

May 9, 2023

The County Commissioners of Queen Anne’s County met this date pursuant to its last adjournment and there were present:

James J. Moran
Jack N. Wilson, Jr.
Patrick McLaughlin
Philip L. Dumenil
Christopher M. Corchiarino

CLOSED SESSION:

Pursuant to State Government Law Section 3-305(b) (1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; “The County Commissioners held a Closed Session on a motion of Commissioner Dumenil seconded by Commissioner Corchiarino, at 5:15 p.m. in The Office of the County Commissioners, The Liberty Building, 107 N. Liberty Street, Centreville, Maryland.” The Board adjourned in Closed Session at 5:20 p.m. Those in attendance were Mr. Todd Mohn, P.E., County Administrator and Ms. Margie A. Houck, Executive Assistant to the Commissioners.

The Board discussed Boards and Commission.

HISTORIC STEVENSVILLE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT ADVISORY BOARD:

In open session, on a motion made by Commissioner Dumenil, seconded by Wilson Commissioner, the Board unanimously agreed to appoint Dr. Jonathan Van Caudill to fill the remaining term expiring July 31, 2024, on the Historic Stevensville Arts & Entertainment Advisory Board.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
McLaughlin	x	
Dumenil	x	
Corchiarino	x	

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CLOSED SESSION:

Pursuant to State Government Law Section 3-305(b), (8) to consult with staff, consultants or other individuals about pending or potential litigation; “The County Commissioners held a Closed Session on a motion of Commissioner Dumenil, seconded by Commissioner Corchiarino, at 5:20 p.m. in the Office of the County Commissioners, The Liberty Building, 107 N. Liberty Street, Centreville, Maryland.” The Board adjourned in Closed Session at 5:30 p.m. Those in attendance were Mr. Todd Mohn, P.E., County Administrator and Ms. Margie A. Houck, Executive Assistant to the Commissioners.

The Board discussed potential litigation regarding SKI.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES:

On a motion made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Dumenil, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the amendment Agenda for the current meeting, the Regular and Closed Session Minutes for April 25, 2023.

PRESS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

PRESENTATION:

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2023 OPIOID AWARENESS POSTER CONTEST WINNERS:

Ms. Julie Kille, Opioid Education & Prevention Coordinator and Mr. Warren Wright introduced the following:

Opioid Awareness Theater Commercial Contest Winners:

SCHOOL	ENTRY PARTICIPANTS	PRIZE
The Gunston School	Teacher: Dr. Asprion Maggie Porciello Ben Gilbert	\$500.00 for their school's theater club.

2023 Opioid Awareness Poster Contest Winners:

SCHOOL	NAME	GRADE	PRIZE
CMS	Quinn Francesconi	6th Grade	\$300 Amazon Gift Card
MMS	Kai Moore	8th Grade	\$300 Amazon Gift Card
STMS	Grace Gourley	7th Grade	\$300 Amazon Gift Card
SMS	Eriel Murray	8th Grade	\$300 Amazon Gift Card
KIHS	Lexis Harris	11th Grade	\$300 Amazon Gift Card
QACHS	Andrew Redmond	11th Grade	\$300 Amazon Gift Card
The Gunston School	Logan Kille	10th Grade	FREE Driver's Education Classes w/ Campbell's Driving School

QAC FOUNDING DRUG FREE STUDENT AMBASSADORS SEPTEMBER 22-APRIL 2023

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STUDENT	SCHOOL	HOURS COMPLETED
Maggie Porciello	Gunston	74 Hours
Logan Kille	Gunston	58.25 Hours
Emma Sharps	Gunston	39
Mia Walker	Gunston	37
Quinn Francesconi	CMS	35.75
Ana Jensen	KIHS	35
Claudia Jensen	KIHS	32.25
Samuel Mora	QACHS	29.5
Daniel Mora	QACHS	25.5
Myiah Barnard	KIHS	16.5

QAC NEW DRUG FREE STUDENT AMBASSADORS (Mar-Apr 2023)

Tyler Sankar	CMS	13.5
Leah Rhoades	CMS	9.75
Ebony Patrick	SMS	8.75
Jacob Carhart	QACHS	8.75
Madalynn Eskew	KIHS	8.5
Averie Mortimer	QACHS	8.25
Khloe Kerchner	CMS	6.75
Kylie McFee	KIHS	6.5
Margaret Burton	SMS	6
Maria Torres	SMS	6

COMMUNITY SERVICES - COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATE:

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Ms. Cathy Willis, Director and Mr. Mike Clark, Executive Director of Housing & Family Services met with the Board and gave an update their Department. The following was highlighted:

OLDER AMERICANS' MONTH PROCLAMATION:

Commissioner Moran read the following proclamation:

23-19

WHEREAS, the 2023 theme for Older Americans Month is *Aging Unbound*, which offers an opportunity to explore diverse aging experiences and discuss how communities can combat stereotypes. Join us in promoting flexible thinking about aging – and how we all benefit when older adults remain engaged, independent, and included; and

