

## **Old Town Business Association**

Minutes from our monthly meeting on October 12 2022

President Joanne Wunderly called the meeting to order at 8:35 am. There were 25 people in attendance.

The City of Manassas was represented by Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger, Council Members Lynn Forkell-Greene, Ralph Smith, Tom Osina in addition to Economic Director Patrick Small and Treasurer Patricia Ritchie-Folks.

After introductions were made, Joanne made a few brief remarks. Today's meeting is to introduce the candidates for Manassas City City Council. The election for three seats on the City Council is on November 8.

The minutes for our September meeting were approved. Nury Mena made the motion and Patricia Ritchie-Folks seconded.

Treasure Nury Mena reported that we currently have \$9707.54 in our account at Fulton Bank.

Joanne encouraged all to fill out the survey of the impact of Fall Jubilee on your business and return the survey to Melissa at HMI.

### **Manassas City Candidates**

#### **Rick Bookwalter**

Rick has lived in the City for 21 years and is the father of twelve children. Rick served in the Navy as a pilot and after service flew for the airlines. He is a small business owner. Rick's platform emphasizes fiscal responsibility, social conservatism and improving relations with Prince William County. He has been an active volunteer in the City.

#### **Theresa Coates-Ellis (Incumbent)**

Spoke at last month's meeting because she was unable to attend today's meeting.

#### **Lynn Forkell-Greene (Incumbent)**

Lynn currently serves on City council, is a mom and an active volunteer in the community. Lynn stresses community engagement, is solutions focused and believes in transparency of government and fiscal responsibility.

#### **Dheerraj "DJ" Jagadev**

DJ currently teaches at Osbourn High School. DJ got involved through volunteerism, working elections as a poll worker, is a member of the planning commission and has served on the Family Services Board which he feels gives him a direct insight into the needs of the community. DJ's platform is affordable housing, strengthening public services, and quality education.

#### **Ralph Smith (incumbent)**

Ralph is running for re-election and is a long time resident of the City. Ralph's platform is continuing the investment in crucial infrastructure as well as economic development making Manassas a strong attraction for new families to move to our City. Ralph is committed to ensuring the Police and Fire Departments are funded.

**Sonia Vasquez Luna**

Sonia moved to Manassas from El Salvador in 2010 and is the mother of two children in the Manassas school system. Sonia's platform stresses expanding our local transportation options, having a strong relationship with the School Board, inclusive City Government and growing our local economy..

The 50/50 yielded \$44 collected and Mark Hempen took home \$22.

The meeting adjourned at 9:31am.

**Our Next Meeting will be October 12 th**

Jan Alten, Secretary