

Minutes from the February 28, 2023 GRHBA Meeting:

Attendees: Suzanne Einstein (Blue Crab Chesapeake Charters), Cindy Genter (Rock Hall Properties), Eve Heath (RH American Legion), Mayor Dawn Jacobs (Town of Rock Hall), Rick Carter (Delmarva Craft), Steve Leonard (American RH Service Center), Steve Atkinson (ShoretobeFun.com), Debra Woodruff Capper (Lions & Mainstay), Sarah Dean (Kent County Chamber of Commerce), Todd Steffes (RHYC), Beth Dunn (MSRH), Kevin Hodge (Blue Heron Oyster House), Noah Nathan (Haven Harbour Resorts), Matt Mielnick (The Mainstay), Barbi Harms (Blissful Retreat), Carol Britten (Town of Rock Hall website), Brette Tucker (Durdings).

Suzanne & Deborah Reese called the meeting to order. Attendees introduced themselves.

GRHBA Report:

- Financials: Suzanne reviewed the financials which were distributed at the meeting.

Economic & Tourism Development: Shalyn was unable to attend due to illness.

Transportation / Shuttle - Rick Carter said any business that sponsored the shuttle in 2022 may renew their existing ad at the same rate. Have 25 dates booked for tours, weddings and festival events, if you have other events planned that require transportation services, please contact Rick asap. Plans are to start RH shuttle in May Friday and Saturdays. Contact Rick if you want to put rack cards in the shuttle

Town of Rock Hall: Dawn Jacobs said there was a sparsely attended Public Listening Session on 2/26 to discuss town infrastructure. \$23M in funding is needed for upgrades. Check out the recording online via the town website. The town municipal building is for sale. The museum will organize as a 501©3, then move the artifacts. A Smithsonian exhibit will be in Chestertown in April. Some Rock Hall artifacts will be displayed. There will be a screening of Kent County Storied Landscapes Past & Present on 4/30 at 7:30pm at the Garfield Center in Chestertown.

Main Street Rock Hall (MSRH): Cindy & Beth reported the \$10,000 MIP Grant will be used for a beautification project targeting a pocket park at Main St & Rock Hall Ave; \$25,000 Building Improvement Grant for businesses in MSRH district. Businesses can apply for up to \$10,000 for building improvements with 100% match. Applications are due Feb. 28 and will be reviewed in March. MSRH Meetings are the 3rd Thursday of the month at 9:00am at The Mainstay. Planning for Pirates & Wenches 2023 has started. Volunteers are needed to continue this event.

Member Events & Comments

- Lions Club: no circus this year, will be every other year. Lions are arranging for copies of Abraham Keys (author) book to be distributed at RHES & Daycares. Homeports offers \$350/mon rides for seniors to Dr. appointments. Lions will sponsor seniors who can't afford the \$350/month fee. Lions will have a raffle for crabs around July 4th.
- Mainstay sold out their first 4 live performances in February. The season is off to a good start.
- American RH Service Center offers installation of large flag poles. Call if interested.
- Kent County Chamber of Commerce: Sarah King reported KCHS seniors need 30 hrs of service & community learning. Businesses can request their help. Rhythm and Blues event 4/15 - sponsorships available - can contact Sara directly. Career and College Fair at KC High School - 4/20 - Register on-line on Chamber website.
- American Legion: Eve said there will be a live band on 4/22 @ 7pm at the Legion. KC Public Health will have health screenings & insurance offerings on 3/16, 12-4, coordinated with the Lions Club
- Steve Atkinson said events should be posted to ShoretobeFun.com and Kent County Crier.
- Noah reported Haven Harbour will contract with a 3rd party to run their restaurants. Events will continue at HHS.
- Durdings is planning an opening in May.
- Rock Hall Yacht Club is closed, reopening mid-March.
- Delmarva Craft said their end bay will be a nano brewery. Studio services are available at the garage.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:17am. The next meeting will be March 28th at the Fire House at 9:00am.
Cindy Genter, GRHBA Secretary