

Governance Chair Remarks for 2019 Annual Meeting (July 2020)

The annual meeting is always bittersweet: while we welcome new and continuing board members, we must also say good-bye to board members who we have worked with for many years and for whom we are so grateful for their contributions.

Elizabeth Beim: Quite frankly, MVM would not be the quality institution it is today without Elizabeth. For 17 years, Elizabeth has passionately contributed her time, talents and treasures to MVM. As most of you know, Elizabeth chaired the board for 6 years and it was during this time that we made the eventful decision to dream large and realize a vision that lived up to our mission. Elizabeth, thank you for your leadership and ongoing commitment to MVM. I hope you will stay close and continue to push us to be aspirational.

Julie Flanders: For 6 years, Julie's steady and thoughtful island perspective has been an invaluable guide post. For several years her generous gift of space for our Bliss party, created an unparalleled venue for the most happening dance party on the Island. As an officer of the board for the past 4 yrs, Julie helped shape the vision for our new VH home and Thank you Julie, for all you have done to help us realize our vision.

Chris Murphy: There is a common saying "what would x say?" that we can each fill in for the person who has consistently been true to his core values. In my case, on the MVM board, it is Chris Murphy. For 6 years Chris has been both an active and committed board member; however, he's also been the captain of our ship...well our catboat Vanity anyway. Until this summer, Chris could be found on any given morning at about 10am waiting on the Edgartown pier to provide a beautiful and informative sail to those lucky enough to secure a spot. Thank you Chris. I hope that as we move forward you will be proud of your ongoing influence as I assure you I will continue to ask....What would Chris say?

Juliana Rogers: Juliana, I know you are unable to be on the Island this summer and I hope that you and your family are well and enjoying your time together. As a stalwart member of our Special Events Committee, Juliana ensured that year after year, our annual Evening of Discovery Gala, would be a resounding success and reach new heights in attendance and revenues. But who among us didn't vie for the one auction item that we could count on every year: a delicious and beautiful dinner for 10 prepared by Juliana? Thank you for your service Juliana.

I also want to take a minute to publicly thank our 4 officers: Stever Aubrey, Barbara Alleyne, Dale Garth and Julie, all of whom will be stepping down in August. Each of you have given countless hours and stepped up in peerless ways during your tenure. When the board votes in its new officers, I know that we will be stepping into shoes that will take some time to fill. The board, the staff, the members, and indeed the Island owe you a boatload of gratitude for your commitment, passion and never-ending devotion to the Museum. Thank you.