

Reisterstown Improvement Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 856
Reisterstown, Maryland 21136
Founded 1758

Meeting Agenda –November 29, 2017, 7 P.M.

www.reisterstown.com

2017 Officers:

President – Herb Weiss
Vice President – Ernie Schmidhauser
Secretary – Michael Donnelly
Treasurer – Kim Drapkin
Immediate Past President – Glenn Barnes

2017 Board of Directors:

Danny Carey Charlie Hoppa
Mary Molinaro Linda Percy
Irwin Kramer Kathy Gambrell
Justin Switzer Mark Stewart
Pat Brooks Brendan Schrieber

**“Reisterstown’s Main Street is a Destination.
Not Just a Drive-Through Road.”**

We Welcome Our New Member:

Cards Comics & Collectibles 51 Main Street Marc Nathan

Attendees: Herb Weiss, Kathy Gambrell, Mark Stewart, Mary Molinaro, John Barnard, Ernie Schmidhauser, Irwin Kramer, Mike Ruby, Tim Feaser, Glenn Barnes, Brendan Schreiber, Tina Asher, Gini Trotti, Pat Brooks, Sally Shapiro-Gould

1. **Call to order –Introductions of those attending.** Meeting started at 7:08pm. Tim Feaser was thanked for allowing us to move our meetings to Fellowship Hall.
2. **Review of minutes from last meeting –** Mark motioned to accept the minutes. Mike Ruby questioned the discussion missing that he had regarding the summer concerts. The decision was made to not vote tonight to approve the October meeting minutes and give Mike Donnelly an opportunity to review his notes and amend the minutes and repost on the website for approval at the next monthly meeting.
3. **Treasurer’s report - Kim Drapkin-** absent, no report was given.
4. **Membership Report – Kathy Gambrell – Renewals & New Members \$35/yr for individuals and non profit organizations, schools and churches and \$75/yr for businesses. One benefit of membership is a listing on the Reisterstown.com website with contact info, hours, and a brief business description. Renewals for this month:**

Pro Care Auto	84 Main Street
Reisterstown 7 th Day Adventist Church	7 Berrymans Lane
Glyndon Gardens	205 Hanover Pike
Rob Johnson	Candidate for State Delegate, District 10
Reisterstown Senior Center (Gini Trotti)	12036 Reisterstown Road
Trinity Lutheran Church	109 Main Street
Secure Alarms/Bober Burgan builders/Craig Bober	655 Main Street
Family Podiatry of Maryland (Dang Vu, D.P.M.)	4 Glyndon Drive
Susan Rose	
Charlie Hoppa	

Kathy said she will be sending emails to each member who has not yet paid for 2018 as we have moved to a once a year renewal effort. She feels we are on track

5. President's Report – Herb Weiss

- **The Board voted to hire our first Main Street Manager in the person of Kathy Gambrill. Creating this position will improve our chances for being designated as a “Maryland Main Street”, which in turn will give us access to various governmental, corporate, and private grant monies.** Everyone clapped and welcomed Kathy to the position. Glenn questioned the difference of her roles than the president's job. Kathy read through the list of jobs that Amy Mantay shared as she left the position a couple years ago for everyone's benefit. Many of these Kathy has been doing for the past couple years in her volunteer work with RIA and will work directly with the committee chairpeople.
 - Strengthening relationships and partnerships with Main Street businesses and organizations.
 - Continue to develop new, and seasonal promotional events and activities that engage all Main Street committees.
 - Created a comprehensive funding strategy, including fundraising and identifying various funding sources.
 - Promote the history of Reisterstown and educate the community about historic preservation.
 - Continue to generate broad-based support from local business and property owners.
 - Maintain program data and produce annual report.
 - Provide assistance and oversight to all Main Street committees, including a monthly strategy meeting with Main Street chairpersons.
 - Produce press releases and engage local media to promote Main Street
 - Maintain a web presence with resources for business owners and visitors.
 - Continue to work with the Main Street Maryland program to apply for designation.

Pat said she spoke with Kim and pointed out that we need to be sure all the accounting, state and federal forms are completed to have our first employee.

