

Maryland Military Monuments Commission Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, April 11, 2018  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032

Present: Commissioners Carson, Dooley, Kurtz, McKown, Morrill, Schiszik, Schnell, Soderberg, Wisniewski; Staff Karen Golder

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

Commissioner Kurtz: Called the meeting to order at 1:25 pm.

- Introduced new commissioners Carson and Schiszik. Commissioners introduced themselves.
- Asked for an approval of the minutes. Commissioners Soderberg and Wisniewski asked for corrections, to be done by Kurtz. Commissioner Soderberg moved to accept the minutes; Commissioner Wisniewski seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Financial Report**

- Commissioner Kurtz gave a funding update.
  - Of the \$17,000 FY 2017 funds, \$10,577 had been encumbered in contract for maintenance of 14 Western Shore monuments; to be done June 2018.
  - \$5,400 were paid for Towson Wayside Cross WWI Monument repointing.
  - \$15,000 were paid for Midland WWI/II Monument repointing with \$13,977 overage paid from MHT budget.
  - \$82,600 encumbered for 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment Armory WWI Memorial entrance to be funded by Military Department with half federal reimbursement; to be done later in season.
  - \$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, planned for summer.
  - FY 2018 budget is \$17,000. Invitation for Bids to be issued soon for 2019 maintenance, estimated at \$12,000. Overage may be applied to repair/repointing of the Mount Washington All Wars Monument.

### **Ongoing Business**

- Commissioner Kurtz gave a review of the 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment Armory WWI Memorial current condition and maintenance expected to start in mid-May. Contractor will use laser this time to remove coatings.

- Hammann-Costin Monument trench mortars are to be moved this season by Maryland Military Department to the Maryland Military Museum, with MMMC funding \$1200 for paving repair. Commissioner Schiszik noted the City has cleaned the monument and will determine how to repair marble base pieces.
- Kurtz showed photos and described repointing of the Towson Wayside Cross WWI Monument and Midland WWI-WWII Monument, done in October.
- Commissioner Wisniewski updated his research on obtaining a medallion for MMMC. He solicited three vendors; heard from one and has negotiated a price and design; shared the design with the Commission.

### **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 presented his findings on researching a friendship medal to present to those who enhance our mission. He showed examples he has discussed with one vendor, who can do a medal at a cost of \$3480 for 100 pieces. He will solicit two other bids. The purpose would be for presentation to those involved with furthering the work of the Commission and to identify with the public the good work we do. Commissioner McKown suggested it be larger than the keychain medal done for the MD 400 so it could be displayed. Discussion of its use and cost.
- Commissioner Kurtz reported on the Maryland World War I Centennial Commission proposal to the Governor and Mayor of Baltimore to restore the daylighting to the War Memorial building in Baltimore, at an estimated cost \$700,000. Commissioner Schiszik described how groups use the building's first

floor rather than the second floor great hall due to the lack of lighting. Commissioner Morrill proposed MMMC send a letter in support to the Governor and Mayor. Commissioner McKown seconded, and the motion passed. Commissioner Wisniewski noted that since the WWICC was not funded, they may not have a mandate to engage in capital projects, something worth considering before sending a letter urging action. Commissioner Schzik noted that the City had designated funding in the past, but had reassigned, so it is on their radar.

### **Announcements**

- The next meeting dates are July 11 and October 10, at 1:00 pm in Crownsville.
- Commissioner Kurtz announced her intent to retire as of July 1, but will remain on the MMMC.

Commissioner Kurtz asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Wisniewski so moved, Commissioner Soderberg seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 pm.