



Maryland Department of Planning
Maryland Historical Trust

Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor

David R. Craig, Secretary
Wendi W. Peters Deputy Secretary

Maryland Historical Trust

NOTICE

The regular meeting of the Maryland Historical Trust Board of Trustees will be held on Thursday, May 7th, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the National Park Seminary Community Room, 9615 Dewitt Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Board Meeting	10:00 a.m. *
Lunch	12 Noon

This notice is hereby given this 14th day of April, 2015.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth Hughes'.

Elizabeth Hughes
Acting Director

Please respond by e-mail kathy.monday@maryland.gov or phone (410) 514-7603 by April 30th, 2015.

***Please note that Committee meetings have been cancelled due to space limitations.**



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**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING**

Community Room, National Park Seminary, 9615 Dewitt Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20910
May 7, 2015

AGENDA*

- R1 CALL TO ORDER
- R2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- R3 COMMITTEE REPORTS
- R100 Capital Programs
- R101 National Park Seminary Easement and Tax Credit Projects
- R200 Survey, Registration, Community Education & Museums
- R201R Preservation Maryland Sponsorship Request
- R202 2015 Preservation Awards – Wrap Up Report
- R203 Mallows Bay – Potomac River National Marine Sanctuary Status Report
- R300 Management & Planning
- R301 FY2015 and FY2016 Budget & Legislation
- R302 Litigation & Legal Issues
- R303 Investment Committee Report
- R304R Renewal of Acting Director

*After lunch, a tour of the grounds of the National Park Seminary will be offered.



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NOTICE

The Executive Committee of the Maryland Historical Trust Board of Trustees will meet by teleconference on April 27th at 9 AM to discuss the agenda for the full Board meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 7th.

For more information, contact Kathy Monday at [410-514-7603](tel:410-514-7603) or kathy.monday@maryland.gov

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING
May 7, 2015**

Community Room, National Park Seminary, 9615 Dewitt Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Pursuant to notice, the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) was held at Community Room, National Park Seminary, 9615 Dewitt Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20910 on May 7, 2015.

Trustees present: Mmes. Filkins, Tilghman, and Bailey and Messrs. Delgado, Edson, Feldstein, Gibson, Parker, Poffenberger, and Stek.

Area Representatives present: Messrs. Brown, Callan, Camlin, Charlton, and Spikes.

Assistant Attorney General: Rieyn DeLony

Staff: Amanda Apple, Kate Bolansky, Michael Day, Collin Ingraham, Kathy Monday, Elizabeth Hughes, Amy Skinner.

Guests: MDP Chief of Staff Brandon Wright; Nicholas Redding, Executive Director of Preservation Maryland; Bonnie Rosenthal, Executive Director of Save Our Seminary

R1 CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Edson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. A quorum of Trustees was present.

Mr. Edson welcomed new Board member Sarah Filkins of Harford County.

Mr. Edson thanked Bonnie Rosenthal, Executive Director of Save Our Seminary at Forest Glen, for assisting the Board to arrange the meeting at this outstanding location. Ms. Rosenthal provided a brief overview of the history of the property and her organization's advocacy for its preservation.

Mr. Day introduced new staff member Kate Bolansky who will serve as the Trust's Easement Inspector.

R2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of March 26, 2015 minutes

Ms. Bailey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Callan that the March 26, 2015 minutes be approved as submitted. The motion was approved unanimously.

R3 COMMITTEE REPORTS

R100 Capital Programs

R101 National Park Seminary Easement and Tax Credit Projects

Mr. Day, Mr. Ingraham, and Ms. Skinner provided an overview of the history of the National Park Seminary property and the Trust's involvement with the property over time through the agency's historic preservation easement, review and compliance and rehabilitation tax credit programs.

R200 Survey, Registration, Community Education & Museums

R201R Preservation Maryland Sponsorship Request

Ms. Hughes reported that Preservation Maryland is seeking the Board's support for two of its signature programs. Mr. Parker and Mr. Spikes both recused themselves from the following discussion as they serve on the board of Preservation Maryland.

The 2015 Preservation Summer School will take place on July 22 in Baltimore at the Douglass-Myers Maritime Park in the Fell's Point Historic District. This one day workshop will focus on how to stimulate investment and create jobs using historic preservation as a central organizing principle. Support for the workshop is sought at the Platinum Partner (\$2500) level.

The Six-to-Fix Program will debut in 2015, replacing the organization's annual "Most Endangered List." PM will open the nomination process for organizations interested in preserving threatened historic resources this summer. The six sites selected will receive a tailored package of support from Preservation Maryland. The sites will be announced at a major event on October 9th. Sponsorship at the Platinum Partner (\$2500) level will defray the cost of the event, permitting all proceeds of the October event to directly support the new program.

