

**Old Town Business Association
General Meeting**

April 10, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Vice President, Darlene Renaldué.

There were 27 people in attendance.

After introductions were made, the approval of the March minutes was the next order of business. The minutes are one line. Elizabeth Bailey made to motion to approve and Marc Hempen seconded. The motion passed.

Our Treasurer Nury Mena was out of town on business and we did not present the Treasurer's report.

Secretary Jan Alten made a brief announcement concerning President Joanne Wunderly's absence due to a death in her immediate family.

Historic Manassas - Rebekah Raze spoke about:

The upcoming "One Love" Art Festival in Manassas will take place over the weekend of April 26 - 28th. The festival is a multi media art event with visual and performing arts around town - on the Museum lawn, at Jirani's Coffee House and at the Center for the Arts. In addition there will be vendors throughout Old Town.

April's First Friday event, "Game of Thrones" was a success despite the weather. The Iron Throne, hand made especially for the event, was purchased for \$200. The Game of Thrones hand painted tapestries were also purchased.

May First Friday event theme is "Historic Downtown Derby" with stick pony races and prizes. Councilman Ian Lovejoy and Economic Director Patrick Small have been drafted to call the races. Prizes will be given.

The seasonal Farmers' Thursday Market will open on Thursday, April 11 and the Saturday market has 51 vendors signed up, a significant increase from last year.

Manassas Museum - Crystal Wilson spoke about the "Bridging Cultures" exhibit that opens on April 11. A reception will begin at 6 pm.

Crystal also announced a new program addition to the very busy Harris Pavilion schedule. Acoustic Tuesdays will feature acoustic music from 7 - 9 pm and is a free concert.

Center for the Arts - Beverly Hess had hot off the press catalogues to hand out. The new classes and workshops are full of exciting opportunities in art for all ages, acting classes and and summer camp programs.

Currently in the Kellar Theatre is "Godspell 2012", an updated version of the original production. Godspell will be performed on Friday and Saturday nights at 8 pm for three weekends in April.

The Pied Piper Theatre production of "Annie" will be held at the Hylton.

In July, there will be a three week summer intensive camp for a production of “Frozen” which will be held at Garfield High School in the eastern end of Prince William County.

For older tweens and teens, another three week intensive camp will result in a production of “West Side Story” and will be performed at the Hylton in August.

The CFA is participating in the “One Love” Art Festival. The ArtMobile from the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts will arrive and park in the parking lot adjacent to the center. It is expected that school tours will be visiting the art mobile on Thursday and Friday. It will leave on Sunday. Admission is free and open to the public. Oil and watercolor paintings selected for the juried arts show will hang in the Merchant Gallery.

Welcome Center on I 66 - Kathleen Riley said that this year marks the 50th anniversary of the “Virginia is for Lovers” tourism campaign. The iconic slogan was inducted into the Advertising Hall of Fame.

Kathleen also had available information for the Virginia Tourism Marketing Leverage Program which is designed to stimulate new tourism marketing programs by the creation of partnerships. Applications for the grants are due June 25, 2019.

Hylton Performing Arts Center - no report

Manassas Police -Officer Lance Rust encouraged interaction with the department’s facebook page.

Manassas City - Patty Prince mentioned that there will be a live broadcast by Telemundo at the Harris Pavilion on Friday, May 3 from 5 - 6:30 pm. Anyone who wants to drop by to watch the broadcast or wave to anyone while on air is welcomed to do so.

Also that same weekend there will be the Manassas Airshow at the Manassas Airport on Saturday, May 4 from 10 am - 4 pm.

Terry Ellis also mentioned that there will be a 5k/10k run sponsored by the Manassas Rotary at the Manassas Airport on that same day.

What’s New in Your Business?

CenterFuse is open on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7pm for a series of mini seminars.

Nancy Hersch Ingram spoke about the Hylton’s recent Gala event. Not only was it sold out for the second year in a row, but much money was raised for Veterans’ programs.

Sheryl Bass who is on the Executive Board of the Hylton said to save the date, April 17, 2020 for the 10th Hylton Gala. By that time, the new education wing will be open and the theme is “Education - Raising the Paddle”.

Darlene Renaldue gave Kudos to Manassas. Her customers have told her they are “blown away” by the number of events and happenings in Manassas.

Beverly Hess spoke about a recent talk by Holocaust survivor, Michael Silberstein and how his remembrances touched those who had the opportunity to hear him. The Center for the Arts is working with his family to video record his remembrances as it was very inspirational.

Beverly also spoke about the CFA's upcoming game night on June 22. It is a team challenge between drawing and acting. Each team will have the same clue to solve but will be unable to see or know what the opposing team is doing to solve the clue. Dress is casual and there will be a cash bar.

Elizabeth Bailey had Bedrock Yoga's Spring session of classes being offered as well as a discount for classes. Sheryl Bass will teach a new 'family yoga class' in a mini session on Sunday afternoons.

Captain Tina Laguna said how much she enjoyed "Game of Thrones" and hoped that a future First Friday would feature "Walking Dead" as a theme.

Chip Rohr praised the City's newsletter that comes in the utility bill. He also suggested one could sign up to receive it electronically.

Chip has begun signing up campers for his 41st Summer Soccer program at Linton Hall School.

We did not have a 50/50 raffle.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 am.

Our next meeting will be May 8 th.

Jan Alten
Secretary