



Fort Monroe Authority Board of Trustees
November 21, 2019
Meeting Minutes

The Fort Monroe Authority (FMA) Board of Trustees Annual Meeting was held on November 21, 2019 at the Paradise Ocean Club and Bay Breeze Conference Center, located at 490 Fenwick Road, Fort Monroe, VA 23651.

Call to Order

1. Opening Comments – Jim Moran, Chairman

Chairman Moran called the meeting to order at 1:06pm. He reported that Colin Campbell tendered his resignation from the Board, and his contributions will be recognized at a future Board meeting. He recognized the passing of Alan Diamonstein who put much effort into the Fort Monroe Foundation.

2. Roll Call – Rachel Dancy, Interim Assistant Secretary

Present: Chairman Jim Moran, Dr. Ed Ayers, Mary Bunting, Dr. Maureen Elgersmann Lee, Dr. Rex Ellis, Destry Jarvis, Jay Joseph, John Reynolds.

Absent: Vice-Chairman Colin Campbell, Delegate Gordon Helsel, Senator Mamie Locke.

A quorum is present.

Secretary of Natural Resources Matt Strickler, Special Assistant to the Secretary of Commerce and Trade Turner Widgen, and newly elected Delegate Martha Mugler were also in attendance.

4. Minutes from September 19, 2019 – Jim Moran, Chairman

MOTION: I move the approval of the September 19, 2019 meeting minutes (APPENDIX I).

So moved: Mr. Jarvis.

Seconded: Mr. Joseph

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Unanimously approved.

Reports and Briefings

5. Executive Director's Report – Glenn Oder, Executive Director

Director Oder stated that the read ahead information received in the Board packet shows the activity taking place. (APPENDIX II). Highlights are the Visitors and Education Center, moving properties to the market place, and the African Landing Memorial Project which are items in the presentation later. Mr. Oder

gave a personnel update to include one retirement, one departure due to a career change, two new hires, and interviews will be set soon for two positions in the Casemate Museum.

6. Financial Report – John Hutcheson, Deputy Executive Director

Mr. Hutcheson reviewed the Financial Report and the FY19 Audit are included in the Board package (APPENDIX III). The audit was presented in draft form to the Finance Committee at its November meeting.

MOTION: I move the acceptance of the FY19 audit as presented.

So moved: Mr. Joseph.

Seconded: Mr. Reynolds.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Unanimously approved.

Mr. Hutcheson reviewed the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) included in the Board package.

MOTION: I move the approval CIP as amended.

So moved: Ms. Bunting.

Seconded: Mr. Reynolds.

Discussion: Ms. Bunting mentioned on the CIP Project Cost Summary, Line Item 8-041 African Landing Memorial Park that FY20 should be equal to \$500,000 but displayed as \$100,000 per year. CIP approved as amended with engineer field deleted.

Public Comment: None.

Unanimously approved.

7. Chairman's Report – Jim Moran, Chairman

Chairman Moran welcomed the newly elected Delegate, Martha Mugler to the Board and recognized Governor Northam for his prior experience as vice chair of the FMA which gives him understanding of the needs at Fort Monroe. It is a transformational stage for Fort Monroe to transform the fort. Prioritizing and capital improvement money will be used in the best way as possible. Mr. Hutcheson is appreciated for the willingness to reprioritize capital improvement projects. The vision over the last few years is coming to fruition. A new vice-chair will be selected at the next meeting with Colin Campbell resigning.

8. National Park Service Report – Terry E. Brown, Superintendent

There is no National Park Service Report. Mr. Brown shared that Dr. Ellis was elected as Chairman of the 400th Year African American History Commission.

9. City of Hampton Report – Bruce Sturk, Director of Federal Facilities

There is no City of Hampton report. Ms. Bunting shared that during the State of the City address, the mayor made a special point to recognize the work going on at Fort Monroe, along with Director Oder and Mr. Brown.

10. Fort Monroe Foundation Progress Update – Mike Westfall, President

Mr. Westfall reported that the Foundation has moved into year three of the action plan adopted in 2017. Many budgeting conversations are going forward before we move into fundraising mode. The Foundation is looking forward to announcing another challenge grant and is pleased that things are moving forward in a positive way. There is a donor recognition reception today at 4:30 p.m. at the Commanding General's House that everyone is invited to.

Old Business

11. Moving Properties to the Marketplace – Glenn Oder

Director Oder discussed the process of moving properties to the marketplace. There were many responses and various levels of special interests. The responses were the results of the request for real estate proposal. Every company who responded understood the significance of our standards and sensitivity to the history of Fort Monroe. The next steps are to develop criteria and review proposals.

