

**BOONSBORO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 23, 2017**

The Boonsboro Economic Development Commission met on August 23, 2017 at the Kauffman Annex. In attendance: Chairman George Messner, Secretary Vickie Messner, Carol Blessing, Terri Packard, Council liaison Cindy Kauffman and Town manager Megan Clark. Guests: Raya Yeary, Natoma Vargason, and Dan Murphy.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM.

Lacking a quorum, the minutes to the June 21, 2017 meeting were approved by consensus.

The next **Networking Breakfast** is scheduled for September 15, 2017 @ 7:30 AM at Vesta. Notification of the meeting will be sent by September 6th, RSVP date September 12. Guest speaker is Tiffany Ahalt from Star Spangled Tours.

Old Business

Fall/Winter rack card events will need to be forwarded to Cindy Kauffman by September 15. These cards will be distributed with the October utilities bill.

First Saturday- Natoma Vargason and Raya Yeary reported a coalition of local businesses are working on new ideas to encourage more local participation in First Saturday. One idea is for each month to have a theme. (See Pink Ribbon Event- October, Veterans- November, Christmas-December, etc.)

225 Anniversary- There was a large turnout for the birthday party on August 13. The next event is *Brothers At Arms*, a play written by students from Barbara Ingram School for the Arts depicting the reunion of the Heck brothers, who fought on opposite sides during the Civil War, but met at their mother's home between the Battles of South Mountain and Antietam. Performances are scheduled for September 16 (1 PM and 7:30 PM) and September 17 (1 PM and 4 PM). Registration is available at www.boonsboro225.org/play. A 2.25 mile run will occur the following Saturday, September 23 beginning at 9 AM from Shafer Park. Registration is available at BodySense PT and Fit in Boonsboro or online at www.runsignup.com/Race/MD/Boonsboro/225thRace.

Farmer's Market- A record of attendance is being kept by the Environmental Commission.

MML- Our Main Street booth was very successful. The 225th Anniversary, the new walking tour brochure and positive accomplishments of the town were highlighted. Many people stopped to get information and ask about Boonsboro, and we were able to visit booths of other towns and vendors for new ideas. Thank-you letters were sent to Gifts Inn Boonsboro and Josie's On Main for their contributions toward promotional items.

Kiosk/map- Dan Murphy presented a revised version of the map to be placed in the newly purchased kiosk. Other small changes were recommended: include fishing pond and new walking trail (and upcoming proposed trail), highlight the downtown business district, include a QR code, and reposition some of the text. New version will be presented through email.

PopUp Shops- C. Blessing is in the process of contacting vendors for the Holiday in Boonsboro event.

Planters- A local citizen has volunteered to take over the planters on the square. After the Christmas season, Vickie Messner will no longer do the urns in front of the Annex.

Cultural Trail- A special committee has been formed to assist with the process of securing a grant for the feasibility study for the proposed cultural trail. In an addition to Mayor Long, a request was made to have a member of the EDC join the committee. It was also requested area businesses write letters of support for this project.

New Business

2018-2019 USA Cycling Amateur Road National Championship- On August 10, George Messner, Vickie Messner, and Cindy Kauffman attended a meeting sponsored by the CVB to get an overview of this upcoming event. This event scheduled for July 26-29, 2018 is comprised of four days of racing that occurs on three different course styles: time trials, road race, and criterium race for riders age 11-23. An estimated 800-1200 is anticipated for these events. Boonsboro's participation in this event is the time trials to be held July 26- the time trials will occur on Route 67 and the awards ceremony could be held in Shafer Park. The CVB will be requesting a liaison from Boonsboro to work with the Event Director. Subsequently, volunteers will be needed to make this a successful event.

New Businesses- Domino's Pizza (Tiger Way), Coffee Werks (North Main St.), and Erie Insurance (S. Main St.) are now open. Pet Value (Weis Plaza) has applied for a business permit.

Pink Ribbon Event- Raya Yeary (Talon Studios) requested the support of the EDC and local businesses in honoring Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Her business will be making October 7 Pink Ribbon Event Day, and she encourages other businesses to follow suit by offering discounts to any customer wearing pink or shows pink ribbon of support, donating a percentage of a purchase to a cancer related non-profit, or serving refreshments/giving out tokens to customers. Donating gift certificates or other items for raffle or silent auction baskets is another way to participate. Proceeds will be donated to Breast Cancer Awareness of Washington County.

Adjournment: 10:30 AM

Next meeting: October 25, 2017

Upcoming Events:

- Sept. 2- Love Your Local/First Saturday
Concert in the Park- Country Current Navy Band 7PM
- Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26- Farmer's Market
- Sept. 9-10 Boonesborough Days
- Sept. 16 TTP Book signing 12-2
- Sept. 16-17- Heck Brother's play *Brothers At Arms* (a 225 Anniversary event)
- Sept. 17- Concert in the Park- Mason-Dixon Barber Shop Chorus 3PM
- Sept. 23- 2.25 Mile Run (a 225 Anniversary event) beginning at 9AM
- Oct. 3, 10 (last date) – Farmer's Market
- Oct. 7- Love Your Local/ First Saturday
Pink Ribbon Event Day
- Oct. 14- Bulk Cleanup
- Oct. 31-Trick or Treat