

Manassas Old Town Business Association

General Meeting

May 9, 2018

Minutes

Meeting called to order following breakfast at 8:55 a.m. by OTBA President Joanne Wonderly

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by: Doug Horhorta

Seconded by: Elizabeth Bailey, Bedrock Yoga, OTBA Board Member

Treasurer's Report: Nury Mena, OTBA Board Member

\$8,226.59 balance

Announcements:

Street repairs-the business/restaurant owners appreciate the notice/information letter; complaints that repairs are a bit noisy. Future intersection walkways will be of stamped asphalt construction and this will save money in repairs over time. The new repairs will be very nice esthetically and will require maintenance about every five years vs. the yearly commitment we are experiencing now. One example is the intersection of Prescott Avenue in the new townhome community there.

OTBA Welcome Packets are prepared and the board would appreciate anyone who would like to help with welcoming a new business or encouraging membership in OTBA to please pick-up a packet from Joanne Wonderly and make a visit. This is especially meaningful because you get to know your neighbors and can be of help to them as they are acclimated to Old Town.

50/50 Raffle Volunteer: Kathleen Riley of Virginia Welcome Center

"The Vikings are Coming!" Saturday, May 12 with live animals, activities, demonstrations and more! Don't miss it!

Railway Festival will be in three weeks and tickets are already on sale at \$5.00 per ticket.

Reports:

HMI: Melissa, from HMI, will be around to visit business owners and schedule face time. The purpose is to engage in conversation regarding ideas, improvements, what is working, what is not, etc. The Farmer's Market promotion (rack cards) are available at the HMI office—please help support and promote our wonderful farmer's market. Along with upcoming Old Town Festival and events, "Bike to Work Day" affectionately titled, 'Sore Saddles' is Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup> and to that, the VA Welcome Center unveiled the new VA Bike Trails Map.

Also HMI: Rebekah Raze announced the, “One Love” event scheduled for the weekend of May 18. “One Love” is a transformative 3-day multi-media art event that is a celebration of life and our diverse artistic community. The event hopes to give artists a platform to perform, share and leverage their art to the betterment of the community, while raising awareness and inspiring hope for the love of all artistic platforms. More information is available online at: [visitmanassas.org](http://visitmanassas.org). There is a need for volunteers from the community, please go online and follow the link to register as a volunteer.

Manassas Museum—Doug also exclaimed the praises for the upcoming Viking event, as he has been part of the details and planning process. This is a first time ever event here in Manassas and is loaded with demonstrations, and much, much more!

Center for the Arts—no report at this time.

Harris Pavilion—no report at this time.

Welcome Center—Kathleen Riley announced the popcorn bags with our Old Town Logo that are at the VA Welcome Center for visitors—a fun way to welcome and encourage folks to visit! The Virginia Welcome Center unveiled the new Virginia Bike Trails Map.

Hylton Performing Arts Center: Annual brochure is available. There will be plenty of things to do this summer, as the center will have children’s programs, camp performances, and a new Tech Theatre Boot Camp, which other theatre groups may attend. This is especially helpful as participants in the camp will be onsite and working with the equipment at the Hylton Performing Arts Center. In addition to the scheduled performances, the Center stays busy with proms, graduations, summer camps, and dance recitals.

Manassas City Police— This is National Police Week and we want to appreciate and recognize our City of Manassas Police Department for their outstanding work in protecting our citizens! You may, or may not have, noticed metal discs in the ground—this is future planning for events and can help the officers be more effective when closing roads.

Manassas Fire Department—no report at this time.

Guest Speaker: Doug Waldron, Commissioner of Revenue Manassas City Council, acknowledged a good report and increase for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of last year and presented the report of the Commissioner’s office. Some exchange of conversation took place over the potential need for representing separately ‘Service’ type businesses over retail and restaurants. However, this reporting is not feasible; as the report for our meeting is VA Sales Tax generated and would not apply to service type businesses.

Christmas Lights—Chip Rohr reported on the email he received from the Electric Department (City of Manassas Utilities) notifying him that all future lights will be LED lights. Elizabeth Baily commented that LED lights can be ‘warm’ lights or ‘cool’ lights, so the distinction has yet to be clarified and the changes (whether the buildings or trees) has yet to be determined.

50/50 Raffle: Congratulations to Terri Combs who won \$21.00

Other: Darlene Runaldue announced an event Saturday, May 19, *Change the World Weekend* with hands-on mission projects at Grace United Methodist Church in Wellington. To register, please contact: [drunaldue@umcgrace.org](mailto:drunaldue@umcgrace.org)

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Darlene Runaldue, Scatter Seeds, OTBA Vice-President