

**SMITH ISLAND UNITED HAS BEEN AWARDED A \$25,000 FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT GRANT (HOME IMPROVEMENT) FROM STATE OF MD DEPT OF COMMUNITY AND HOUSING DEVELOPMENT. (NOT AVAILABLE TO BUSINESSES BUT HOPEFULLY IN THE FUTURE WE CAN APPLY FOR THOSE TYPES OF GRANTS ALSO).**

**DETAILS WILL BE WORKED OUT SOON BUT HERE IS WHAT WE ARE THINKING.**

**WE WILL DIVIDE THE FUNDS INTO 1/3 FOR EACH COMMUNITY.**

**INTERESTED PEOPLE WILL SUBMIT A PROPOSAL DETAILING WHAT THEIR HOME IMPROVEMENT PROJECT WILL BE AND WILL INCLUDE COST. (DETAILS ON HOW A CONTRACTOR IS ELIGIBLE TO DO THE WORK IS BEING WORKED OUT).**

**SMITH ISLAND UNITED WILL DETERMINE, BASED ON THE GRANT'S REQUIREMENTS, WHO IS ELIGIBLE. ALL OF THE NAMES OF PEOPLE WHO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS WILL BE PUT IN A DRAWING TO BE DRAWN BY AN INDEPENDENT PERSON AT A SIU MEETING. WHEN ALL THE FUNDS ARE USED NO MORE NAMES WILL BE DRAWN.**

**THE GRANT REQUIRES THAT THE HOME OWNER PAYS 20% OF THE TOTAL COST SO IT'S BASICALLY 80% PAID BY STATE AND 20% PAID BY HOMEOWNER**

**THE GRANT IS OPEN TO ALL. NO INCOME LIMITS, YOU CAN BE A PERMENTANT OR PARTIME RESIDENT, YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A MEMBER OF SMITH ISLAND UNITED, ETC.**

**WE REALIZE THIS IS NOT A LARGE AMOUNT OF FUNDING. WE APPLIED FOR \$150,000 AND WERE AWARDED \$25,000. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT TOWNS THAT ARE AWARDED THE GRANT DO NOT GET A LARGE AMOUNT IN THE FIRST YEAR. THIS IS OUR FIRST YEAR. FUTURE AWARDS ARE SOMETIMES BASED ON HOW OUR A PROGRAM IS RUN. BOTH SNOW HILL AND PRINCES ANNE HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THIS PROGRAM. THIS IS NOT A WELFARE PROGRAM. IT IS ONE WAY THE STATE HELPS COMMUNITIES.**

**MORE DETAILS AT OUR NEXT MEETING (MAYBE IN MARCH).**