



Annual Report 2020 - Executive Summary

The Friends of Onancock School remain committed to establishing the Historic Onancock School and the 13 acre grounds as a vital and vibrant cultural and community center to benefit the Town of Onancock and the citizens of the entire Eastern Shore of Virginia. This report summarizes the major initiatives and accomplishments of the organization during 2020.

Strategic Plan

- The Board of Directors continue to focus on our Strategic Plan 2018-2021 completed in late 2017. This plan guides our efforts to improve the building and open spaces and to increase the value of the Historic Onancock School as a cultural and community center. The Goals are as follows:
 - Continue to improve the building and open space of the Historic Onancock School
 - Ensure sufficient income to cover operational expenses and to increase contingency / capital funds
 - Increase the usage of the building space and open space.
 - Establish an identity which will capture the essence of who we are and what we do

Stating the obvious: 2020 was a year of adapting to the pandemic. HOS tackled challenges, was the grateful beneficiary of funds needed to survive and enhance our facility and emerged strong.

Building and Open Space Improvements:

- Plans for 2020 included submitting a grant to install much needed ADA elevator and accessible restroom. A capital campaign was slated to launch in April to raise the balance of the \$120,000 funds. ESCF awarded a \$50,000 grant, so we decided to go forward with the project while the building was closed due to Covid. Several additional gifts and an EIDL loan in the bank were imperatives in our decision to proceed. The lift is now completed and functioning.
- We budgeted a sum of \$6,000 to make upgrades to the Home Economics cottage with the plan to use it for summer art classes and rentals. This project was tabled for the future.
- The painting and repairs to interior classrooms/studios, and hallways continued on small scale with all volunteer labor once we reduced our budget in April due to Covid. Lighting also continues to be upgraded to LED in most of the building for maximum efficiency.
- Improvements begun in 2019 on the roof above the community events room were completed in January.
- Additional ADA rubber mulch was added to the swings/play space using funds from United Way of the Eastern Shore.
- The LoveWorks sign was completed on the front lawn of HOS as serve as a landmark to recognize Virginia is for Lovers for residents and visitors to our town.
- HOS was the recipient of a \$48,000 grant from the Orr-Smith Foundation to improve our playground. All of the equipment was delivered in December-January and will be assembled, with help from friends and community this spring of 2021.

Financials:

- Revenues of \$195.1K. Includes \$53.9K in studio rentals, \$10.9K in fundraising income, \$2.2K in Special Event income \$18.2K contributions & support and \$106.6K in grant income and designated donations.
- Expenses of \$190.1K, including \$5,624K in building maintenance and facilities improvements, \$38.6K in payroll expenses and \$19.1K in utilities costs and \$94.5K in Capital Expenses.
- Net Income of \$7.2K reflects EIDL grant and unused grant funds.
- Bank balances of \$137.5K at end of 2020.

Building and Grounds Use:

- 100% of studios on both floors are rented.

- While we had in excess of 8,800 people who visited or attended functions on the grounds or in the Historic Onancock School building during 2019, that number dropped to 1,200 through the year in 2020. Countless others use the grounds at their leisure to socialize and exercise safely on our open green space.

Organization Development:

- Two new directors were added to the Board in 2020

Looking Ahead in 2021:

- Spring build of the new playground /community outdoor space
- April Premier Outdoor Event – Creekside Crawl 5K
- Renovation of Home Economics Cottage for classes & rental
- Necessary roof repairs
- A community celebration of LoveWorks in Onancock, the completion of HOS accessibility elevator and new playground in the Fall when safe to gather
- The addition of three new board members