



Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission Meeting
Government House, Annapolis, Maryland
June 23, 2010
12:00pm to 1:30pm

Meeting Minutes

Welcome and introductions

In attendance: Governor Martin O'Malley, Raymond "Chip" Mason, Michael Busch, Atwood "Woody" Collins, Eloise Foster, Richard Hall, Christian Johansson, Thomas V. Mike Miller, Will Phillips (for Scott Plank), Kristin Saunders (for John Griffin), Beverley Swaim-Staley, Colm O'Comartun, David Rawle, Bill Pencek, Kathi Ash, and Kate Marks

Reports

Bill Pencek provided an overview of the recommendations and accomplishments to date.

- **Development and Sponsor Relations Advisory Committee**

- Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative Coin

- The Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative Coin Act H.R. 2097 will authorize a commemorative coin that may provide up to \$8.5 million to the Commission. As of June 19, 2010, the bill passed the House and has 48 Senate co-sponsors (19 are needed). The Governor's DC office and Senator Cardin's staff are working to have the bill passed by September 2010.

- Establishment of Bicentennial 501 c(3)

- Star-Spangled 200, Inc (SS200) is the Commission's companion 501c (3) non-profit partner and will lead the fundraising efforts for bicentennial projects. Ballard Spahr is assisting in preparing the organizational documents and securing non-profit status with the Internal Revenue Service. The goal is to have the non-profit in place by Jan 2011.

- Federal FY 2011 Budget

- In January 2010, Governor Martin O'Malley submitted a request to the Maryland Congressional delegation for \$4 million in Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail (SSBNHT) projects for the federal FY2011 budget. Senator Cardin, Congressman Sarbanes and other members of the MD delegation submitted corresponding requests.

- **Resource Stewardship and Visitor Experience**

- Resource List

- A comprehensive resource list of War of 1812 sites in Maryland that evaluates significance, integrity, and accessibility was completed by the committee in the spring of 2010. This list will guide funding investment and refinements will be made based upon new information as it is discovered and reported.

- Water Trail Plan

- Using funds provided by OTD and the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network, the Commission is preparing a water trail plan to serve as the blueprint for priority opportunities for investment in stewardship, accessibility and interpretation along the water trail portions of the SSBNHT. The final draft plan is in development by consultant, Environmental Resources Management, and will be posted for public comment.



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Trail/Byway Plan

The management plan will serve as the blueprint for prioritizing investment along the SSBNHT and Star-Spangled Byway (Byway). Money from the Scenic Byways grant will be used for developing the joint management plan. Involved partners include the National Park Service (NPS) and the Maryland State Highway Administration. The NPS hired WRT/Lardner Klein as the lead consultant and an internal scoping meeting will be held in July, 2010. The final plan is expected to be completed by June 2012.

Signage Plan

The signage plan will serve as the blueprint for the installation and sustainability of 150+ interpretive waysides in Maryland along the SSBNHT and Byway. Commission staff is working with the NPS to develop a request for proposals that will be announced in July 2010 for bids.

• **Education and Curriculum**

K-12 projects

- Integrate the War of 1812 into K-12 curriculum
The Baltimore National Heritage Area conducted a survey of existing education resources and lesson plans in February 2010. Funding from the NPS and the Maryland Humanities Council is helping with the creation of two new lesson plans and teacher training workshops in the fall of 2010.
- Create a virtual portal for educational resources through Maryland Public Television (MPT)'s Thinkport
Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine, MPT, and Living Classrooms Foundation are collaborating to create a War of 1812 education resource portal through MPT's Thinkport website. Funding has been secured for the project and it is expected to be completed by September 2011.

Higher Education

The Commission and the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) are working to increase the number of War of 1812 related courses offered in colleges and universities and incentivize course offerings related to War of 1812. In June 2010, Commission staff presented to the MHEC's Segmental Advisory Council.

Collections and Archives

The Maryland State Archives is leading the efforts to create a virtual research portal of Maryland War of 1812 collections and archives. American Heritage Sites is a potential partner in the project and an introductory meeting is scheduled for late June 2010.

• **Programs and Events**

Workshop Series

Working with local partners, the Commission is presenting a series of six-daylong workshops to strengthen partners statewide. Five of six workshops have been held (Southern MD, Prince George's County, Head of the Bay, Upper Eastern Shore, and North Point). The final conference will take place in Baltimore City in October 2010.