Spooktacular on October 28 was a big success this year, with a beautiful day and many participants. Orange pumpkins filled with candy were delivered to 14 stores who agreed to join in. The costume contest drew a terrific variety of entrants, Main Street was filled with kids, and a total of 22 businesses opened for them. All the shops were give a “Save the Date” heart flyer for Small Business Saturday and a thank-you note. Much appreciation to Jeanne Andrews, from the Reisterstown Library, for running the contests (and her fetching fairy princess outfit!). The event was very well attended.

Dan Carey and I were invited to met with Captain Matthew McElwee, who has returned as the Precinct 3 commander, and were impressed with his enthusiasm and willingness to address our current issues. He now resides in the area so he has a personal stake in our community. Glenn asked Herb to expand on the topics of discussion. Herb said they talked his leaving and returning and what his jobs were in the interim. They discussed the homeless situation that in 2017 has been strong. Tim said that the churches are planning to come together for a meeting after the New Year to look for solutions. Suggestions were made to include county and state services and interested community groups. Brendan spoke about his work in the city that also has the homeless problem with the “Health Care for the Homeless State Program” and wants to participate in this discussion. Tim was asked why he thought they came to the church on Sundays, are they looking for handouts as he said they are not coming to attend services.

Christmas wreaths went up the weekend before the Holly Fair, mostly owing to Kathy Gambrell, who lit a fire under us and organized a crew who finished the job by noontime on a chilly day. New members Conrad and Kim Berk pitched in, along with many of the usual helpers. Glyndon Gardens not only stored the wreaths for us but put new ribbons on many of them. Thank you, Janet Waters! They look great as you drive along Main Street. Kathy said 160 + wreaths were hung and Bransfield Motors again helped with the lamp posts south of Glyndon Drive.

Cards Comics & Collectibles has opened in the former New Theatre, better known for housing Bay Country Rentals for many years. The proprietor, Marc Nathan, has operated his business since 1984 and this is his fourth locale. He has opened up the space to the old dimensions, restored the original giant ceiling light fixture, and has an airy, spacious store. We had a ribbon-cutting there on Black Friday, attended by Del. Jay Jalisi and Del. Ben Brooks, among many others, which was a nice warm-up for ... Those who attended at the meeting commented that it was nicely renovated and so much nicer to fit all they have to offer and a nice opening

Small Business Saturday, with our Main Street merchants kicking off the holiday shopping season in fine fashion. RIA delivered 25 Shop Small bags to stores, filled with pens, buttons, crowns, etc., and a thank-you note from American Express and RIA. The RIA table and canopy were set up and our volunteers worked from 10-4:30, giving out various event paraphernalia, and four crafters/home-based businesses set up tables for sidewalk sales. Thanks to Bransfield Motors and John Eichler for set-up and music, as they do for many of our events. Comments were made that the street was busy during the event.

Chick fil-A opened November 2nd and has been very busy.

We are losing our Promotion Committee chair, Justin Switzer, who has accepted the branch manager position at the Enoch Pratt Library (Orleans Street). Thank you Justin and best of luck! We have been seeking a replacement and hope to announce a new chairperson soon.

Got a zoning violation complaint? Code enforcement info: 410-887-3351

Main Street Committees Reports

We have several committees - If you would like to be on one of our committees, please let us know. Each committee chair will give a report tonight.

Organization Committee – Mary Molinaro- Our next meeting will be Wednesday, Dec. 20th at my home. We will focus on preparing the 2018 budget and currently gathering information from the various committee chairpeople. We will also start developing the 2017 Annual Report reviewing our 2016 report and adding or deleting where appropriate. It will be ready by the January monthly meeting.

Economic Restructuring Committee --Brendan Schrieber Now that we have a Main Street manager in place he will be working with his committee to apply for county and state level funding. He will be arranging meetings with business owners, banks, and property owners as well as coordinate with the Chamber of Commerce. His committee led the ribbon cutting ceremony at Cards Comics & Collectibles and looks forward to doing more, possibly when the Ionic Lodge holds their reopening ceremony. He plans to hold his first meeting in January, 2018