12. Fort Monroe Visitor and Education Center Update – John Hutcheson

Mr. Hutcheson stated that the Visitor and Education Center is getting close to being finished. The Certificate of Occupancy is scheduled for December 12. The exhibit contractor is coming back the first week of December. The Certificate of Occupancy may be received by the end of the year with a more formal opening in 2020.

13. African Landing Memorial Art Project – Glenn Oder

Director Oder stated that they are in the final stages of preparing phase one of the contract with Brian Owens, the selected artist for the African Landing Memorial Monument. The Listening Tour is a five day arrangement with the artist and the itinerary will include meetings with local universities, opportunities to engage students, with evenings hosting a reception or a dialog with community members. Public and scholars engagement is wanted as to make sure information is accurate to create a monument that is impactful. The Listening Tour will take place during the month of February, which is a great opportunity to dovetail with Black History Month. Mr. Oder stated that he welcomes valuable input.

It was commented that the power structure is well represented, but the people structure is not thoroughly discussed. Focus the approach to try to get views of thoughtful young people about how they see the history taking place.

14. Transfer of Wherry Property to NPS – Destry Jarvis

Tab 14 is the updated resolution. Only changes in the last paragraph. Resolution concludes that would like the administration to do voluntarily. An invite was extended to Mr. Vela to see the property to accept administratively.

MOTION: I move the adoption of the resolution.

So moved: Mr. Jarvis.

Seconded: Dr. Ayers.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.
Unanimously approved.

15. 2020 Meeting Calendar – Glenn Oder

Director Oder commented to hold January 16, 2020 as a tentative date; meeting will most likely not take place. April 15-16, 2020 will be the Board Retreat.

MOTION: I move the approval of the 2020 Calendar.

So moved: Ms. Bunting.

Seconded: Dr. Elgersman Lee.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Unanimously approved.

New Business

16. Board of Trustees Open Discussion

There is no open discussion.

17. General Public Comment

a. Michael Worthington, Fort Monroe Resident –would like for Fort Monroe to look into the peeling paint, heard a lot about spending but not sustainability and would like that addressed in the future, there was research on the significance of the 1619 Project at Fort Monroe, and other components of Fort Monroe history should be included as well.

b. Bill Wiggins, Contraband Historical Society, Project 1619, Citizens for a Fort Monroe National Park – hopes the City of Hampton will be able to provide funding for the African Landing Memorial Project, need to get the African Landing Memorial Project right and be as accurate as possible, need to make sure stakeholders are involved and work together.

Closed Session

20. In accordance with VA code 2.2-3711

- **Acquisition or disposition of real property**
- **Personnel matters**
- **Consultation with legal counsel**

MOTION: I move the Fort Monroe Authority Board of Trustees convene in closed session to discuss matters pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia pertaining to acquisition or disposition of real property located at Fort Monroe, in accordance with Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Code of Virginia; personnel matters, in accordance with Section 2.2-3711(A)(1); and consultation with legal counsel, in accordance with Section 2.2-3711(A)(8) of the Code of Virginia.

So moved: Mr. Joseph.

Seconded: Dr. Elgersman Lee.

Discussion: None.

Public Comment: None.

Unanimously approved.

Reconvene

MOTION: I move that the Fort Monroe Authority Board of Trustees end the closed session to discuss matters pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia pertaining to acquisition or disposition of real property located at Fort Monroe; personnel matters; and consultation with legal counsel.

So moved: Mr. Joseph
Seconded: Mr. Reynolds
Discussion: None.
Public Comment: None.
Unanimously approved.

MOTION: I move that we close the executive session and reconvene an open meeting. Each member will now be asked to certify that only those matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened, were heard, discussed or considered by the Fort Monroe Authority Board of Trustees in executive session.

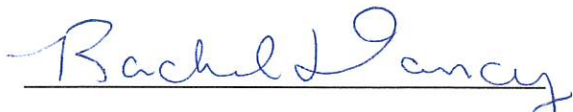
So moved: Mr. Joseph.
Seconded: Mr. Reynolds.
Ayes: Dr. Ed Ayers, Mary Bunting, Dr. Rex Ellis, Destry Jarvis, Jay Joseph, John Reynolds.
Nays: None.
Unanimously approved.

Adjournment

21. **Next Meeting dates – January 16, 2020 (tentative) and February 20, 2020 (confirmed)**

Chairman Moran adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:41pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Rachel Dancy, Interim Assistant Secretary