

Minutes from the March 26, 2024 GRHBA Meeting:

Attendees: Suzanne Einstein (Blue Crab Chesapeake Charters), Cindy Genter (Rock Hall Properties), Sarah Ulrick (Rock Hall Properties), Sarah King (KCCC), Steve Leonard (American 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), Beth Dunn (MSRH), Marta Kumer & Kelly Crouse (Selkie Books), Robin Hawthorne (Hightide), Leslie Sea (WCTR), Sherry Shultz (Haven Resorts), Sherry Sunkler (Osprey Point), Mary Reiley (Watermans), Susan McKeown (Bay Breeze Inn II), Matt Mielnick (Mainstay), Laurie Walters (MSRH), Eve Heath (Am. Legion).

Suzanne called the meeting to order at 9:02. Attendees introduced themselves. Suzanne asked for a moment of silence in memory of Tiffani Hague.

Special Guest: Steve Leonard found and arranged for a low mileage 2014 Ford CutAway Van to visit the Fire House before the meeting that could become a Rock Hall Shuttle for this season. Attendees toured the shuttle before the meeting. Laurie Walters & Steve Leonard of the Transportation Committee proposed a plan to purchase and operate the shuttle for 2024: GRHBA would contribute \$15,000, USRC would contribute \$15,000 & KC would be requested to fund \$20,000 in the 2025 budget. The Town of Rock Hall would title the vehicle and cover insurance. Harbor Shack and Blue Heron agreed to donate \$1,000. A suggestion was made for businesses to pay \$1,000 each to be a Shuttle Stop. A motion was made and seconded for GRHBA to give \$15,000 to contribute to purchase the Shuttle. The motion passed unanimously by all in attendance.

GRHBA Report:

- February Meeting Minutes were approved.
- Financials: February P&L, 2/29/24 Balance Sheet were distributed and reviewed by Jim Rich.
- New Businesses: Ribbon Cuttings will be held for Nauti-Blue Cottage on 4/5 @ 4:00, Bay Breeze Inn II 4/19 @ 4:30, followed by Open House & Singing Captains at 5:00. That Place on Main and Flying Decoy Ribbon Cuttings will be held in May. Watermans will re-open 4/5.

Main Street Rock Hall (MSRH): Laurie Walters reported 5 applications were received for Building Improvement projects. \$17,000 remain so applications re-opened until 4/23 for additional projects in the Main Street Corridor. This is a matching grant program. Anyone who finds a transportation grant, please send to Laurie Walters. The Networking Social was 3/26. Marketing Workshops will be held in April & May open to all businesses. 1st Workshop is 4/10 at 1:00pm at the Fire House. Laurie and Mayor Cook will attend the Main Street America Conference in May. A grant to move and enhance the Lambert Wickes Memorial has been submitted. Project Restore applications are under consideration. PorchFest, Pirates & Wenches, FallFest, Witches Weekend dates were shared. Next MSRH meeting is 4/18 @ 9:00.

Kent County Chamber of Commerce: 84 vendors & 433 students at Career – Tech Fair; 4/18 is Legislative Breakfast; 5/15 is Regional Chamber Mixer. More on website.

Member Events & Comments

- Patti Williams for RH P&R & RHYC: Egg Hunt & Blessing of the Fleet are March 30. Lambert Wickes Day on 9/14.
- Mainstay has Sombarkin on 3/30; Artists of Rock Hall have formed and holding meetings.
- Legion: 4/27 is Pit Beef & Country Western Band
- Hightide has spruced up the shop and will reopen 1st weekend in April.
- Selkie Books gave handouts for their many events and activities. Anne Leone reception 4/14.
- RH Lions: Circus on May 24, shows at 5 & 7. Donations needed to provide tickets to all RHES students. Lions Club needs members. Marine Trade School Scholarships are available. P&W food vendors for Beach Party needed.
- Haven Harbour is recovering from January flood issues; Beach Bars open in May.
- WCTR Rock Hall Studio opens Fridays in April 2-4 next to Harbor Shack. Business owners welcome to stop in.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25. The next meeting will be April 30, 2024 at the Fire House at 9:00am.

Cindy Genter, GRHBA Secretary