Design Committee - Irwin Kramer - he thanked Brendan for convincing him to vote for the approval of filling the Main Street Manager position. One project of 2018 for

him will be to continue the research about the corner at Hanover Road and Butler Road for a Welcome Sign. Glenn said his calls to the state indicate they are grandfathering the sign since no one actually lays claim. However, they will require a state metal sign if we take down the existing one. Irwin agreed that his research matches Glenn's findings. Sally suggested refurbishing the sign there since it will take time to go through the state and research options. Hopefully we can gain funding from the state and county. He feels that renderings are premature until ownership of the property and current sign are established. He said he wants to work with Kathy on the Membership campaign. Discussion occurred about the accident on Small Business Saturday that knocked down the lamp post in front of Cards Comics & Collectibles. Kathy and Herb were able to get there and remove the wreaths and banner. Irwin will try to get the insurance company from the driver to pay for the reinstallation. We also discussed the problem of the piles of bricks around the double utility poles. Mary said she spoke with BGE and after installing the new utility poles and moving their lines, the project moved to Verizon who needs to schedule to move their lines and then they are responsible to remove the original old poles and reset the bricks. Unfortunately, it has been months and still the bricks are loose in a pile.

Clean, Safe and Green Committee -Dan Carey- Clean Main Street Day – Next one will be Saturday, December 2, 2017. Meet at Reter's Crab House & Grille parking lot at 9 AM. Join the fun and help keep Main Street looking good. Dan is also seeking volunteers for traffic/parking during the Dec. 9 Glyndon house tour. Dan was unable to attend tonight so Herb gave his report.

Promotion Committee – Justin Switzer – Holidays on Main Street December 2nd. This day will be very busy with our activities at 202 Main Street as well as Breakfast with Santa here at Trinity Lutheran church starting at 8:30am. Justin served as chairman in 2017. He was promoted, is leaving Reisterstown and will not serve for 2018. We will start the search for a new chairman.

New sub-committee: History Committee, chaired by Kinsey Gill (The Hidden Gem). **History Tour – see new business** Kathy showed everyone the postcards with the information about the Dec. 2nd tours 10am and 6pm and suggested bring a flashlight if doing the evening tour.

Grant Committee – Ernie Schmidhauser—matching employer grants; grant-writing assistance desired. Ernie spoke about our end of the year fund raising plans. This year the #Giving Tuesday campaign was a good start. There were 10 donors so far raising \$2000. He thanked Mike Donnelly for finding and setting up this **Facebook** opportunity. Irwin added a banner on the **website** that took you straight to the donor page. The third facet were the **emails** sent to stakeholders. Brendan is preparing a **letter writing** campaign to target community members, business owners and property owners so this year we have a multi-faceted campaign. We have been using webinars and information from Network for Good and Double the Donation to bring together our year end campaign.

Ernie said he plans to focus on two employer matching programs. One is a dollar for dollar matching program (some employers restrict the opportunities to certain types of non-profits) and the other is “volunteer or doer grants” where companies donate to non-profits based upon the volunteer hours worked by the employee. At the last meeting he asked for the names of non-governmental employers which were searched for employer matching programs. Ernie will continue to search for employer matching campaigns if asked by anyone unsure of their company opportunity. He named a few companies that have “volunteer or doer grants”.

At our board meeting earlier this month, we voted to change our resident agent to Linda Percy and our physical address to 461 Main Street. The physical address was changed because some grantors and the state will not accept a P.O.Box address. Ernie explained that he had problems submitting his request for a “volunteer grant” to his former employer (retirees are sometimes eligible for these opportunities) as the verification letter to RIA was sent to our original mailing address which is no longer viable and the mailing was lost.

There are several reasons that fund raising is important. Money is needed to support our projects. The MD. Main Street program requires members to demonstrate fund raising ability. Grantors want to see that we can raise money. Some grants award “matching grants” and some others award money up to a percentage of our budget.

Ernie has requested a ruling from the MD. Dept. of Housing to make RIA eligible to apply for Community Legacy Grants. Larry Brown, program manager for our area, has referred our corporate documents to their legal counsel for a determination.

Mike asked if we will need money built into the budget to accomplish our goals? Ernie said he plans to talk to committee chairpersons about grants. Often we have a project and seek a grant to fund that activity but other times we see a grant for which we can apply that meets a goal and we can then develop a project around that grant to help Main Street.

Communications Director – Michael Donnelly - unable to attend this evening.

Farmers’ Market—Kim Drapkin— Bigger and better next summer! Tina had an envelope of information from their last meeting at Betty Ann’s home and gave it to Kathy to give to Kim since she has other items to give to her. Tina said that Karen has been developing a spreadsheet listing those to whom contracts will be forwarded.

