

HARPERS FERRY PARK ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Sept 3, 2023, 1:00 pm
Charles Washington Hall
Charles Town, WV

Attendees

Board members in attendance: Jim Silva, Laura Clark, Ed Wheelless, Chris Craig, Mike Lynch, Doug Perks, Susan Journell and Mark Elrod.

Staff members in attendance: Cathy Baldau, Katlyn Simmons, Nikki Bosley and Emily Timberlake

Park staff in attendance: Kristen Maxfield, Peter Dessauer

Call to Order & Introduction of Board Members (Jim Silva)

President Jim Silva started off the meeting with a welcome and introduced current board members.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting (Jim Silva)

Postponed.

Report from the Park (Kristen Maxfield, Interpretation and Education Program Manager, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park)

- The Park's focus has been on stabilizing and rehabilitating Park buildings, conservation of museum artifacts, conservation of limestone cedar glades and Maryland Heights trail improvements.
- The Park anticipates reopening Black Voices exhibit space in February 2024.
- The Park remains short-staffed and a new superintendent should be appointed in October 2023.
- The NHP has been able to reopen buildings in lower town that had been closed due to COVID-19 restrictions as well as resume ranger led programs and special events.
- Route 340 will be closed to stabilize the rock bluffs on Loudoun Heights starting September 12. There will be a 20 mile detour utilizing VA 671 and Route 9. Some recreational activities in the Park may be limited for safety reasons during the closure.
- Upcoming events in the Park include:
 - Sept. 9-10: artillery demos on Bolivar Heights
 - Sept. 12-15: 1862 commemorative programs
 - Oct. 14-15: John Brown Road
 - Oct. 21: Thomas Jefferson reenactor

Volunteer Recognition (Cathy Baldau)

The following volunteers were recognized for their contributions to the HFPA over the past year.

Liesje Alexander
Jim Koenig
Mike Lynch
Chris Craig
Ed Wheelless
Jim Silvia
Todd Baldau
Marlon Moran
Rebecca Harriett

Kim Biggs
Anne Small
John Barton

Executive Director's Report (Cathy Baldau)

See attached slide presentation

Financial Report (Laura Clark)

See attached slide presentation

Board Elections (Jim Silva)

- Incumbents nominated for a new three-year term
Susan Journell

- Incumbents retiring from the Board
Jim Beckman
John Madigan
Michael Zeleke

- New members nominated for a three-year term
John Barton
Jeff Evans

Motion	Motion to approve the board appointments as presented.
Motion by	Scott Faulkner
Second	Rebecca Harriett
Yes	All present
No	0
Result	MOTION APPROVED

Mark Elrod Firearm Collection (Jim Silva)

Jim Silva announced that Mark Elrod has approached the HFPA regarding the bequest of his comprehensive and important collection of Harpers Ferry and Springfield armory firearms. The Board will continue to explore the generous offer and the Association's ability to provide adequate conservatorship of the collection.

Adjournment (Jim Silva)

The formal Annual Membership Meeting adjourned at about 3:30 PM followed by a presentation by Doug Perks on his new book The Civil War Years in Jefferson County, Virginia.

– 09/14/2023 by Ed Wheelless