

### Fort Monroe Authority Board of Trustees Annual Board Retreat April 18, 2019

### Paradise Ocean Club/Bay Breeze Conference Center 490 Fenwick Road Fort Monroe, VA 23651 8:00am – 2:00pm

# PUBLIC MEETING: PLEASE POST

# Continental Breakfast - 8:00 am

### Call to Order – 8:30 am

- 1. Opening Comments Jim Moran, Chairman
- 2. Roll Call Jesica Turner, Assistant Secretary
- 3. Minutes from February 28, 2019 Executive Committee Meeting Jim Moran, Chairman
- 4. Ratify Actions of Executive Committee Katheryn Surface Burks
  - Public Comment
  - ACTION ITEM: Adopt Resolution

### **Reports and Briefings**

- 5. Executive Director's Report Glenn Oder, Executive Director
  - Departmental reports
  - Fort Monroe Foundation Report
- 6. Financial Report John Hutcheson, Treasurer, Deputy Executive Director
  - Year-to-date financials
- 7. Chairman's Report Jim Moran, Chairman
- 8. Fort Monroe Foundation Progress Update Mike Westfall, President

# **Strategic Sessions**

- 9. Decision Context for RFPs: A 50-Year Decision Glenn Oder, John Reynolds
  - Fort Monroe is a place of national and international significance that is now the responsibility of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the NPS. Fort Monroe is an important place, with important stories, and holds great opportunity. To preserve the history and manage the property, the FMA Board has been given significant responsibility and direction through the Fort Monroe governing documents. Once the Army transfer process is complete, the FMA will begin to receive proposals for long-term relationships that transfer responsibility for sections of the property to private entities for the purpose of adaptive reuse. During this process, careful consideration of each opportunity must include the proper management of the historic and natural resources, improving the visitor experience, and creating a financial model that benefits the region while creating economic sustainability for the FMA.
    - o What is the vision of the Board in consideration of the following:
      - Management of historic and natural resources
      - Superior visitor experience
      - Economic sustainability for:
        - FMA
        - Region
    - How does FMA integrate adaptive reuse projects into the vision and mission for Fort Monroe?
- 10. Fort Monroe: The National Center for Freedom Glenn Oder, Robin Reed
  - The National Center for Freedom was a concept to promote FMA and NPS public programs and educational resources at Fort Monroe. This became a reality with the support of Huntington Ingalls Industries, through the Newport News Shipbuilding One Community Transformation Grant. This \$300,000 grant has allowed for the implementation of new program components that may reach across coastal Virginia and beyond. Today, the focus is not on the actual facility but more about programs and educational resources. As we look to the future, both the place and the programs at Fort Monroe have the potential to establish this site as the National Center for Freedom. Discussions with individual Board member and members of our Congressional delegation have generated interest in this potential designation.
    - What does The National Center for Freedom mean to you?
    - How do you see The National Center for Freedom manifesting itself at Fort Monroe?
    - What would be a successful outcome for The National Center for Freedom in three, five, and 10 years?
- 11. African Landing Memorial Glenn Oder, Destry Jarvis
  - The FMA and its partners are working to identify and encourage prominent artists to submit a Statement of Interest for the creation and construction of an African Landing Memorial. This chosen artist will be announced during the Commemoration of the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the First Landing of Africans in English occupied North America 1619-2019. The Memorial will include significant public engagement to create a lasting tribute to the spirit of the first Africans who landed at Point Comfort and helped shape this nation.

- The Memorial received initial funding of \$500,000 from the Commonwealth and the FMA has received verbal confirmation that a site between the Old Point Comfort Lighthouse and the Engineer's Pier is acceptable for consideration. The Memorial has the potential to become the Fenwick Road portion of the Waterfront Park Conceptual Plan to create significant park-like improvements in this area.
  - As we begin discussions with artist, what are your ideas for this space and the public art?
  - What parameter should FMA apply to other requests for public art on the property?
- 12. Strategic Projects Glenn Oder
  - Main entrance to Fort Monroe
    - Traffic congestion mitigation
    - Pedestrian access improvements
    - o Utility improvements
    - Visual appearance
  - 400-Year Anniversary of the fortress and moat
    - o Improvements to the Main Gate
    - Outer scarp wall repairs
    - Fortress wall repairs
    - Moat dredging
  - Fort Monroe Theatre improvements
    - The Theatre is one of the FMA's most popular venues. Upgrades have already improved the projector and sound system, but significant investment is needed to achieve a higher level of marketability.
  - Quarters One
    - NPS has completed a historic structures report and is in the process of Phase 1 renovations. Future renovation and interpretation creates significant partnership opportunities for NPS and FMA.
  - Casemate Museum renovations
    - The Casemate Museum creates a one-of-a-kind visitor experience at Fort Monroe. As the FMA implements electrical and HVAC upgrades, additional improvements to the exhibits and collections are needed.
  - Commanding General's Residence master plan
    - The Commanding General's Residence has evolved from a private residence to a highly sought-after rental venue. To achieve maximum success, this venue requires research and master planning.
- 13. General Open Discussion

#### Break – 10:30am

Lunch – 12:00pm

#### **General Public Comment**

#### Adjournment - 2:00 pm

14. Next Meeting is June 20, 2019