

Governor's Commission on Maryland Military Monuments

April 24, 2024

MINUTES

The special meeting of the Governor's Commission on Maryland Military Monuments was held as a virtual meeting via Google Meet. The meeting was chaired by Secretary Rebecca Flora.

Commissioners Present: Nancy Kurtz, Lauren Schiszik, Gail Schnell, Peter Morrill, Bryan Fischer, Raymond H. Shipley Jr., Stephen S. Hammond, Alfred Mendelsohn, Hon. Victor Kuras Butanis, Rebecca Flora (chair)

MDP Staff: Elizabeth Hughes, Stacy Montgomery

I. CALL TO ORDER

Secretary Rebecca Flora called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. A quorum of Commissioners was recorded as present.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Secretary Flora called for approval of the minutes. Commissioner Butanis made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hammond, that the January 26, 2024 meeting minutes be approved as submitted. The motion was approved unanimously.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present who wished to provide comments.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT

Stacy Montgomery presented the financial report.

FY2023

\$150,000 Capital Budget line item for stripping and rewaxing of all 41 monuments

- Contract awarded to Art Solutions Lab, LLC in the amount of \$184,422.59.
- The first part of this contract was completed in Fall of 2023
- Conservator will start the second part in Late Spring/Early Summer 2024

\$17,000 general fund item to support conservation of miscellaneous projects, to include:

- M404: Kenmore High School World War II Plaque, Elkton (\$2,600) - completed January 2024
- M164: Civil War Tablets (GAR), Cherry Hill Cemetery, Elkton (\$13,467) - completed March 2024

FY2024

\$17,000 general fund item to support conservation of miscellaneous projects, to include:

- M348: Keedysville World War II Monument (\$14,775) - completed November 2023
- Maryland History Day 2024 Special Prizes(\$500) *Excellence in United States Military History, sponsored by the Maryland Military Monuments Commission*
- Others (TBD)

V. OLD BUSINESS

Maryland History Day Prize

- Commission is sponsoring a prize for Excellence in United States Military History: This award recognizes two projects (one junior-level and one senior-level) involving any aspect of United States military history, including commemorative artworks, architecture, programs, events, etc., associated with military service.
 - The junior level is a middle school (grades 6-8) prize and the senior level is a high school prize (grades 9-12).
- [Maryland History Day](#) will be May 4th, 2024 @ UMBC
 - Sec. Flora will be part of the awards presentation
 - Stacy Montgomery will get commissioners information on the awards presentation if any are interested in attending.
- Call for Judges has closed
 - Commissioner Mendleson will be a judge and shared the positive experience he has had in the past.

Art Lab Solutions Spring/Summer Cleaning Schedule

- Work to occur in Allegany County, Washington County, Frederick County, and Carroll County in June and August.
 - Stacy Montgomery will reach out to commissioners about dates/time to see conservation work once it is scheduled.

HB133/SB448 To establish a Commission to Study African American Civil War Soldiers who fought for the Union Army in Maryland

- This new Commission will make findings and recommendations for funding, design, construction, and location for a memorial dedicated to African American Civil War soldiers by December 1, 2024.
- A member of the Commission on Maryland Military Monuments is to serve on this new commission.

- Following the motion of the commissioners at the January 2024 meeting, a letter of support was sent on behalf of the Commission, with a commitment to identify a member of the Commission on Maryland Military Monuments to serve on this new commission
- This bill passed both the House and Senate.
 - Stacy Montgomery will send the final copy of the bill.

Memorial Grove, Druid Hill Park, Baltimore City

- Stacy Montgomery is still working with the Baltimore City Recreation and Parks staff on scheduling site visit and getting an update on current status/work to the Grove.

Town of Elkton Doughboy Monument / MSAC Public Art Across Maryland Conservation Grant

- Commissioner Kurtz updated the commission on the Town of Elkton's MSAC application for the Doughboy Monument. The town was awarded a planning grant this year.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Appointments

- Staff is looking into the necessary appointments for commissioners whose terms have expired. Stacy Montgomery will follow up with the current roster and the process for reappointment.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meeting Schedule

The next meeting of the Commission will take place on October 24, 2024.

VIII. ADJOURN

Secretary Flora called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Commissioner Butanis and seconded by Commissioner Hammond. All commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 10:27 am