

OTBA General Meeting Minutes

November 11, 2009

Meeting called to order 8:35AM
Pledge of Allegiance
Introduction of members - 31 attendees.

Treasurers report - current balance \$4,011.44, less outstanding checks of \$227.73.
Renewal notices sent out to current members, and possible new members, with due date for reply January 15, 2010.

Approval of October minutes - pending.

Reports:

HMI - Patty Tracy provided radio ad costs to City and a plan is to begin radio ads for the holiday season near Thanksgiving. Plan to restructure the Visitors Center with new look and emphasis on retail display and businesses.

Center for Arts - update on new art exhibit of Lou Harris, and Pied Piper Theater performances at Osbourn HS.

Chamber of Commerce - update on 11/17 "Cuisine de Commerce" event at Heritage Hunt G &CC.

Community Development - no report.

Manassas Police Dept. - no report.

Harris Pavilion - no report.

Comments from Larry Hughes, City Manager and Jonathan Way, City Council Member.

Election of OTBA Officers 2009-2010

motion to accept Kevin Kelly, 2nd by Mary Reilly; vote was all in favor, none opposed.

- Joanne Wunderly - President
- Mike Flynn - Vice President
- Jan Alten - Treasurer
- Terri Thibodeaux - Secretary

Guest speaker: Elizabeth Via, Director, Community Development, City of Manassas updated on the signage and parking in Old Town - 1st phase - City received grant from VDOT , and it is being used for new LED style signs for City entry on Routs 234 and 28.

2nd phase - arterial signs to replace current ones, including signs for the parking garage. This phase will depend on the budget. Via provided handouts of the proposed signs.

Guest speaker: Beth Erickson, "Journey through Hallowed Ground" - provided overview with slides of the themes and history. Specified significance of Manassas to this region, from Gettysburg, PA to Charlottesville, VA. Estimated 800k visitors to Manassas Battlefield Park in 2012-13. They train staff to be "Certified Tourism Ambassadors" and US Park Rangers among trainees. Plan to train 4k by 2011 and 10k by 2015. Training is half-day, \$49. each. Website for organization: www.hallowedground.org

Comment from Mayor H. Parrish - offered to have Joanne Wunderly and himself as first local ambassador trainees. He also invited everyone to attend the Veterans Day event at 11:00 am today.

Meeting adjourned 9:35 am.

NO DECEMBER MEETING.

Next general meeting - January 2010 breakfast - TBA.