

Minutes of the 2014 Fiscal Year Annual Meeting
Monday, August 10, 2015

Board Chairman Elizabeth Beim called to order the 92nd annual meeting of the Martha's Vineyard Museum at 5:10 pm on Monday, August 10, 2015 at the former Marine Hospital in Vineyard Haven. Present were over 75 members and friends of the Museum together with board, staff, and interns.

Beim called attention to the minutes from the 2013 Annual Meeting. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote. Beim gave an update of the Museum's comprehensive capital campaign. She announced that the Museum has, to date, raised almost \$10 million. She announced that the Museum must raise an additional \$5 million by the end of 2015 to stay on track. If this is accomplished, the Museum will have reached 70% of its philanthropic goal, and will be able to go "public" with the campaign. She is enthusiastic about the Museum's progress, and announced the campaign is continuing as planned.

David Nathans opened his Executive Director remarks with great thanks for all who helped make the 2014 fiscal year the success that it was. Nathans described the change that has been needed to make the change from Historical Society to functioning and progressive Museum, and noted the success the MVM has had to date. He listed off ten accomplishments made by the MV Museum this year: The Museum successfully restored the Cooke House Garden and the 1850 fireplace and masonry; was awarded \$136K from CPC funds to restore Marine hospital roof; attracted 40K visitors to the Edgartown museum and lighthouses and earned \$150K; applauded Chief Curator Bonnie Stacy in her work of PechaKucha nights; celebrated a record breaking event at Evening of Discovery with 383 guests; purchased a new sail for Vanity, captained by Board Member and volunteer, Chris Murphy; curated and mounted more than 5 exhibitions; expanded educational outreach past pre-k-12th grade to young children and elders; partnered with MV Film Center in presenting "The Graduate" with commentary by Mike Nichols; partnered with Sail MV to promote the *Charles Morgan* through history and programming; paired to promote Vineyard Haven Cultural District with MV Arts; and the award of the Museum's largest grant ever from NEH, in December of 2014—a \$500,000 grant to build a \$2M endowment for education.

Treasurer Dale Garth gave a recap of the Museum's financial status for 2014. The Museum produced strong growth in its activities. There was a 40% increase in membership dues, and a total 19% increase in total growth. In 2014, the increase for payroll and taxes was only 2.5%.

The campaign is comprehensive because it covers a range of needs: operations and transition costs, building costs, costs to build an endowment. 2014 was the first year that the Museum's annual fund was combined with campaign to better support Museum needs. The Museum raised \$550K in restricted funds not included in Audited financial statements.

Garth remarked that as we are undertaking this campaign effort, the Museum has a number of financial strengths. In addition to our growing collection, the Museum currently owns two properties fully mortgage and debt free. There were no questions.

Committee on Directors Chair Marcia Cini began by taking up approval on the revised By-Laws. She noted that the Committee on Directors will now be named the "Governance Committee." The proposed By-Laws were unanimously approved. Cini wished farewell to John Ettinger, Lorna Giles, Mark Lapman, and Doug Leavens who are rotating off the Board. Cini welcomed five new candidates for election to Board. Up for election for their first full term are Barbara Alleyne, Stever Aubrey, Dede Frank, Peter Gearhart, and Richard Walker. Motion to elect this slate of Directors was unanimously approved. Up for election to their second term were Bob Blacklow, Dale Garth, Phoebe Lewis, Calvin Linnemann, Mark Lovewell, June Manning, Chris Morse, and Denys Wortman. Motion to elect for second term was unanimously approved.

David Nathans announced the recipients of the Martha's Vineyard Medal, which was created to honor leaders in the community who have demonstrated a strong commitment to preserving the history, arts, and culture of Martha's Vineyard. Awards were presented to:

- Cynthia Riggs by Dan Waters
- Pat Morgan by Jill Robie-Axtell
- Pat Gregory (posthumously) by Cynthia Mitchell to Dan Carbon, Pat's son-in-law.

Attendees were invited to join the Museum for a reception.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm

Gail Farrish

MV Museum Secretary