

TOWN HOUSE ADVISORY GROUP MINUTES

July 13, 2017

Attending:

THAG committee members: Curt Albee, Rocky Fuller, Martha Manheim, Steve Willbanks
Paul Kifner (TH overseer), Lori Mikusa, Silas Treadway, Steve Handy

1. Concerts at the Town House: The concert schedule is progressing. Jeremiah McLane will be playing on Friday night. All agreed that the promotion of the concerts has been a learning experience, but that it is worthwhile, in that the proceeds of the concerts represent a revenue stream that could grow over time. Paul has been shouldering much of the work on the concert evenings as our sound engineer. There was discussion of trying to compensate him for his time setting up and running shows. As concert attendance increases and door receipts grow, this will become easier. We made \$2,200 on the Noah Kahan concert. Iva Wik has a CD coming out and would like to have a CD release party at the Town House in September.
2. We agreed that eating and drinking in the Town House should be discouraged. Rocky will make a small sign.
3. Paul mentioned that some wiring needs upgrading for the sound system with regard to proper grounding. Rocky will contact Tom Root to arrange to have the necessary work done. Jeffery Clark's name was also mentioned if Tom couldn't do it.
4. We need to thank Catamount Solar again for their sponsorship of the concert promotions as well as Paul's friend, Frank who has donated quite a bit of audio equipment to the Town House.
5. Lori Mikusa has arranged for nametags for all committee members. Thank you Lori!
6. Attic walkway: Rocky, Silas, Curt, and Steve Handy will begin work on the attic walkway in the Town House Saturday July 22 at 9 AM.
7. There has been an anonymous \$5,000 donation to the Town House Spire Restoration project. All expressed great appreciation.
8. Reuben Sotak will be doing some restoration work on the Town House over the course of the next year. Rocky will come up with a budget for this work.
9. Steve Handy is working on a grant proposal for the Windham Foundation. There is one for the Byrne Foundation. We need to step up our efforts in this area, as they could have a significant impact on the fund for spire repairs. Rocy suggested approaching the Mascoma Bank. The Woobury Foundation was also mentioned. Steve H. suggested a subcommittee of THAG be formed to deal with ongoing fund raising efforts.
10. Peter Revers has offered a brass bell to THAG for the Town House. THAG thought it best to decline the offer for historic preservation reasons.
11. Steve Willbanks mentioned that after Strafford's new Town Plan is approved, the Town will need to reapply to the State's "Downtown Plan", which will make it easier to receive a preservation matching grant.
12. Date and time of next meeting: Wednesday, August 16, at 7 PM at the Town House