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Partner with Local Groups

Commission staff has been partnering with local umbrella organizations at the county and regional level, such as Baltimore City and County, the Eastern Shore, Head of the Bay, Prince George's County, Southern MD, and Washington, DC.

Calendar of Events

A five -year calendar of events has been created to map out large events. The next major event will be the opening of Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine's Visitor Center in winter 2011. In fall of 2011, a new national PBS special on the War of 1812 will air on PBS stations across the country. A statewide calendar of events is featured on www.starspangled200.org and the list will be updated throughout the commemoration.

June 2012 National Bicentennial Launch

Collaboration with the U.S. Navy, Operation Sail (OpSail), Sail Baltimore, City of Baltimore and other partners has begun for the June 2012 maritime event in Baltimore Harbor. This event will be the national War of 1812 bicentennial kickoff. Sail Baltimore is under contract to assist with the planning efforts. Budget, schedule and event cluster plan is expected to be completed by September 2010.

• **Transportation and Capital Infrastructure**

North Point Development Plan

The Commission, NPS, Baltimore County government, Department of Natural Resources, and local community groups are working together to coordinate the development of more than a dozen projects on the North Point peninsula, including a Heritage Greenway Trail. The concept plan will be included in the joint Trail/Byway management plan and is expected to be completed by September 2014.

Bladensburg Green Street

The Town of Bladensburg is pursuing funding to complete and implement a Green Street Plan for Bladensburg Road and the Anacostia waterfront. The street overlaps with the route taken by British troops during the Battle of Bladensburg and several War of 1812 sites will be incorporated into the plan. The project is expected to be completed by August 2014.

Public Art

With money from the Federal Byways grant, the Commission, Maryland Transportation Administration and the Maryland Commission on Public Art will be coordinating efforts for up to four large-scale public art installations, starting with the Francis Scott Key Bridge (I-695). Solicitation of artists' qualifications will be announced in September 2010. All projects are expected to be completed by February 2015.

Scorpion

Federal support, through SAFETEALU and the U.S. Navy, has been approved to complete Phase 1 of the exploration of the *Scorpion*. U.S. Navy, the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT), and Maryland State Highways will be involved in the project.



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- **Communications and Marketing**

- License Plate

- On June 14, 2010, the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration released a new Star-Spangled themed standard issue license plate for all passenger vehicles, trucks, and multipurpose vehicles. The new plates feature a star-spangled theme and direct the viewer to the Commission's website, www.starspangled200.org.

- Film

- A contract has been executed with MPT for a 60-minute Byway travelogue, funded through the National Scenic Byway Grant. The project is expected to be completed by June 2012.

- Book

- Byway funds will be used for the publication of a 100-150 page paperback map and guide to the Byway. The Commission is working with the guide's authors, Dr. Ralph Eshelman and Dr. Burton Kummerow, and partners, the NPS, MHT Press, Johns Hopkins University Press, and the Maryland Historical Society Press, and a contract with MHT Press in negotiation. The project is expected to be completed by June 2012.

- Traveling Exhibit

- The Baltimore National Heritage Area is creating a Chesapeake War of 1812 traveling exhibit for Maryland and the mid-Atlantic region. Grants from the Maryland Heritage Area Authority and the NPS are funding the project. The exhibit script is nearing completion and a contract has been executed with the exhibit designer. The project is expected to be completed in January 2011.

- **Operations and Management**

- FY 2011 Plan

- The FY 2011 Plan for the Commission is to maintain core staff (Bill Pencek, Kate Marks and Kathi Ash) and supplement with expert consultants and contractors. Sail Baltimore has been brought under contract for the June 2012 maritime event. A consultant will be hired to develop the corporate sponsorship plan by January 2011.

Actions

- **Memo from Governor to Cabinet**

- A memo from the Governor to his cabinet instructing state agencies to cooperate with bicentennial related projects was presented for discussion. A resolution for the Commission to support the memo was moved and passed.

- **Agreement with 501 c(3)**

- No action needed was currently required on the agreement. The Commission will discuss the agreement at the next meeting in December after the non-profit has been created.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25pm.