

*are charitable and educational in nature. The Commission is a body politic and corporate to be known as the "St. Mary's City Commission." It is a public agency and instrumentality of the State of Maryland and shall have perpetual existence, subject to modification or abolition by the General Assembly when and if its substantial purposes cease.*

**367. Number of Commissioners; selection and terms of other Commissioners.**

*The powers and duties of the St. Mary's City Commission are vested in and shall be exercised by a body of seven (7) Commissioners. The Commissioners shall be initially appointed by the Governor as follows: one member for a term of one year, one member for a term of two years, one member for a term of three years, two members for terms of four years each, and two members for terms of five years each. As the terms of the Commissioners expire, their successors shall be appointed for terms of five years each. Any Commissioner may be appointed to a succeeding term. If a Commissioner for any reason fails to serve or to complete any term, a successor shall be appointed for the remainder of the term. Commissioners shall be selected on the basis of ability, public spirit, and historical and professional interest; and the membership of the Commission at all times shall include not fewer than five residents of the State of Maryland, and not fewer than two residents of St. Mary's County.*

**368. Compensation of Commissioners.**

*Each Commissioner shall be paid \$25 per diem for each day or part of day spent on Commission business, and each shall be reimbursed for travel expense for this purpose at the current mileage allowance regularly paid by the State of Maryland to its employees.*

**369. Powers and duties of Commissioners.**

*(a) The Commission has the powers and duties listed in this section and elsewhere in this subtitle.*

*(b) To acquire, develop, preserve, and maintain historic, aesthetic, or cultural properties, building, fixtures, furnishings, facilities, and appurtenances pertaining in any way to historic St. Mary's City and its environs; and this provision specifically includes the replica of the State House in St. Mary's City.*

*(c) To acquire and hold real and personal property of such historic, aesthetic, or cultural significance, by gift, purchase, devise, OR bequest; ~~or by any other means~~; to preserve and administer such properties and to charge reasonable admission fees thereto. This power includes that to acquire property in the vicinity of such property if deemed necessary for the proper use and administration of historic St. Mary's City and its environs.*

*(d) To accept gifts, legacies, bequests, and endowments for any purpose which falls within that of the Commission; and unless otherwise specified by the person making the gift, legacy, bequest, or endowment, the Commission may expend both principal and income of the gift, bequest, legacy, or endowment to further the purposes of the Commission, or the Commission may invest the funds or*