

## Minutes from the February 22, 2022 GRHBA Meeting:

In attendance: Suzanne Einstein (Blue Crab Charters), Cindy Genter (Rock Hall Properties), Matt Mielnick (Mainstay), Jana Carter (ED&T), Jamie Dempsey (American RH Service), Dawn Jacobs (Mayor), Debra-Woodruff Capper (Lions), Kelly Crouse (Selkie Books), Laurie Walters (MSRH), Sandy Scott (Hickory Stick), Joe Musike (Experience Sail), Barbi Harms (Blissful Retreat), Leslie Sea (WCTR), Brad Medley (Escape Outdoor), Stephanie Chevalier (Chevalier Musique).

Suzanne called to order at 9:02am. Attendees introduced themselves. Suzanne welcomed Deborah Reese as a new member of the GRHBA Board

### GRHBA Report:

- Balance Sheet and P&L for January 2022 were handed out and reviewed, along with the 2022 Budget.
- Cindy reported printed maps should be available within the next week or two. Maps will be delivered to the Town Office and members can pick them up there.
- Members can bring rack cards for their businesses to the Rock Hall Visitors Center. Suzanne and/or Megan Wick will deliver member rack cards to the Visitors Center in Chestertown. Drop them off at Java Rock.
- Spring advertising and events: Coop ads will run in May What's Up E.S. & Annapolis; May in Bay to Beach & Shore Magazine. Parks & Rec is mapping out events for this year and will include Easter Egg Hunt; Plant Sale (Garden Club) and Circus (Lions Club)

Economic Development & Tourism (ED&T): Jana reported 17 applications for ag grants are being reviewed this week. 3 Rock Hall Enterprise Zone applications were received. A video ad for Kent County will be shown on MPT Chesapeake Bay Week in April. Coop ads are planned for May in What's Up Eastern Shore & Annapolis. Sign up for newsletters and add events to the County's website.

Main Street Rock Hall (MSRH): Laurie Walters said planning for Pirates & Wenches has begun and volunteers are needed! MSRH is requesting an exception to allow entertainer RVs to be parked in town for costume changes and housing. Businesses are encouraged to make donations for the Treasure Chest Raffle. Fallfest has a new logo that incorporates an oyster. March 15 at 4:00 is the next MSRH meeting.

Dawn Jacobs reported for the town: Public Works projects continue; the town needs \$1M to fix a pump station. The Building Committee will meet with Mayor & Council on 2/23 to discuss building options. \$8M in grants are being sought. The town received a \$200,000 grant to improve drainage at the Civic Center. The Museum Board is focused on Heritage Tourism grants & funding. \$100,000 grant application is in the works for Beach Restoration.

Special Guests, Dawn Hoffman and Kurt Herring with Hoffman's Exterminating Co. discussed their company's service using canines to inspect for and heat-treat bedbugs. Kurt serves Rock Hall from their Middletown, DE location. Contact info: Kurt Herring, Hoffman's Exterminating Co. Phone: 302-368-8081; Email: kherring@hoffmanpest.com

### Member Comments & Events:

- Brad Medley mentioned Planning & Zoning issues and improvements needed. The Mayor suggested members attend P&Z meetings. Chris Jakubiak will attend the town's business meetings. The Comprehensive Planning process is starting.
- Debra reported the Lions Club Circus will be May 6 with location to be confirmed. Businesses will receive donation letters soon and are encouraged to contribute so RHES students can attend the circus free of charge. The Lions are also working on a program to provide food & clothing for students, and teacher supplies. The Lions are also working with Choptank Dental to set up transportation for adults to get to dental appointments.
- The Mainstay's new season has started. Remember 1<sup>st</sup> Friday's with Joe Holt; 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday Open Mic and music events every weekend.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:23 am. The next meeting will be March 29th at the Fire House at 9:00am.

Cindy Genter, GRHBA Secretary