

Minutes of the Friends of Plainfield Town Hall Opera House Board (FPTHOH) meeting for April 19, 2021

In attendance were board members Dave Strong, Tom Blachly, Lori Stratton, Keith Swann, Sarah Harding, Jesse Clayton
Kathy Light absent visiting new grandchild and rest of family!

President Swann called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm

Approved following agenda:

Approve minutes of March 22nd meeting

President's report

- status of stage lighting project
- planning for reopening of Town Hall

Treasurer's report

- quarterly income and expense report

Planning Committee report

- discussion of memo to selectboard

Program Committee report

- summer concert possibilities and issues

Full House Fund report

- "thank you" donors celebration/plaque ideas
- planning parking area ribbon-cutting ceremony
- fixing up carriage barn
- sale of granite foundation blocks

Other business/announcements

Next meeting date, adjournment

Accepted minutes of March 22, 2021

-President's Report-

Production Advantage is no longer installing lighting systems or setups. Patrick Schlott recommended another contractor, Dark Star Inc., to do our stage lighting work.

At the last Plainfield Selectboard meeting, members did not make decisions about the opening of the Town Hall Opera House. They will be making decisions aside from the Governor's plan, which says by July 1st there will be a lot less restrictions. **On May 1st, we can have 100 people per 100 square feet and one unvaccinated person per 100 square feet. That means in the town hall space, we could fit 12 unvaccinated people in the audience.** By June 1st, we can allow 1 unvaccinated person per 50 square feet. Keith proposed one or two people from Friends to be on a reopening subcommittee with the SB members.

-Treasurer's Report-

Received one pledge of \$500. Total of \$10,706.92, includes money received in 2020.

-Planning Committee Report-

Discussed tone of our document to the SB. Agreed that proposal for a 2 year lease term would be best. Dave wondered how long we should expect the SB to consider the proposal before getting a response. Keith volunteered to draft a cover letter and ask them to respond by July 1st. Jesse said we have a financial cushion that would enable survival of two years if they are ready to go by July 1st. We could start in September or October and we can change the contract. Sarah suggested that July 4th would be perfect timing to start a new agreement because we would have the concert series going **for financial support**. Discussed setting up a negotiating committee composed of Sarah, Jesse and Keith. **They should meet with SB before their next SB meeting or at least before the next one.**

-Program Committee report-

Discussed possibilities and whether we should keep more than \$225 from each of the concert series performances if donations/receipts are more. Does the \$1500 budget include programs? Marketing? It cost \$500 for printing programs last year. Helen Rabin pledged to sponsor series and wants Modern Times Theater. Sarah proposed using \$2000 as a budget for summer series and Kathy will work on getting sponsors for parts of it.

-Full House Fund report-

We will thank donors and celebrate at one (probably the first) of the outdoor concerts. Original appeal raised \$75,000 and a plaque was made.

Talked about having a ribbon cutting ceremony when we reopen the building. Discussed having the annual meeting on the date of the first concert in June, after the performance. We would have the celebration then.

Granite foundation blocks will probably be sold to the woman who has inquired about them. They will go for \$50-100 per block. Can there be additional parking in front of the area where the blocks are? VTrans does curb cuts too close to that area for parking.

-Other Business-

-Next Meeting: May 17, 2021

-Adjourned 7:42 pm

Respectfully submitted by Lori J. Stratton
May 16, 2021