

**Fort Adams Foundation
Meeting Notes**

April 30, 2015

Members Present:

Janet Coit, Chair and DEM Director

Larry Mouradjian, Associate Director for DEM Natural Resources Bureau, representing DEM Parks and Recreation

Lee Whitaker, representing Rhode Island Historic Preservation

Chris Behan, Esq., representing the City of Newport

Gregory Hall, President, Fort Adams Trust

Others Present:

Rick Nagele, Executive Director, Fort Adams Trust

Mary Kay, Executive Counsel, DEM

Robert Paquette, Chief, DEM Parks & Recreation

John Faltus, Deputy Chief, DEM Parks & Recreation

Bruce Thompson, Assistant Regional Manager, DEM Parks & Recreation

Terri Bisson, DEM Bureau of Natural Resources (meeting notes)

Matthew Perry, Fort Adams Trust

Brad Read, Sail Newport

Glenn Whisler, Castle Hill

Meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m.

Major Discussion Points, Agreements and Action Items:

1. Roll Call – See members present above.
2. Minutes - The meeting minutes of March 26, 2015 were approved unanimously.
3. Memorandum of Agreement – The group reviewed the latest draft of the MOA between the Foundation and the Fort Adams Trust. The following changes were made by members at the meeting:
 - a. Page 2, lines 70 to 74, Item (d) - The FOUNDATION shall require that the Trust provide it with an inventory of all significant artifacts, curios, relics, art, uniforms, equipment or other tangible personal property or assets of historical significance located at the Fort. The FOUNDATION shall approve the Collections Management Policy for all further acquisitions, gifts, or loaning of such property which shall be located at the Fort, or the loaning of said property by the Trust to any other entity.
 - b. Page 4, lines 142 to 145, Item (j) - The TRUST shall keep ~~the FORT~~ improvements and public areas within the Fort as delineated in Appendix A clean and in good repair in coordination with the DEPARTMENT. The TRUST'S maintenance obligations for the other fortifications as delineated in Appendix A shall be coordinated with the DEPARTMENT.

DRAFT TO BE VOTED ON AT NEXT MEETING

- c. Appendix A – A small area near the “lost Fort” was added to the map.

Mr. Hall made a motion to approve the MOA with the changes made at the meeting today. The motion was seconded by Mr. Whitaker and approved unanimously by members. Ms. Bisson will make the changes and circulate the final to members.

4. Progress Reports

- a. Volvo Ocean Race Update – Mr. Read provided an update on the Volvo Ocean Race. He stated that construction of the Race Village was well underway and going very well. Sailors were expected to arrive sometime around May 7. He acknowledged the Department, the City and the Trust for the close cooperation in pulling things together, and especially Bruce Thompson for his work and coordination on site. More than 400 children per day are scheduled to visit the village during the week. An Ocean Summit on Marine Debris is scheduled to take place on May 15 from 9 to Noon. The village opening ceremony will take place on May 5 along with a ribbon cutting for the new pier. The event will end on May 17th when the sailors depart for Lisbon at 2:00 p.m. Disassembly of the village will begin immediately that evening. Mr. Read invited members to visit during the stopover.
- b. Newport Waterfront Events – Mr. Mouradjian and Mr. Faltus reported that two concerts and the Chowder Festival were approved on April 28, 2015 by Rhode Island State Properties Committee, subject to City of Newport permits. Mr. Behan reported that he thought the City Council had approved the Chowder Festival and agreed to check on it.
- c. Fort Adams Trust – Mr. Nagele reported that the Trust is coordinating a number of new events this summer, including Navy Week in RI (May 25) and stopovers by the Tall Ship Hermione (July 8 & 9) and the Eagle (August 7 & 8). They are also looking for free dates to host a laser light and water show. The Trust is also talking with the Quonset Air Museum about the possibility of displaying some of their pieces, which would enhance the Trust’s ability to tell the story of defending Narragansett Bay and the advancement of artillery used in the defense.
- d. Fort Inventory - Mr. Perry stated that the inventory will be completed within the 120 day timeframe allowed by the MOA. Mr. Perry will provide members with a copy of the Collection Management Policy for review by the Foundation at the next meeting.

5. Other Business and Public Comment – there was no other business or public comment.

6. Adjourn – Mr. Hall made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Behan and approved unanimously by members. The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.