

Maryland Military Monuments Commission Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 11, 2017
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032

Present: Chair McCord; Commissioners Balkoski, Dooley, Jewitt, Kurtz, Martel, McKown, Morrill, Schnell, Soderberg, Villanueva, Wisniewski; Staff Karen Kennedy

Absent: Commissioners Plumb, Rude, Sprague, Stone, Toomey

Guest: Paul Cucuzzella, Elizabeth Hughes

Chair McCord called the meeting to order at 1:12 pm.

Chair McCord:

- Acting Secretary of Planning, introduced himself and welcomed commissioners and guests.
- Asked if everyone had reviewed the Minutes and requested motion to approve.
 - Commissioner Wisniewski made a motion to accept minute;
 - Commissioner Jewitt seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report

- Commissioner Kurtz gave funding update.
 - A total of \$16,175 of FY 2016 funds were invoiced:
 - \$14,765 was invoiced for Eastern Shore monuments maintenance, completed June 2017.
 - \$1,410 was invoiced for 5th Regiment Armory condition assessment.

 - Of the \$17,000 FY 2017 funds, \$10,577 were encumbered in contract for maintenance of 14 Western Shore monuments; to be done 2018.
 - \$5,400 were encumbered for Towson Wayside Cross WWI Monument repointing; completed and to be checked and invoiced.
 - \$15,000 were encumbered for Midland WWI/II Monument repointing, to start later in the week.
 - \$13,977 overage paid from MHT budget.

 - \$83,600 contract to be finalized for 5th 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

Ongoing Business

- Commissioner Kurtz gave update on 5th Regiment Armory WWI Memorial maintenance solicitation and scope of work. Waiting for final approval of signed contract from DBM.
- Commissioner Balkoski gave update on Hammann-Costin Monument in front of armory. He is working with the City on agreement for Military Dept to move mortars to Maryland Museum of Military History in armory. Process is stalled with the City. MMMC to pay for paving repair after mortars are moved. We hope work can be done in the spring. There has been turnover with the Military Dept personnel in the meantime.
- Towson Wayside Cross WWI Monument repointing is completed and to be checked before payment. Midland WWI-WWII Monument repointing is to start next week.
- Maryland 400 August 20 commemoration of the 241st Anniversary in Brooklyn, NY, was attended by chair McDowell, commissioners Wisniewski and Kurtz, and other Marylanders from the Maryland Defense Force (Maj. Bryan Fischer) and MD Society, Sons of the American Revolution. Commissioner Wisniewski described the Old Stone House as a Maryland embassy. He suggested Maryland strike a friendship medal in appreciation of Brooklyn.

New Business

- David Craig, Executive Director of the Maryland World War I Centennial Commission, was unable to attend the meeting to brief us.
- Chair McCord gave an update on the status of the Baltimore City Confederate monuments that were removed on August 16. MHT will work with the City under terms of the historic preservation easement to ensure preservation and public access for the monuments. Discussion about whether they are protected. Paul Cucuzzella noted they are in a city impound lot and not publicly accessible.
- Discussion of other Confederate monuments: Commissioner Soderberg noted the Rockville Monument is now at White's Ferry, a publicly accessible private property, move paid by Montgomery County, NPS owns property across the Potomac. Confederate monuments remain in Easton, Ellicott City (moved to the historical society per Soderberg, Cumberland, Washington Confederate Cemetery in Hagerstown (Hope monument). There is a Maryland Confederate monument in Winchester, VA. Loudon Park Cemetery has several on Confederate Hill. Chestertown has a monument dedicated to both sides, as are the Maryland Monument at Antietam National Battlefield and at Gettysburg National Military Park. MHT has easements on a number of bronze sculptures in

Baltimore. Discussion on whether the ownership has changed on the Ellicott City monument. Question from Commissioner Martel about impact on Governor on maintenance of Confederate monuments. Discussion on protection of Governor and protection of monuments to US veterans as recognized by Congress.

Announcements

- The next meeting dates were set for Wednesdays, January 10 at Epiphany Chapel and Church House, April 11, July 11, and October 10, at 1 pm in Crownsville. Suggested next meeting at Epiphany Chapel and Church House in Odenton.
- Update on Dan Toomey

The meeting was adjourned at 2:04 pm.