

## RIRA GENERAL MEETING

6/21/23

President Sarah Wachtel called the meeting to order at Parker's restaurant, which was a last-minute switch of venue from the tent at the Marina due to rain. Our guest speaker was Wendy Doring who represented the recycling division of the Maryland Environmental Service (MES). She described the recycling efforts in Harford County and Baltimore County, as MES is responsible for implementing and integrating recycling and waste management programs throughout the State. She reported an overall recycling rate of 53% for last year. When asked what RIRA can do to promote recycling in our community, she suggested the Havre de Grace program is a good model to emulate. Of particular interest to RIRA is the news that the State Forestry Board can provide free trees for us.

The revised RIRA by-laws were approved by the members at the meeting.

Volunteers were solicited to help-out at the upcoming Community Block Party which will be held at Ron and Sara Parker's home on July 15, 1-4pm. Joann Radgowski was the only respondee. Interestingly, she demonstrated the benefits of volunteering by winning the 50/50 raffle (\$75). Volunteers should contact John Berry (443-690-6412) or any Board member. Flyers announcing the event are being distributed to all R.I. homes. All R.I. residents (RIRA members or not) are invited.

Bat box construction and installation have been approved by the Board for three boxes. Some locations for the boxes have been found, but more were solicited. No one responded.

Sarah announced that the Cove fireworks will be spectacular this July 4<sup>th</sup>, and that monetary donations are being accepted. She also announced plans to informally meet at restaurants now that the number of General Meetings has been reduced to four from the previous 10 or so. She also announced that Survey Monkey will be used from time to time to forecast attendance at special events and to gather other resident input. We will also be overhauling our various social media platforms. Finally, she mentioned that no one has yet stepped up to champion the Crab Feast, so we will set a date, time and a restaurant where members and guests can gather and order from the menu.

Our next General Meeting will be held at Copley Parish on 10/21 at 4pm immediately following the Heritage Festival. There will be a bonfire with complimentary s'mores.

Submitted by:

John Berry