

Friends of the Plainfield Town Hall Opera House
Meeting March 22, 2021
6:30 – 7:30

Keith Swann, Chair presiding

Minutes

Attending: Tom Blachly, Jesse Clayton, Sarah Harding, Kathleen Light, Steven Light, David Strong, Keith Swann

Absent: Lori Stratton

Meeting was called to order at 6:43

1. Approval of Minutes:
 - a. December 21, 2020 Meeting Minutes – corrections to the minutes were suggested (primarily typos) and the minutes were then approved
 - b. February 15, 2021 Meeting Minutes – the minutes were approved
2. President's Report: Keith noted that we still need to contract the lighting work for which we received a grant. That work must be complete by August.
3. Vice President's Report: Kathy reported she is keeping up with thank you letters to those who have made donations to the Full House Fund. She noted that she will be heading out to Minnesota for the next few months and may not be able to make meetings but will remain in touch.
4. Treasurer's Report: Jesse reported that we currently have \$10,176 in the Full House Fund. \$1330 had come in since 01/01/21. The general fund currently has a balance of \$4962.00. Jesse reported that Tom paid for the Annual Report to the Secretary of State's Office and the Catamount Arts Center recently forwarded \$196 for ticket sales from the concert that was cancelled last year.
5. Summer Concert Series: There was a robust and wide-ranging discussion about organizing and hosting an outdoor summer concert series. The Craftbury Players are interested in performing two concerts. It was agreed a series of five performances would be ideal including the Craftbury Players, Modern Times Theatre (an offshoot of Bread & Puppet), and perhaps David Klein's one-man show. Much of the discussion was focused on logistics, including staging, COVID protocols, and the sound system. Kathy and Steven agreed to explore possible performers and dates. Others agreed to measure the outdoor performance area and report back to the group through email.

6. Letter to the Select Board regarding future relationship: The group reviewed the current draft of the letter to the Select Board. There was unanimous agreement that the lease arrangement is worth proposing but we should be cautious about tone to ensure our engagement with the Select Board is productive. There was some discussion around the management of future improvement projects, particularly the backstage project, in any future relationship. Sarah agreed to revise the document and to circulate it to the group for comments. A final draft will be discussed at the April 19th meeting, to be shared with the Select Board shortly after that.

7. There was no other business.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40.

Respectfully submitted
Sarah Harding
April, 2021