



# MAIN STREET ROCK HALL

## **MSRH Newsletter – March 2023**

Welcome to the Main Street Rock Hall (MSRH) Newsletter. We plan to send these newsletters once a quarter to let you know about MSRH activities and programs.

### **DHCD Legacy Grant**

This \$25,000 Community Legacy Program Grant was awarded by the Maryland Dept. of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to Main Street Rock Hall to be used for building improvements. Notices of the grant were sent via email to all eligible MSRH businesses and property owners. We received applications for eight projects requesting \$52,000 in improvements. Unfortunately we could not fund all the requests. Our grant committee (Laurie, Cindy, Beth) used a scoring rubric to evaluate the applications and identified five for funding. These applications will be sent to DHCD for review and approval. We hope to announce grant recipients in the next few weeks. Thanks to all the businesses and owners that participated.

### **MIP and MHAA Grants**

MIP is another DHCD Grant for \$10,000 we had intended to use for Bluetooth speakers on Main Street. When the speakers proved to be unavailable for the price quoted, the MSRH board voted to use the funds to restore the “Old Salt” waterman’s statue on the northeast corner of Main Street and Rt. 20. Many thanks to Lisa Sasser for her thorough report on the history of this statue and the recommended restoration process. MSRH is talking with John Elburn about doing the restoration.

Additional grant funding is being sought from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) to construct a pocket park around “Old Salt” We hope to work together with the Town, Museum Board (or 501c3), and other interested parties to design and implement a plan for a pocket part that is inviting, accessible and informative. The result would provide an attractive entrance to Rock Hall, a place for visitors and local residents alike to congregate and relax while also reinforcing Rock Hall’s character as a working waterfront town with deep historical roots.

Additional Main Street improvement grants are being investigated for later this year.

## **MSRH Businesses News**

Peoples Bank welcomes Kim Porter as the new Rock Hall Branch Manager.

Pasta Plus recently became Rock City Café under owners Chris and Stacy Kendall.

*Send us news of upcoming events or business activities so we can include them in our newsletters.*

## **MSRH News**

Plans are underway for the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Pirates & Wenches Weekend Festival August 11-13. Volunteers are needed to make this popular event a success. Contact Laurie Walters at [lewalte1@yahoo.com](mailto:lewalte1@yahoo.com) to volunteer to help.

Matt Mielnick (Mainstay) and Brette Tucker (Durdings) have been holding brainstorming sessions regarding business recruitment and retention in the MSRH District. Contact Matt [matt@mainstayrockhall.org](mailto:matt@mainstayrockhall.org) or Brette [brettemarie63@gmail.com](mailto:brettemarie63@gmail.com) for more info.

The Rock Hall Community Yard Sale will be Saturday, April 22. MSRH will be setting up a table in front of Durdings for this event. Stop by to purchase some of our eight MSRH postcard designs and check out our newest mural coozie. This will be a fun town-wide event with an Artisan Craft Fair at Fresh Start and lots of business specials.

***MSRH Meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 9:00am at The Mainstay (rear door). All are welcome and MSRH business and property owners are encouraged to attend. Please send us your updated contact info and news about your business.***

Cindy Genther  
MSRH Vice President  
[Cindy.Genther@gmail.com](mailto:Cindy.Genther@gmail.com)  
Cell: 443-480-1953