

**MATHEWS VA250 AGENDA
OCTOBER 26, 2023 BOARD MEETING
3PM – MATHEWS COUNTY LIBRARY**

1. MINUTES APPROVAL

2. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. PROJECTS COMMITTEE – REED

CHRISTMAS PARADE UPDATE – JOE

MAY 15 CONCERT SERIES – SANDY

B. FINANCE COMMITTEE – JOE

COUNTY CHECKING ACCOUNT AND CHARITABLE DEDUCTIONS - JOE

2024 PRELIMINARY BUDGET – JOE

C. COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE – SANDY

PUBLICITY RE CHARITABLE DEDUCTIONS AND CONCERT SERIES - SANDY

BROCHURE – SANDY

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE – DEE

D. CRICKET HILL UPDATE – JOHN

E. RESEARCH – MARTHA AND BECKY

F. GRANTS – FRED

NOVEMBER VTC CYCLE – CONCERT SERIES – NOV 30 DUE DATE

3. OLD BUSINESS

TOURING BUS

JUDI AND 250 PRESENCE ON COUNTY WEBSITE

LETTER TO COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

4. NEW BUSINESS

5. CHAIR REPORT

ADJOURN

Mathews County VA250 Committee
Monthly Board meeting
October 26, 2023
Mathews Memorial Library

Chairman Fred Lyon called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. at Mathews Memorial Library. In attendance were: Fred Lyon, Sandy Warhol, Joe Syslo, Reed Lawson, Becky Barnhardt, Sharon Frye, Tom Karow, Kat Larkin, Martha McCartney, John Priest and Dee Russell. Absent were Bobby Dobson, Tom Edwards, Angie Ingram, Hunter Owens and Leslie Search. The minutes of the September 28, 2023, meeting were approved on a motion by John, seconded by Tom K.

Fred announced the full committee will not meet in November and recommended committees meet in preparation for the December meeting.

Committee Reports

Projects Committee – Reed reported the committee had met September 25, 2023, and determined that the role of the committee is to coordinate input from area organizations to avoid overlapping events, to keep lines of communication open between the MCVA250 and individual groups and to be the Go To committee for ideas and plans submitted – to be the steering committee reporting to the full board.

Christmas Parade – Joe reported the MCVA250 official kickoff is the parade on Dec. 9th. Plans are to have committee members marching wearing MCVA250 tee shirts while distributing ‘parchment’ Mathews Colonial Gazette flyers. A banner with the county 250th logo, carried by youngsters in Colonial garb, will lead the unit (and, perhaps, a horse or two). Sandy is working on getting a Fife and Drum Corps. MHS Key Club members may be a source of students.

May 15th Concert Series - Sandy presented a draft press release announcing the Wednesday, May 15, 2024, patriotic music concert on the Historic Court Green. This yearly concert will commemorate the Virginia Declaration of Rights signed May 15, 1776. Funding for this event will be applied for in the next grant cycle. Joe moved; Dee seconded that the May 15th Concert Series be approved. Motion carried. Other ideas suggested: set up a Calendar of Events and have an official town crier from our group attend county-wide events to promote the 250th and upcoming events.

Finance Committee – Joe reported his meeting with the county on procedures for accepting donations and paying out expenses incurred by the committee. Gifts to MCVA250 should be given to Joe. Donor and contact information are necessary for sending receipts. Expenses under \$100 will be reimbursed upon submitting a receipt. For expenses over \$100, a proposal is submitted to the Finance Committee for review and approval. The Mathews County Treasurer keeps the checkbook. MCVA250 is required to submit a preliminary 2024 budget by January 6, 2024. Estimates must be sent to Joe by Dec. 27th and can include items such as: 2024 parades, grant-writing expenses, marketing initiatives, etc. The BOS may include MCVA250 in its budgeting process for the years the committee functions. A reasonable ask is \$10,000 per year with specific projects delineated. Joe will solicit specific needs from each chair. Expenses for MCVA250 presence at county events – festivals, Tour de Chesapeake, parades – should be reflected in the budget. Additionally, the committee needs a postal box.

Communications – Sandy proposed the committee compose an introductory press release to announce the presence of MCVA250, that an account with the county has been established and that Joe and Fred can be contacted about donations to the committee. A brochure or rack card, designed by Dee and Becky, should be available by the Christmas parade. One of the Cricket Hill highway markers was suggested as the focal image. Dee reported that a website under the county umbrella would be cost-free except for acquiring a domain name.

Mathewsva250@gmail.com was suggested. The committee will have a Facebook presence. The goal is to go live by mid-November; the executive committee will oversee the rollout.

Cricket Hill – John reported he is working with John Colamore of Colonial Seaport Foundation, which owns ‘Luna’, on Nov. 7th. The grand plan will be announced by the end of this year. John will work with Mike Cecere and Michael Rhodes about plans for 2024 and 2025, specifically for dates.

Research – Martha reported that committee research will not be an expense. However, committee budget items may include postage, a reception for descendants of the five identified groups – patriots, loyalists, black loyalists, free Black patriots and the enslaved and a brochure or publication identifying the descendants. VA250 is receptive to grant applications for research. Becky distributed a mock up of a booklet – a Mathews County Rev War Roster, an idea from a 1976 Gloucester County booklet which listed soldiers from the four Gloucester parishes. An update of that publication or just listing Kingston Parish soldiers (the future Mathews County) could be produced by MCVA250. The response was favorable.

Grants – Fred advised everyone visit the VA250 website to get full details on grant applications. The deadline for the next cycle is November 30th. MCVA250 will submit an application to cover the May 15th concert and other previously stated needs. Sandy moved; Sharon seconded that the committee submit a grant application this cycle. Motion carried.

Old Business

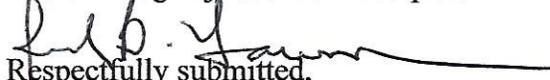
Touring Bus – MCVA250 submitted a request to VA250 to have the touring museum in Mathews County May or July, 2025 or May or July 2026.

Letter to Community Organizations – The letter is being drafted at present.

New Business – No new business.

Chair Report – Fred announced the state-wide VA250 Zoom meeting is Nov. 1st. He will meet with the new Gloucester County VA250 chairman, Robert Kelley, soon. Pam Doss of The Bay School of the Arts is seeking collaboration with MCVA250 and will suggest ideas for grant needs. The next meeting of MCVA250 is Dec. 7, 2023 at 3:00p.m. at Mathews Memorial Library.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.


Respectfully submitted,
Reed Lawson, Secretary

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