

# The Greenpoint Monitor Museum

P.O. Box 220378, Brooklyn, New York 11222-0378  
718-383-2637



Mr. David Alberg, Sanctuary Superintendent, Monitor National Marine Sanctuary  
100 Museum Drive, Newport News, VA 23602

February 16, 2016 - Comment in Support of Expansion - Docket Number: NOAA-NOS-2015-0165

The Greenpoint Monitor Museum is located in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, where the USS Monitor was built and launched. The Museum received its New York State Charter 20 years ago on April 24, 1996. In 2003 one acre of land at the USS Monitor launch site was donated to the Museum by Motiva Enterprises for the purpose of building a Museum. At this time the Museum operates its educational Road Show program from a classroom in the local Elementary School PS110, the Monitor School and sponsors events at its waterfront site. Throughout these years members of the Museum have been working with NOAA's USS Monitor National Marine Sanctuary to keep alive the memory of the USS Monitor, her designer John Ericsson, her Greenpoint builder Thomas Fitch Rowland and her crew. In fact, the USS Monitor's Assistant Surgeon Grenville Weeks is an ancestor to the Museum's Second Vice President, George J. Weinmann who is commander of Oliver Tilden Camp No.26, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Members of the Museum participated in the Turret and Engine Recovery USS Monitor Expeditions, events at the Mariner's Museum and the Arlington Cemetery burial of two of the crewmen found in the turret. Members of NOAA's USS Monitor National Marine Sanctuary also participated in events held in Greenpoint including three days of events honoring the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Launch of the USS Monitor from Greenpoint and the May 29, 2015 dedication of a NOAA marker on the Museum's land including the Museum's site on the USS Monitor Trail.

Janice Lauletta-Weinmann, President and George J. Weinmann, Second Vice President of the Museum are here today at the United States Navy Memorial representing the Museum in support of the expansion of the USS Monitor National Marine Sanctuary to include additional shipwrecks representing multiple periods of both "Local History of the Outer Banks" and "National Maritime History" ranging from North American Exploration, the establishment of the United States of America to the later maritime conflicts to preserve it. The expansion will honor those mariners who lost their lives in service to their community and the Nation while involved in both maritime exploration, trade and military service. The expansion will provide a broader realm for future exploration and educational endeavors while protecting and preserving historic maritime, archaeological and cultural resources. With respect to the four models, the Museum supports the Model believed by NOAA to afford the best opportunity to incorporate additional shipwrecks and cultural resources through a boundary allowing for future exploration and the incorporation of additional resources as they are discovered. Of utmost importance is the ability for NOAA to acquire adequate funding to preserve and monitor existing and future resources and support its exploration, research and educational endeavors.

The Greenpoint Monitor Museum looks forward to working with NOAA's USS Monitor National Marine Sanctuary and welcomes its research vessels at a dock planned to be located at the Museum's site in Greenpoint, New York to carry on NOAA's educational endeavors in our community.

**THE GREENPOINT MONITOR MUSEUM**  
Janice Lauletta-Weinmann, President and George J. Weinmann, Second Vice President

