
- Turned over meeting to Commissioner Kurtz, who thanked our host, Phebe McPherson, Rector of Epiphany Chapel and Church House, who will lead us on a tour of the building and museum after the business meeting.

Commissioner Kurtz

- Asked for an approval of the minutes. Commissioner Morrill moved to accept minutes; Commissioner Wisniewski seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Financial Report**

- Commissioner Kurtz gave funding update.
  - Of the \$17,000 FY 2017 funds, \$10,577 were encumbered in contract for maintenance of 14 Western Shore monuments; to be done spring 2018.
  - \$5,400 were invoiced for Towson Wayside Cross WWI Monument repointing
  - \$15,000 were invoiced for Midland WWI/II Monument repointing
  - \$13,977 overage paid from MHT budget.
  - \$83,600 contract pending for 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment Armory WWI Memorial entrance to be funded by Military Department with half federal reimbursement.

- \$5,937 remain in MMMC fund transferred from MDVA to Planning (MDP). From that, \$1,200 will reimburse Baltimore City for paving repairs after Military Dept. removes mortars from Hammann-Costin Monument.
- FY 2018 budget is \$17,000. Invitation for Bids to be prepared for 2019 maintenance.

### **Ongoing Business**

- Commissioner Kurtz gave update on 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment Armory WWI Memorial maintenance solicitation. DBM turned over procurement to DGS. Target is still work for spring 2018.
- Commissioner Kurtz reported on Commissioner Balkoski's belief the project to move mortars from Hammann-Costin Monument to Museum will be delayed due to personnel changes. Discussion of whether there was TAG signoff that would keep it moving. Commissioner Kurtz to follow up.
- Towson Wayside Cross WWI Monument repointing and Midland WWI-WWII Monument repointing are completed and invoiced.

### **New Business**

- David Craig, Executive Director of the Maryland World War I Centennial Commission, briefed the Commission.
  - He attended the groundbreaking of the National WWI Memorial in Washington, DC, on November 9.
  - He visited the new WWI Memorial at the Delaware State Capitol (at \$50K) and has suggested Maryland erect a similar memorial, to be dedicated November 11, 2019, end of MDWWICC.
  - They are suggesting recognition of the 15 American Legion posts dating from World War I with event and citations.
  - They are suggesting a Memorial Day recognition of the first two from MD to die in the war.
  - They are suggesting a plaque in Annapolis to recognize the 155 members of the MD General Assembly from 1919-1952 who were WWI veterans.
  - They are suggesting a commemoration of the last Maryland person killed during the war, on November 11.
  - They are suggesting a wreath at Crisfield Doughboy, an American Legion monument, during the Crisfield Crab Fest.
  - Trying to work with other local events.
- Commissioner Kurtz said there would be an event after conservation of the WWI Memorial at the Fifth Regiment Armory is completed.
- Commissioner Wisniewski followed up on his earlier idea for MMMC to strike a friendship medal to present to those who enhance our mission, such as Brooklynites. There was discussion about its design, use. He will look into costs and numbers.

### **Announcements**

- The next meeting dates are April 11, July 11 and October 10.
- Commissioner Wisniewski recommended the book, Storm of Steel, a memoir written by a German officer about the war.
- Update on Dan Toomey, who is out of hospital and in rehab.
- Founding Commissioner Jack Sprague has resigned from the Commission; at age 90 driving is more difficult.
- Commissioner Wisniewski followed up on his earlier idea for MMMC to strike a friendship medal to present to those who enhance our mission, such as Brooklynites. There was discussion about its design, use. He will look into costs and numbers.
- The annual George Washington Luncheon of the Maryland Society Sons of the American Revolution is to be held February 17, 2018. Commissioner Kurtz will send a link.
- Commissioner Soderberg is to give a lecture at the Montgomery County History Conference January 27 at Montgomery College.

Commissioner Kurtz asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Jewitt so moved, Commissioner Soderberg seconded, and the motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:47 pm. Reverend McPherson's tour of the building followed the meeting.