

## Old Town Business Association

Minutes from our monthly meeting on May 4, 2022

President Joanne Wunderly called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. There were 28 people in attendance.

The City of Manassas was represented by Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger, Council members Tom Osina, and Theresa Coates-Ellis.

After introductions were made, Joanne made a few brief remarks. *The Guides To Shops, Services & Parking* are now distributed. When the Guides are reprinted, only the members of OTBA will be included.

Treasurer Nury Mena reported that we currently have \$10,127.16 in our account at Fulton Bank. Debits totaled \$1,288.44 for insurance and web hosting and breakfast costs. We received \$334. in membership dues,

The minutes for our April meeting were approved. Anne Hempen made the motion to approve and Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger seconded.

### Reports

**HMI-** Melissa Williams outlined the theme for First Friday and other planned events that are upcoming. Bike to work Day is Friday, May 20. Preregister by May 13 and receive a free T-shirt. There will be a bike raffle and free refreshments plus giveaways at participating locations. If you are working from home, you can still participate - just bike to your local "pit stop" for your free t-shirt and bike back home.

For the June 3rd First Friday the theme is "Rolls 'n Glow" roller skate to DJ music and a dance on skaters from 6 - 9 pm at the Harris Pavilion. Bring your skates.

On June 4th, the 27th Annual Railway Festival will be held from 10am to 3 pm. Admission is free, train ride tickets are \$11 and are now available.

Saturday, June 18th from 4 to 9 pm is the 17th Jazz Festival at the Harris Pavilion. General Admission is \$35 and VIP admission is \$90. The theme for this year's festival is "1930's Cotton Club" and will once again feature Marcus Johnson.

**Manassas Museum** - Danay Lewis announced that Acoustic Tuesdays will begin on May 17th and will continue through September 6. All concerts begin at 7 pm.at the Harris Pavilion. A variety of music genres will be featured.

Even though the museum is closed for renovations, programs of enrichment continue. Check theManassas Museum website for more details.

The next event in the History Hikes series is scheduled for May 22 from 2 to 3 pm and will be at Cannon Branch. Adults are \$10, children under 16, \$5. Connect with nature while learning about the rich history of Manassas.

Annaberg Manor has been granted "Landmark Status" as of April 15th and is now on the National Register of Historic Places as well as the Virginia Historic Register.

**ARTfactory** - no report

**Hylton Performing Art Center** - Tionge Johnson said that the upcoming American Festival Pops Orchestra performance on Saturday, May 14th will feature music from "Broadway's Best". Guest artist will be Lisa Vroman, an American Lyric Soprano and stage actress. The concert will also mark the retirement of Maestro Anthony Maiello, the Conductor and Artistic Director since the orchestra's inception..

The '22 - '23 Hylton Performing Arts Center Seasonal Calendar of events was also available.

**VETPar** - The banners honoring Manassas Veterans will be put up the middle of May. There are 12 banners honoring our local veterans' service.

Kristin Perper spoke about the upcoming WWII Brides' window display that is being planned. Several wedding dresses from that era have been secured from local residents.

There will also be bell ringing on Memorial Day at the Freedom Museum.

Plans are being made to host a "Sock Hop" later on in the year.

**Manassas City Government** - Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger said that the Volunteer Reception to honor and thank the many volunteers who volunteer with the City will be at the Hylton on Tuesday, May 11.

In celebration of the 150th anniversary of Manassas, the City would like residents to post videos> Topics suggested are: Why you moved to Manassas? How has the City changed since moving here? Tell why you like living in your neighborhood. Information about this can be found on the City's website: [visitmanassasva.gov](http://visitmanassasva.gov).

Mayor Davis-Younger was recently at the White House Rose Garden with other local and metro area officials and spoke briefly about her experience.

**Featured Speaker** - Lt. Andrew Brooks introduced the newly formed downtown unit consisting of six officers. The unit will be primarily in the Old Town business and residential areas when on duty. Their focus is patrolling during events and establishing relationships with area businesses.

The six officers are:

Officer Ana Brown  
Officer Alisa Dranko  
Officer Ethan Eustace  
Officer Kimberly Vallejos  
Officer Steve Shillingburg  
Officer Faisal Stanikzai

Detective Luis Armas, who was honored as Officer of the Year was not able to join us for our meeting.

### **What's New In Your Business**

The return of the Viking Festival is scheduled for the weekend. The festival in the past, generated a lot of interest and attendance was strong.

The Bee Festival will be held once again at Liberia Mansion on June 25th. At last year's Bee Festival, attendance was much better than planned for and this year the festival is expected to have more participants and attendance.

The 50/50 collected \$39 and Billy Wiseman of 3 Monkeys won \$19.

**Our Next Meeting will be June 8 th.**

Jan Alten  
Secretary