

## OTBA Minutes October 8, 2014

Our October meeting was devoted entirely to our Candidates' Forum. We have four candidates running for three seats on Manassas City Council and the election is Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>.

We began our meeting promptly at 8:15. The membership was asked to arrive at 8 o'clock and select breakfast from the breakfast buffet.

There were 40 people in attendance.

Introductions were made and Joanne Wunderly, president of OTBA began the meeting with instructions about how the forum would proceed. Each of the four candidates had a five minute opportunity to introduce themselves and share some of their ideas if elected. Candidates were introduced in alphabetical order, beginning with incumbent Marc Aveni, followed by Sheryl Bass, Ken Elston and Patricia Richie-Folks.

Three questions culled from questions from our membership were asked of each candidate. They had three minutes to answer. The selected questions were also answered in alphabetical order and began with Sheryl Bass for question # 1, followed by Ken Elston answering first for question # 2, and Patricia Richie-Folks answering first for question # 3.

1. What incentive and/or improvements would you enact to insure the Historic District is a more attractive venue for shopping and visiting local attractions?
2. Do you think art and culture play an important role to the overall health of the Manassas community? If so, what will you do to insure their continuance? If not, why?
3. Having reviewed the economic report for the first two quarters of 2014, what one thing would you introduce that would most positively affect the businesses in Old Town?

Each candidate was allowed three minutes for closing remarks. Nury Mena, our treasurer, acted as time keeper and kept the candidates to their allotted time limit. Once again, in alphabetical order, Marc Aveni began the closing remarks portion of our program.

Because the time schedule was adhered to, there was an opportunity for questions / comments to be voiced in the closing minutes of the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 am.

Our next scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday, November 12