

# MEETING MINUTES

## SMITH ISLAND UNITED MEMBERSHIP

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Date: October 2, 2023

Time: 2:00 PM

Meeting called to order by: Eddie Somers

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### IN ATTENDANCE

Eddie Somers (President), Mark Kitching (Executive Committee) Missy Evans (Executive Committee), Ben Muldrow (Urban Planning) Ed Muldowski (Sea Grant) , Corey, Alicia, Sarah, Wendy, Nick, Maxine, John Tyler, Betty Jo, Paul, Samantha, Brent, Kathy Jones, Darren, Dory, Shelly, Mary Ada, Jennifer Dize, Sheila, Colleen, Jeff, Brenda, June, Laura, Millie, Grayden , Janet and Shanon ( Secretary Admin)

**Prayer:** Mark Kitching

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No previous minutes were presented for approval.

### BUDGET

Budget not reviewed at this time.

### REPORTS

#### Committee reports

Accounts Report: Eddie Somers for Buddy Evans (Executive Committee Treasurer)  
Checking balance: \$176,082.58  
Grant Money: \$158,585.88  
Smith Island United Money: \$17,496.70

Grant Money Breakdown: \$158,585.88  
CFES (Community Needs) - 1,446.78  
County Commissioners - 6,651.60  
Housing Grant - 487.50  
Museum Operating Costs - 150,000.00

No questions presented by membership regarding the Financial Report.

Presidents Report: Eddie Somers

### Grants:

Federal Housing: low-income grant 50K

- 4 applications all were funded - no one from Tylerton applied.

State Façade grant: – 50K

- Requirements will be different from federal, no income limits- anyone can apply including businesses.
- More information on application process/distribution of funds to follow

Breakwater Grant possibility-

- DNR/Marland Dept of Planning
- Barry's shanty to power plant
- Rhoades Pt Harbor to Boat Yard
  
- Ducks unlimited will apply if approved for grant: tied to bird sanctuary preservation and shoreline protection at Rhodes Pt.
- Letters of intent have been submitted.
- Smith Island is competitive for both grants

Broadband

- Project is at a Standstill
- Pool of money available from state but requires an application to apply – waiting for state to develop application and then will apply.
- The proposed for Smith Island may be the same system, not sure, as in Tangier.

Drone Grant

- Pilot program: Maryland dept of planning/tidal Health/ University of MD
- Tidal Health will deliver medication via/drone to individual homes.
- Still early in the planning process – more to come.

### **New Business**

Smith Island Branding meeting- Presenters: Arnett Muldrow Associates and Sea Grant Delaware -to immediately follow Membership Meeting. All invited to attend. Links to meeting recording and presentation materials will be emailed to all interested parties.

Next Smith Island United Membership Meeting date/time to be announced. As a reminder, any who wish to run for Executive Committee – please contact Smith Island United. Elections are held in March.