Officers and Board Member comments? None given

6. **Music on Main Street Committee - Dan Carey and Glenn – Grant application has been submitted to Baltimore County for the 2018 concert series.** Glenn said that he and Danny are working on the budget and there will again be 13 concerts starting Memorial Day weekend, May 25th and then June 15th and every Friday night through August 31st. He is also looking towards the entertainment for Bloomin’ ArtFest and that committee has requested entertainment conducive as background music as people stroll and shop. He mentioned recommending a band named Apaloosa fitting well. He currently has 21 bands with the 14 opportunities.
7. **Reisterstown Community Cemetery Committee (1764 By John Reister) - Co-Chairs Linda Percy and Chris Larkins.** Linda was absent, no report was given
8. **“Bloomin ArtFest” Committee-Mark Stewart – www.bloominartfest.com**
Mark reported that the next meeting is Jan 17th, 6pm or 6:30pm with a location to be determined.
9. **The Franklin Precinct Police Report— none this month.**

10. Facebook comments about Reisterstown -

Glenn commented on his attendance representing RIA at the announcement of Mill Station to be built on the former Owings Mills Mall site. He said the owners, Kimco and County Executive Kevin Kamenetz presented the plans and announced Costco is the first committed tenant. Others will be announced as they are confirmed.

11. Old Business—

Future restaurant fundraisers?

12. New Business- The next Board meeting will be Wednesday, January 10, 7pm at Trinity Lutheran Church. There will not be an RIA meeting in December.

The first Main Street History Tours will be given Saturday, December 2, 10am and 6pm, starting from The Hidden Gems, 317 Main Street. To reserve a spot call Kinsey Gill for details @ 443-500-4539.

UPCOMING HOLIDAY EVENTS

Holidays on Main Street – Saturday, December 2, 3-6pm

Historic Glyndon Holiday House Tour – Saturday, December 9, 4-8pm. Info and tickets @historicglyndon.org

Annual Toy Drive – sponsored by Del. Adrienne Jones and Pastor R. Kevin Hooks, at the Randallstown Community Center December 12, 6-8pm. Bring new unwrapped toys and/or non-perishable food. Benefits the Maryland Food Bank and the Randallstown, Owings Mills, and Reisterstown communities.

Women’s Club of Glyndon – Annual Charity Tea, Wednesday, December 13, 11:45-3pm, in the clubhouse at 4627 Butler Road. Elizabeth Goethe 410-833-2756

Volunteering Your Time

Volunteers form the backbone of our communities. They set the tone for our culture. Volunteering brings help and guidance to recipients and great satisfaction to the givers. It builds friendships, creates confidence and promotes natural leadership.

Thank you for attending tonight’s meeting.

We will continue working with Jacob DeNobel -The Community Times, Michael Ruby with The Country Crier, Sarah Meehan with the Baltimore Business Journal, the Baltimore County Planning Department, Department of Economic Development, the County Executive’s Office and the Main Street Maryland Program.

Phone Numbers for 2017 Officers and Board Members

Herb Weiss – President / 443-226-8879
Ernie Schmidhauser - Vice President / 410-833-0262
Kim Drapkin - Treasurer / 443-289-4447
Michael Donnelly – Secretary / 410-926-5584
Glenn Barnes – Immediate Past President / 410-833-5400 or 443-695-2308
Linda Percy - Board /410-833-2062 or 410-327-3500
Dan Carey - Board / 410-833-3820
Mark Stewart – Board / 410-241-1057
Irwin Kramer Board / 410-581-0070
Justin Switzer – Board /410-746-2354
Charlie Hoppa – Board / 410-526-5486
Kathy Gambrell – Board / 410-979-8885 or 410-833-6551
Pat Brooks – Board / 410-833-8215
Mary Molinaro- Board / 410-908-0724 or 410-526-7190
Brendan Schrieber—Board / 410-657-8926 or 410-979-3386

Next Meeting:

Herb announced that the board decided that with the change to Trinity Lutheran we need to move our monthly meetings to Wednesday and will meet the 4th Wednesday of each month.

Wednesday, January 24th, 7 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church - 109 Main Street

Agenda prepared by Herb Weiss, President (443-226-8879)

Minutes prepared by Mary Molinaro for Michael Donnelly, Secretary, (410-926-5584)

This month's amazing trivia: The average mattress has 2 million dust mites.

Extra credit: The emu can run up to 31 mph.