WHEREAS, Queen Anne's County includes a growing number of older Americans who contribute their time, wisdom, and experience to our community; and

WHEREAS, Queen Anne's County will benefit when people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds have the opportunity to participate and live independently; and

WHEREAS, Queen Anne's County recognizes the need to create a community that offers the services and supports older adults may need to make choices about how they age; and

WHEREAS, Queen Anne's County can work to build an even better community for our older residents by;

- Not Limiting our thinking about aging
- Exploring and combating stereotypes
- Emphasizing the many positive aspects of aging
- Inspiring older adults to push past traditional boundaries
- Embracing our community's diversity

WHEREAS, in honor of Older Americans Month, Queen Anne's County Area Agency on Aging will host the Annual Senior Summit on Friday, May 19th from 9:00-2:00 at the 4-H Park in Centreville; and

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY, does hereby proclaim May 2023 to be Older Americans Month. We urge every resident to celebrate our older citizens, help to create an inclusive society, and accept the challenge of flexible thinking around aging.

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The Department of Community Services as a whole brought in \$5,352,885 in funding due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Senior Centers Bounce Back

Senior Centers were greatly impacted by the pandemic. Senior Centers thrive on attendance and congregate meals served.

- + Overall Senior Center attendance is at 96% of the pre-pandemic rate.
- + The congregate meal program has seen a 29% INCREASE.
- Coming soon: Touch Screen Sign-in Systems & Café Style WI-FI (funded by ARPA)

Ride for Free in 23

Overall there has been a 29% INCREASE in ridership when comparing the last quarter of 2022 to the first quarter of 2023.

Upcoming Events

May 19th 18th Annual Senior Summit

June 3-9 Senior Sports Summit

Mid July Stuff-A-Bus (School Supply Collection to benefit the QAC Children's Council)

October Opening the QAC Family YMCA and Active Aging Center

November 4th Make a Difference Day

Queen Anne's County Free Laptop Program

- 2,000 Chromebook laptops (\$397,000 value)
- 1 device per household
- Eligible households in QAC with incomes at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines

Application

- Registration opens June 1, 2023
- Electronic and printed applications
- Required documents:
- Proof of income Participation in programs such as SNAP Program
- Driver's license

Distribution

Pickups will take place at QAC Library locations:

- Centreville
- Kent Island
- Mobile Library
- Community Resource Packet will be available for households at scheduled pick up

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MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AND AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION #23-22:

23-22

Commissioner read and present the following proclamation to Mr. Kenneth Eaton, Executive Director, ABATE of Maryland, Inc.:

WHEREAS, safety is our highest priority for the streets and roadways of our county; and

WHEREAS, Queen Anne's County is proud to be a supporter of motorcycle safety, education and awareness; and

WHEREAS, motorcycles are a common and economical means of transportation that reduces fuel consumption and road wear and contributes in a significant way to the relief of traffic and parking congestions; and

WHEREAS, it is especially meaningful that the citizens of our county and state be aware of motorcycles on the roadways and recognize the importance of motorcycle safety; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Mid-Shore Chapter of ABATE of Maryland, Inc. continually promote motorcycle safety, education and awareness to the general public in our county and state; and

WHEREAS, all roadway users should unite in the safe sharing of roads in Queen Anne's County and throughout Maryland; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Queen Anne's County Commissioners proclaim that the month of May 2023 be known as Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month in Queen Anne's County and that we encourage all motorists and citizens to join together in an effort to improve safety and awareness on our roadways.

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SAFE BOATING WEEK PROCLAMATION #23-24:

Commissioner Wilson read and presented the following proclamation to Mr. Reed Carey:

23-24

WHEREAS, many residents of and visitors to Queen Anne’s County enjoy recreational boating, including fishing, hunting, sailing, canoeing and kayaking; and

WHEREAS, each year an average of 650 people die in boating-related accidents in the United States and 75% of these deaths are caused by drowning; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of these accidents are caused by human error or poor judgment and not by the boat, equipment or environmental factors; and

WHEREAS, a significant number of boaters who lose their lives by drowning each year would be alive today had they worn their life jackets; and

WHEREAS, most boating fatalities involve boats whose operators did not have proper boating safety education; and

WHEREAS, Queen Anne’s County recognizes the year-round efforts of the United States Coast Guard and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources in saving lives and protecting us on the water; and

WHEREAS, Queen Anne’s County recognizes the volunteer efforts of Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 21-03 in Easton and Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotillas throughout Maryland in promoting safe boating education and practices through classroom instruction, vessel examinations, and on-the-water patrols; and

WHEREAS, in 1958, President Dwight D. Eisenhower established National Safe Boating Week; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, the date for National Safe Boating Week was changed to the full week before Memorial Day Weekend each year; and

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the County Commissioners of Queen Anne’s County, do hereby proclaim the week of May 20th through 26th as Safe Boating Week in Queen Anne’s County and urge all those who boat to practice safe boating habits, avoid using alcohol or drugs when operating a boat, and always wear a life jacket while boating.