Funds remaining in the FY2015 Heritage Preservation Fund for the purposes of disposition in FY2015 total \$4,647.99. The remainder of \$352.01 can be taken from the unexpended balance (\$677.08) in the FY2015 MHT Staff Recognition Award project category. Activities associated with the FY2015 MHT Staff Recognition Award project, funded by the Board's Heritage Preservation Fund, are now concluded.

Nicholas Redding, Executive Director of Preservation Maryland, then answered Board member questions about the proposal.

Mr. Delgado made the following motion, seconded by Mr. Feldstein which was approved unanimously.

RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of the Maryland Historical Trust, that an expenditure of up to \$5000.00 from the MHT Heritage Preservation Fund in fiscal year 2015 to sponsor the 2015 Six-to-Fix Program and the 2015 Preservation Summer School.

R202 2015 Preservation Awards – Wrap Up Report

Ms. Hughes reported on the Board's Preservation Awards event which took place on the evening of Thursday, March 26, 2015. For the first time, the presentation and reception took place in the Miller Senate Office Building and in late March (versus January or February as in previous years). The program included both an "MHT 2014 Year in Review" presentation by Ms. Hughes as well as the awards presentation by Mr. Edson. At the end of the ceremony, Senator Eckhardt presented the Maryland Historical Trust with a citation celebrating the agency's work and four decades of preservation awards.

The MHT awards event was marketed to MDP and MHT email distribution lists and social media. Hard copy invitations to the event were mailed to the entire General Assembly and selected State Cabinet members. Legislators with awards in their district were sent personal letters directly which informed them of the awards and invited them to the event.

Over 110 people registered for the event using the online registration tool; 87 awardees and guests registered by phone; and 68 legislators registered by phone. The total preregistration count was 273. About 160 people were recorded as having attended, including the 10 legislators listed below. Staff of Senator Cardin also attended the event and provided certificates to awardees. Legislators suggested that low attendance was due to Committee Dinners, which were held that night.

The day of the event, MDP issued a press release about the award recipients. On March 27, MHT relaunched its e-newsletter with the awards as the feature article; this was also shared on social media. Shortly thereafter, photos taken of award recipients were posted to the MHT website, where there are downloadable by the press and others.

MHT staff met for a debrief and identified a number of changes that would improve the event for next year. In all, everyone felt that the awards event went extremely well. Staff recommends using the same venue and caterer for 2016 and holding the event in late March rather than in the winter months.

Board members indicated their satisfaction with the awards event but recommended scheduling the event earlier during the session to avoid legislator scheduling conflicts.

R203 Mallows Bay – Potomac River National Marine Sanctuary Status Report

Mr. Stek reported that Mallows Bay in Charles County is now one step closer to being nominated as a National Marine Sanctuary by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). On the Potomac River, Mallows Bay is where hundreds of World War I-era surplus wooden boats were sunk for disposal. The Board of Trustees authored a letter of support for the nomination in the fall. In February, it was announced that the site was included in the NOAA inventory. The site was also recently listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Board's support will continue to be needed as advocates are working towards a designation by April 2017, when America first entered into World War I.

R300 Management & Planning
R301 FY2015 and FY2016 Budget & Legislation

State Budget and Legislation

Ms. Hughes reported that the African American Heritage Preservation Grant Program has been reauthorized as a permanent program of the Trust. The next grant round will take place in FY2017. Applications will begin to be sought in early 2016.

In terms of the budget, the Trust experienced a \$1M reduction to the commercial side of the Sustainable Communities Tax Credit in both FY2015 and FY2016. The Department continues to work through the 2% across the board reduction which was required of all agencies. The Department of Planning share is \$267,000 which is intended to reduce the agency's base budget. Agency decisions as to how these cuts will be taken must be sent to the Department of Budget and Management no later than May 30, 2015. The Trust continues to have 5 vacancies that could be impacted by the reduction.

Preparation of the FY2017 budget will begin in July. Any new initiatives that the agency wishes to propose for funding must be submitted with that budget which is due in late August.

Although not a budget issue, Ms. Hughes noted that the Department of Housing and Community Development has moved from 100 Community Place in Crownsville to their new office space in Prince George's County. MHT is exploring expanding its space in the 100 Community Place building to accommodate the growing library and need to house OAG staff and increase meeting space.

Ms. Hughes also noted that due to legislation passed in 2012 known as the Tax Credit Evaluation Act, the Sustainable Communities Tax Credit (SCTC) will be studied by the Department of Legislative Services during the summer of 2015 to determine: 1.) the purpose for which the tax credit was established; 2.) whether the original intent of the tax credit is still appropriate; 3.) whether the tax credit is meeting its objectives; 4.) whether the goals of the tax credit could be more effectively carried out by other means; 5.) the cost of the tax credit to the State and local governments.

