

Friends of the St Croix USVI National Parks

Board meeting

08 February 2018 called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Julie San Martin

Present	
Julie San Martin	Susan Wall
Sara Dykstra	George Pereira
Rick Starr	
Nina York	

Joined by Zandy Starr and Susan Duke

Purpose of meeting was to review 2017 annual plan

Highlights from the meeting:

- Salt River Visitor Center is closed until future notice. The Center is not in a historical building so funds are not allocated for its repair at this time.
- Guinea building will not be available for lecture series use in the near future due to renovations.

Zandy's information:

- During the week of February 12 Regional Director Stan Austin will be on island with Tyrone Brandyburg, the interim superintendent. Tyrone has been with the NPS for 35 years, currently at Harper's Ferry. He will be here on a 60 day detail; during this time the Superintendent opening will be announced and process started. Tyrone will hand off duties to the new Superintendent. A meet and greet with Tyrone may be arranged.
- Christiansted bulkhead has funding; a 2 year project.
- Dr. Chin of UVI has offered the use of UVI for lecture series programs; where on campus?
- SARI site closed indefinitely
- Buck Island boats in water except for Jolly Roger
- Fort entrance fee increases to \$7 starting 2/12/18
- Possible lecture series topics based on who is on island and the research going on by month:
 - February: Well Tower; Sea grass at Buck Island
 - March: Researcher and interns on Irish Heritage; sea turtles – satellite tracking
 - April: NOAA – aerial drone; coral accretion at Buck Island; conch research
 - April/May: Sharks; historic restoration (Zandy)
 - June/July: Meredith – slave wrecks archaeology

Board Discussion:

- What are our options for the lecture series location?
- UVI:

Is this a valid offer?

Do we want to expand the reach of the lectures to mid-island?

Could we reach a larger audience with this venue?

Is the use of a room at UVI free?

Would holding the lectures at UVI help the relationship between UVI and NPS?

Which room could we use? Are Thursdays okay? Can we use year round?

We need more information before committing to using UVI.

- Florence Williams conference room:

Need a contact name

Nina:

- Timeline in Fort has some errors; Meredith should have a digital copy that can be amended

Jazz in the Park:

- Is it continuing?

- Friends group can stop sponsoring Community Music, though we can still send out PSA

- George to talk to Eddie about how the Friends group can help support him

Wild Apricot:

- about \$450 per year for service – going to drop service and reevaluate when we have a higher membership level

- can drop epayment America as well

- Sara to check on using PayPal for membership services for a 501(c)(3)

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Sara Dykstra