

Minutes from the February 27, 2024 GRHBA Meeting:

Attendees: Suzanne Einstein (Blue Crab Chesapeake Charters), Cindy Genter (Rock Hall Properties), Sarah Ulrick (Rock Hall Properties), Steve Leonard (American RH Service Center), Patti Williams (RHYC), Kevin Hodge (Blue Heron Oyster House), Joe Musike (Experience Sail), Debra Woodruff-Capper (Lions Club), Susan Barnhardt (Peoples Bank & Affordable Appliance Repair), Rose Osborn (KC E&TD), Marta Kumer & Kelly Crouse (Selkie Books), Robin Hawthorne (Hightide), Sandy Scott (Hickory Stick), Leslie Sea (WCTR), Aaron Bramble (RH EDC), Sherry Shultz (Haven Resorts), Susan McKeown (Bay Breeze Inn II), Ken McLaughlin (MSRH), Carol Sutesa (4My3Boys Fabrics),

Suzanne called the meeting to order at 9:04. Attendees introduced themselves.

Special Guest: Ken McLaughlin discussed the MSRH website updates and encouraged businesses to include links in their websites to other Rock Hall businesses and to MSRH. He shared Google Analytics stats for MSRH that demonstrated the importance of including links to our businesses. Ken's email is: Ken.mclaughlin@hotmail.com if you have questions.

GRHBA Report:

- Financials: January P&L, 1/31/24 Balance Sheet & 2024 Budget were distributed.
- Rock Hall Brochure: Brochures were distributed. Quantities at town office or Rock Hall Properties porch.
- New Businesses: Nauti-Blue Cottage, Hidden Meadows Tattoo Parlor, That Place on Main, Flying Decoy.
- Shuttle Committee: Transportation Committee met last week. Suzanne read a proposal for GRHBA to support the Transportation Committee's recommendation for a transportation system in the town. Members voted yes to support the recommendation.

Main Street Rock Hall (MSRH): Grants are in progress for Building Improvements, Project Restore, etc. MSRH will have a networking event on March 26 and a Social Media Marketing seminar in April for MSRH business & property owners.

KC Tourism & Economic Development: Artificial Intelligence Conference on April 5 at Chesapeake College. Upper Shore Regional Council is organizing a start-up business "Pitch Competition" at Washington College. Great Oak Manor has new management & looking for "Experiences", including art, writing, fishing, etc ideas. GovOS is new software program KC will use to identify, track and collect taxes for Short Term Rentals. MD Project Restore grants will offer funds for vacant properties. Ferry presentation at RH Economic Development Committee on 2/27 at 7:30pm.

Kent County Chamber of Commerce: Sign up for the Chamber's College and Career Fair by Feb. 29. Rotary Fundraiser, Spring Fling is March 2.

Member Events & Comments

- Patti Williams for RH P&R & RHYC: Lambert Wickes Day will be July 21. Volunteers & vendors needed for 4th of July. Egg Hunt is March 23 at 10am at the Fire House. RHYC is open to the public through March.
- Bay Breeze Inn II opening is 2nd Friday in April
- Blue Heron will reopen March 1. Harbor Shack will also open March 1.
- Hightide has spruced up the shop and will reopen in April.
- Selkie Books gave handouts for their many events and activities. St Patrick's Day celebrations are planned.
- RH Lions: Circus will be May 24, shows at 5 & 7. Donations needed to provide tickets to all RHES students. Lions Club needs members. Meetings are 1st & 3rd Mondays of each month.
- Mainstay concert series will have more community focus programs. Openings for 3/7 bus to Phila. Flower Show.
- Fire House needs funds for a new Fire Boat. Donations welcome.
- Friends of Eastern Neck are interested in partnering with GRHBA for a 2025 Return of the Osprey event.

The meeting adjourned at 10:27. The next meeting will be March 26, 2024 at the Fire House at 9:00am.

Cindy Genter, GRHBA Secretary