A draft evaluation report for the SCTC must be issued to the General Assembly no later than October 31, 2015. The SCTC Evaluation Committee will hold a public hearing to receive testimony on the report by December 14, 2015 and will then submit a report to the General Assembly recommending whether the tax credit should be continued with or without changes or terminated.

Federal Budget and Legislation

Ms. Hughes reported that the House Appropriations Committee has approved allocations for the 12 Appropriations subcommittees. The allocations included a reduction to the Department of the Interior budget compared to last year's funding levels by \$246 million (1% cut), taking the total allocation for this Department down to \$30.17 billion.

The Interior one percent cut, combined with the continued need to fund the Payment-in-lieu of Taxes program and wildfire suppression, will undoubtedly lead to additional program cuts -- especially if the committee is to increase funding for the National Park Service Centennial celebration. Although the Historic Preservation Fund has not been a target in the past, this is a concern going forward.

Legislative initiatives of interest include the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) mark-up of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) which was amended to include a provision which allows heads of federal agencies to block or revoke National Register nominations for reasons of national security and calls for the National Park Service to create an expedited de-listing process. The NDAA is expected to come to the House floor prior to Memorial Day. Last year, the Senate objected to the provision's inclusion in the final bill and it was dropped. However, with the change in Senate leadership they may be more willing to accept the provision.

Senator Patrick Leahy of Vermont has introduced a number of tax bills including S.932, the Historic Downtown Preservation and Access Act which creates a 50 percent refundable tax credit, capped at \$50,000, to encourage the installation of upfront but costly sprinkler systems in historic buildings. The legislation also incentivizes the installation of elevators in order to encourage the use of upper story office, retail, and housing space in historic downtown buildings that would otherwise go unused due to inaccessibility. The bill is modeled after the State of Vermont's successful downtown historic tax credit.

Rep. Barbara Lee of California introduced H.R.1501, along with various co-sponsors that would require the United States Postal Service to obtain congressional approval before closing, consolidating or selling any historic postal facility. Although Maryland has not experienced significant difficulty in working with the USPS on post office closures in Maryland, other states have had less positive interactions. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

R302 Litigation & Legal Issues

Ms. DeLony reported that there is nothing to report.

R303 Investment Committee Report

Mr. Edson reported that the Investment Committee met by teleconference last week to review the Board's investments. No changes to the investment policy or strategy are recommended at this time.

R304R Renewal of Acting Director

The MHT enabling statute provides that the Board of Trustees shall appoint a Director and that appointment is subject to approval of the Governor. At its December 4, 2014 meeting, the Board decided to conduct a national search for the successor to Rodney Little, the MHT Director and Maryland State Historic Preservation Officer, who retired effective December 31, 2014 after a 37 year career. At this meeting, Chairman Chuck Edson announced the appointment of a

Search Committee to be composed of Amanda Conn, Jim Lighthizer, Al Luckenbach, Sam Parker, and Barrie Tilghman. Mr. Edson indicated that he would lead the Committee.

Also on December 4, 2014, the Board temporarily appointed, subject to the Governor's approval, the current Deputy Director of the Trust, Elizabeth Hughes, as the Acting Director of the Trust. This appointment was made effective January 1, 2015 with termination to occur upon the earlier of the appointment of a new permanent Director of the Trust, or June 30, 2015.

In order to begin the recruitment process for the MHT Director position, the Board must first receive approval of a hiring freeze exemption (HFE) request from the Maryland Department of Budget and Management (DBM). The Maryland Department of Planning Personnel Director submitted the HFE request on behalf of the Board to DBM in December of 2014. The HFE was approved on May 6, 2015. At this point in time, it seems unlikely that the recruitment process can be completed prior to the June 30, 2015 termination of the existing MHT Director Acting Capacity appointment. Staff recommends that the Board consider extending the interim Acting Capacity appointment to terminate upon the earlier of the appointment of a new permanent Director of the Trust or for an additional 6 month period.

Mr. Callan made the following motion, seconded by Mr. Parker which was approved unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED that due to the Board's ongoing search for a new permanent Director of the Trust which it does not anticipate completing within the next three months at the earliest, the Board extends, subject to the Governor's approval, the appointment of Elizabeth Hughes as Acting Director of the Trust, such interim appointment to terminate upon the earlier of the appointment of a new permanent Director of the Trust, or December 31, 2015.

Announcements

Board members are invited to take a tour of the National Park Seminary, led by Bonnie Rosenthal, following lunch.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Mr. Charles L. Edson, Chair

Elizabeth Hughes, Acting Director