

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Andrea McHugh, 401-845-9151 Senior Communications Manager Discover Newport amchugh@discovernewport.org

## **Discover Newport Announces New Appointments to Board of Directors**

Returning members bring valuable insights to the tourism organization.

Newport (R.I.) March 6, 2019 – Discover Newport's Board of Directors welcomes two new appointees, each of whom have served on the board previously.

Keith Chouinard, Director of Sales and Marketing at The Chanler at Cliff Walk, will represent lodging properties under 100 rooms within the destination. With more than 20 years' experience in the hospitality/tourism industry, specifically at luxury properties in resort destinations, Chouinard brings a wealth of knowledge and industry acumen to the board. He is a graduate of the Isenberg School of Management at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and resides in Portsmouth.

Representing the City of Newport, Councilor At-Large Jeanne-Marie Napolitano returns to the Discover Newport Board of Directors after a 12-year hiatus, previously serving two terms including one as board chair. Napolitano has lived in Newport for more than 40 years and enjoyed a career in the insurance industry including in her role as Executive Director of the Rhode Island Life Underwriters. She has worked hard to inform the community of the impact and value of tourism in relationship to the cultural vitality of Newport and has concurrently acted to ensure that the interests and concerns of city residents are considered in achieving a sustainable balance between their values and business interests.

"I am very pleased to welcome back both Keith and Jeanne-Marie to our board. Their shared awareness of our organization's efforts in the past, and our vision for the future, will greatly serve Discover Newport and the destination at large," said Evan Smith, president and CEO of Discover Newport. "I look forward to working with them both."

## **ABOUT DISCOVER NEWPORT**

Discover Newport is the official destination management organization (DMO) dedicated to promoting the City of Newport and the eight surrounding coastal townships in Newport and Bristol counties, Rhode Island. These include Barrington, Bristol, Jamestown, Little Compton, Middletown, Newport, Portsmouth, Tiverton and Warren. As a non-profit organization, Discover Newport partners with stakeholders throughout our tourism and hospitality industry to market the region as a premier destination for business and leisure travel.