



Fort Monroe Foundation Report for the
Fort Monroe Board of Trustees Meeting
Bay Breeze Community Center
June 16, 2016

The Fort Monroe Foundation (FMF) completed two successful spring fundraising campaigns with the Annual Sponsors Reception at the Commanding General's Residence and Gardens followed by Give Local 757, hosted by the Peninsula Community Foundation. These campaigns continue to be a successful way to encourage local businesses and individuals to participate in sponsoring the public programs at Fort Monroe. An exciting array of events are planned throughout the summer and the Fort Monroe Foundation (FMF) is poised to continue to make a positive impact on the activities, events, and interpretation of Fort Monroe.

Finances

The FMF cash balance at the close of business on April 30, 2016 was \$93,745.74. The FMF financials through April 30, 2016 are attached.

Foundation Fundraising Activities

The 2016 Annual Sponsors Reception was held at the Commanding General's Residence and Gardens located on Fenwick Road across from Continental Park. The reception was a delightful evening enjoyed by about 50 representatives from the business community. Pledges were made and donations were received, continuing to make this event the single largest annual fundraiser hosted by the FMF. The donations raised through this event provide the resources necessary to host concerts, the *Fourth at the Fort* celebration, volunteer recognition events, education programs, and other activities. By hosting the event at the Commanding General's Residence, the FMF demonstrated how this venue can be used for special event activities.

Additionally, Give Local 757 presented a second opportunity this spring to raise money for the FMF. The FMF raised over \$2,500 in this community fundraising event. The FMF continues to build a positive relationship with the Peninsula Community Foundation as we were the site of the photograph for their regional marketing campaign materials. An estimated 400 people participated in the event held in Continental Park.

The FMF is working diligently to produce the second annual historic interpretation dinner by hosting an evening with President James Madison and his wife on October 15, 2016. The fundraising dinner will be held in the Chamberlin in the large dining room. Tickets will be \$75 per person and we are expecting a sellout crowd.

As we enter the summer months, the FMF Executive Director is beginning to explore new opportunities and seek additional sponsors for the events that will occur in late summer and the fall. Fort Monroe has proven to be a beneficial opportunity for sponsors and we look forward to reaching out to more businesses and philanthropist who want to be part of this project.

2019 Commemoration and Legacy Projects

The FMF is excited to report that the efforts of the Waterfront Park have resulted in the plans to move forward with the conversion of the former Post Library into the Fort Monroe Visitor Center. Although the renovation project will be a state funded project, the expectation is that the FMF will play a role in raising money for exhibit designs. This project is quickly being heralded as one of the tangible "Legacy Projects" that will be the result of the commemorative events planned for 2019 and was supported by the FMA Board at its March 17 Board Retreat.

Waterfront Park Project Conceptual Plans

The FMA staff and the Waterfront Park Design Team are scheduled to complete the review of the public comments in in early summer and present the final conceptual plan at the August meeting of the Board of Trustees.

2016 Music by the Bay Sponsors Reception and Concert Planning

The FMF will continue to use the *Music by the Bay* concert series as an opportunity for FMF sponsors to enjoy a reception in the Executive Director's home prior to concerts. Additional funding for concerts that require a performance fee will be paid for by the FMF.

Virginia Symphony Concert at Fort Monroe

The FMF is pleased to report that the Virginia Symphony Orchestra (VSO) would like to return to Fort Monroe. Working with the Executive Director, the VSO agreed that the site this year would be at the Paradise Ocean Club on the Wednesday night before Labor Day. Funds need to be identified in order to produce this concert.

Foundation Board Membership

The Executive Director has met with two members of the local community and discussed with them the exciting opportunities that are available to have a positive influence the future of Fort Monroe through the FMF. Both of these people have agreed to join the FMF if approved by the FMA Trustees.