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WEEKLY CORRESPONDENCE AND PRESENTATION OF DOCUMENTS FOR SIGNATURE:

The Board reviewed various correspondence with Todd Mohn, County Administrator.

PROCLAMATION #23-21 – CHARACTER COUNTS PILLAR OF THE MONTH “CARING”:

Commissioner Corchiarino read the following proclamation:

23-21

WHEREAS, Queen Anne’s County was declared a “*Character Counts!*” community, and the Queen Anne’s County Child Abuse Response & Evaluation (CARE) Center supports and participates in this initiative; and

WHEREAS, all citizens have been called upon to embrace the “*Six Building Blocks of Character*” and incorporate them into their daily activities and to model these traits of good character; and

WHEREAS, the *Character Counts!* Pillar of the Month for May is “Caring;” and

WHEREAS, all citizens will incorporate this value in their daily lives by displaying care and concern for others in their everyday life; and

WHEREAS, all citizens will be kind and considerate and find a way to help others; and

WHEREAS, all citizens will show concern for others’ well-being and act compassionately and with empathy; and

WHEREAS, the CARE Center provides comprehensive, coordinated, and compassionate services to victims of child abuse; and

WHEREAS, the CARE Center is child-centered and focuses on the well-being of child victims throughout the life of a case; and

WHEREAS, we will remember “good, better, best – never let it rest until your good is your better and your better is your best” in our character because *Character Counts!* and we are a *Character Counts!* Community; and

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THEREFORE, the Queen Anne’s County Commissioners declare the *Character Counts!* Pillar of the Month is “Caring.”

CAPITAL REQUEST FOR FY24 VEHICLE – COMMUNITY SERVICES:

Ms. Cathy Willis, Director, Community Services submitted to the Board for their review and approval a request for vehicle. The Department of Community Services is requesting to purchase a replacement vehicle for the county truck that was totaled in August 2022. Insurance proceeds will cover the majority of the cost. This truck is essential for multiple uses in Housing and Aging to provide home visits as well as moving assistance for the homeless and long term support services clientele. We would like to proceed with the first quote attached for the lowest purchase price of the most comparable vehicle. It is imperative we commit to the vehicle immediately as it is currently available on the lot at Preston Ford. Staff recommends purchase of a 2023 Ford F-150 XL from Preston Autoplex in Hurlock, MD for the approved purchase of \$37,409.00

On a motion made by Commissioner Corchiarino, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, the Board unanimously agreed to purchase a 2023 Ford F-150 XL from Preston Autoplex in Hurlock, MD for the approved purchase of \$37,409.00. As part of the motion, Commissioner McLaughlin asked questions and/or made comments on this topic.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
McLaughlin	x	
Dumenil	x	
Corchiarino	x	

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR CHURCH HILL THEATRE’S GRANT APPLICATION TO MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST:

The Church Hill Theatre, Inc. is applying for a grant through Maryland Historical Trust for financial assistance in repairing the façade of the Church Hill Theatre building in Church Hill, MD. As a historic “art deco” style building, the front exterior is a defining feature of its status as a historic structure. Repairing the front doors and windows will ensure those features endure and work efficiently. This request is to support their efforts to receive a grant in the amount of \$17,000 from Maryland Historical Trust for the above-mentioned work to be done at the theater.

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On a motion made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Dumenil, the Board unanimously agreed to execute the grant Letter of Support for Church Hill Theatre, Inc. for financial assistance for repairs to the building.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
McLaughlin	x	
Dumenil	x	
Corchiarino	x	

BUDGET AMENDMENT CC-50 FIRE IMPACT FEES:

This amendment establishes additional budget authority to distribute fire impact fees in fiscal year 2023. Fire impact fees collected over the course of a fiscal year are distributed the following year upon completion of the audit. We have budget authority of \$357,000, however balances received as of June 30th 2022 total \$540,819.00. The additional budget authority is needed to distribute the funds. No additional County funds are requested.

On a motion made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Dumenil, the Board unanimously agreed to approve Budget Amendment #CC-50 – Impact Fee Charges. As part of the motion, Commissioners Dumenil, Moran and Wilson asked questions and/or made comments on this topic.

Commissioners	Yes	No
Moran	x	
J Wilson	x	
McLaughlin	x	
Dumenil	x	
Corchiarino	x	

PRESS AND PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

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COMMISSIONER’S ROUNDTABLE:

Commissioner Wilson discussed the following:

Commissioner Dumenil discussed the following:
Plastic Free in QAC

Commissioner McLaughlin discussed the following:

Commissioner Corchiarino discussed the following:

Commissioner Moran discussed the following:
Had a meeting to discuss the Whitsitt Center

There being no further business, they adjourned at 7:01 p.m. to meet again on Tuesday, May 23, 2023.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

PRESIDENT

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