

Minutes from the July 26, 2022 GRHBA Meeting:

In attendance: Suzanne Einstein (Blue Crab Charters), Cindy Genther (Rock Hall Properties), Katie Wright (ED&T), Laurie Walters (MSRH), Leslie Sea (WCTR), Rick Carter (Delmarva Craft), Harriet Creighton & Susan Barnhardt (Peoples Bank), Kevin Hodge (Blue Heron) Carol Britten & Mayor Dawn Jacobs (Town of Rock Hall), Dawn Hoffman & Heidi Williams (Hoffman Pest), Leslie Sea (WCTR), Kelly Crouse & Marta Kumar (Selkie Books), Stephanie Chevalier (Chevalier Musique).

Suzanne called the meeting to order at 9:01am. Attendees introduced themselves.

GRHBA Report:

- Balance Sheet and P&L were handed out and reviewed by Suzanne.
- Advertising and promotion: Summer ads were reviewed.
- A Ribbon Cutting was held for Rock Hall Liquors & Deli. Ribbon cuttings for Blue Heron, Bayside Market & Pasta Plus need to be scheduled.
- The Chamber of Commerce is hosting Fun Fest on Sept. 24, 2-5pm in Chestertown. GRHBA & MSRH will have a table. Volunteers needed to staff it.

July 4th Weekend Recap: Chief Dempsey reported we had the largest fireworks crowd ever. Rick Carter carried 265 people on 622 rides for the weekend.

Economic Development & Tourism:

- Dawson Hunter will join ED&T on August 1.
- ED&T will host the Kent County display for the MACCO Conference. A gift basket with donations from businesses will be raffled.
- The MD Office of Economic Development will offer grants for Transformative Tourism.

Main Street Rock Hall (MSRH): Laurie Walters said Pirates & Wenches planning, advertising and social media is in full swing. Volunteers are needed. There will be a "Sink the Pirate" dunk tank on Sunday. Profits go to RHES. Transportation on Friday & Sunday by Delmarva Craft. Saturday will be DCT shuttles. FallFest meetings started in June. Stephanie Chevalier is coordinating The Witches of Rock Hall, and expanding this fun time into a weekend event the last weekend of October.

Dawn Jacobs said there would be a Town Hall Building Workshop Meeting on 7/26 at 6pm at St. John's Hall. They've had no response from the Fed Grant application yet. The Museum Board is still looking for a home for the museum artifacts. Heat and AC are required. They are working on inventory lists. There will be 1-2 public workshops to establish Rock Hall as a year round heritage tourism destination. There will be a 3-day US Power Squadron visit with 60 participants. People are encouraged to listen to Town Meetings anytime. Suzanne will arrange a meeting with Haven Harbor, the town and RH Village tenants to discuss gazebo and grounds maintenance. The bathrooms have been better supplied.

Carol Britten requested hi-resolution photos to update the town website. Send to: cbritten@rockhallmd.gov.

There will be a Decoy Show on August 20, 10-3 at the bulkhead. Donna Legg is organizing.

Rick Carter reported 1000 people have taken 2000 rides to date. Weekly demand is building. Strong interest from boating groups. He said biggest rider complaint is insufficient restaurant capacity and availability (early closings).

The meeting was adjourned at 10:12am. The next meeting will be August 30th at the Fire House at 9:00am.

Cindy Genther, GRHBA Secretary