Governor's Commission on Maryland Military Monuments
January 26, 2022
MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Governor's Commission on Maryland Military Monuments was held virtually via Google Meet and teleconference.

Commissioners Present: Deputy Secretary Sandra Schrader, Chair; Victor Butanis, Jenny Carson, Ellen Chase, Bryan Fischer, Cheryl Jewitt, Nancy Kurtz, Al Mendelsohn, C. Ryan Patterson, Gail Schnell, Raymond Shipley, Susan Soderberg, Jari Villanueva

Commissioners Absent: David Craig, Stephen Hammond, Peter Morrill, Dennis Rude, Lauren Schiszik

MHT Staff: Steve Allan, Elizabeth Hughes, Kathy Monday

OAG Staff: absent

MDP Staff: Maria Sofia

Public Guest: Rebecca Ellison

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Schrader called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. Roll call was taken, and an official list of attendees was recorded by Mr. Allan. It was noted that Commissioner Shipley had driven 2 ½ hours to Crownsville for the meeting and was on the phone in the parking lot. The Chair and Mr. Allan apologized for the change of meeting format, but noted that notices were sent out starting on January 5, and that the meeting invite had been amended.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Schrader called for approval of the minutes. Commissioner Soderberg made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Butanis, that the October 27 meeting minutes be approved with two corrections to the names of Mr. Mendelsohn and Maria Sofia. The Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

III. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Allan presented the financial report.

FY2021

- $17,000 general fund item for regular maintenance and conservation of 12 monuments in the Western Shore region (Maintenance Group 4).
- Contract awarded for $13,190. Work to be completed by June 30, 2022.

- $3,250 invoice paid for scope of work change order O'Neill (M241) and Hicks (M185) monuments completed last fall.
- Special fund balance $3,438.

FY2022

- $17,000 general fund item for 2023 maintenance and conservation of Central Region monuments (Maintenance Group 1).

Discussion ensued about whether or not the balance from the fund allocation rolls over or must be expended. Commissioner Mendelsohn asked about the change order fund origin. Mr. Allan stated that it came from the FY2021 funds. Commissioner Butanis made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mendelsohn, that the Financial Report be approved. The Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the financial report.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Rebecca Ellison stated her name for the record and spoke in favor as a private citizen of keeping the Talbot Boys monument in Talbot County.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Challenge Medallions.

Mr. Allan reported that the challenge medallions discussed at the October meeting have been engraved and delivered to MHT this morning. Kathy Monday held one up to the screen. We had planned to distribute them at the meeting today, but Chair Schrader said that they will be picked up and mailed to the recipients by MDP. Unfortunately, the medallion chambers (holders) have not proven to be adequate to house the medallions. Thanks to Kathy Monday for handling the medallion engraving logistics. Mr. Allan will provide the engraving list to Maria Sofia along with the mailing addresses of the recipients.

Monument Stripping and Rewaxing Treatment Funding

Nothing to report. A budget request has been submitted.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Maintenance Group 1

Mr. Allan presented slides of the next round of monuments to be treated: Maintenance Group 1: Central Region – which will be treated in 2023. These slides showed a sampling of monuments, and the conservators that Howard Wellman works with on our monuments. The full list of monuments to be treated in Maintenance Group 1 are as follows:

1. M209 **World War I *Victory* Monument**, Memorial Park, Bentz and Second streets, Frederick. Over life-sized bronze figure plus eight large bronze tablets on granite pedestal approximately 12' high.

2. M157 **Western Maryland Railway WW I Monument**, MD 75 at the Western MD Railway Museum (station), Union Bridge. Bronze tablet on granite stone, identical to the monuments in Hagerstown and Cumberland.

3. M146 **World War I Wayside Cross Monument**, York Rd. and Shealey Ave., **Towson**. Four bronze tablets on granite monument approximately 15' high overall.

4. M093 **All Wars Veterans Monument**, Kelly Avenue Bridge and Falls Road, **Baltimore**. Bronze tablet on coursed stone monument.

5. M075 **Francis Scott Key Tablet**, Mount Vernon Place United Methodist Church, 10 East Mount Vernon St., **Baltimore**. Bronze tablet 56" wide and 17" high on façade of church.

6. M048 **Baltimore City College World War I Memorial**, 33rd St. and The Alameda, **Baltimore.** Bronze relief tablet is approximately 36" wide and 9' high, with the lower edge of the tablet approximately 9' above the ground.

7. M125 **Westowne World War II Monument**, Westowne and Malbrook roads, **Catonsville**. Bronze tablet on coursed stone monument.

8 & 9. M138 **World War II Monument** at intersection and M137 **World War I Tablet** on brick wall of Children's Center, 1620 S. Rolling Rd. and Arlington Ave., **Relay**. World War II tablet is 3' wide and 6' high on random ashlar monument. World War I tablet is 1'-6" wide and 2' high.

10 & 11. M247 **Howard County World War I/II/Korean War Monument** and M248 **War of 1812 Cannon**, Courthouse, **Ellicott City**. Bronze Civil War tablet has been moved to historical society interior and is no longer maintained. World War II Monument is granite. Cannon is iron on concrete pedestal.

12.* **Maryland National Guard WW I Tablet**, Army National Guard Recruiting station, 28722 Ocean Gateway (US 50), Salisbury. Tablet originally was on the old armory in town and moved here in 1960s. Located in alcove at front entrance of building. First treated in 2019.

Notes
*out of cycle. Belongs in Group 3 Eastern Shore and NE MD for geographic reasons; but a maintenance gap of 6 years would result. Needs inventory number.

**Zion Church tablet in Baltimore belongs in Group 1 geographically, but it was treated in 2020.

Condition assessments will be done on the above monuments in February and March, and an RFP will be prepared to go out in April. Funds must be encumbered by June 30th.

Commissioner Patterson asked how the monuments are selected for maintenance. Mr. Allan replied that we have a list of 60 monuments that have come to us over the years by jurisdictions and organizations in need of conservation assistance. Commissioner Kurtz provided detail about how these monuments came to be part of the maintenance program, and clarified that the maintenance group is a subset of the total number of monuments in the State inventory.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Schrader announced that Steve Allan is retiring effective March 1 and thanked him for his service.

The next meeting of the Commission will be held on April 27, hopefully at 100 Community Place in Crownsville, but possibly virtual depending on our Covid situation. The next meetings after that will be July 27 and October 26, 2022.

Commissioner Mendelsohn mentioned that former secretary Lighthizer went over to the Civil War Trust had a memorial dedicated to him at Gettysburg.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Butanis seconded by Commissioner Soderberg. The meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.