

Friends of Mechanics Hall

Meeting Summary

September 13, 2012, 7:00 PM. Meeting held at Town Hall Annex.

In attendance:

Alex Fiandaca, Faith Pistrang, Ken Seims, Phil Mighdoll, Larry Pistrang, Mark Fiandaca, Sheila Dubman, Mickey Splaine, Larry Deblois, Annmarie Hurley, Karen Rossow, Geoff Yaglou, Matt Lindberg, Teddy Lindberg, Katie Green

The meeting began shortly after 7 PM. An agenda was distributed and included herein.

- A big “THANK YOU” was given to Karen and Matt for their wonderful signs.
- The Sonoma fund-raising event has been rescheduled for Thursday, November 15, 2012 from 6 to 8 PM. There was subsequent discussion later in the meeting about planning details, specialty invites, the wording of the invite letter (thanks to Sheila and Phil for the draft), when they should be mailed, who will speak at the event, invitations to Princeton businesses, antique home owners, etc., what should be included in the mailings, e-mail invites et al. It was decided to hold a final Sonoma event planning meeting on Thursday, October 4th at 7 PM in the Town Hall Annex.
- Farmer’s Market request: Jim Camp has requested permission to utilize the area in front of MH for a farmer’s market for a fee. This has been discussed with John Lebeaux. This is a unique request and the Town has no prior experience with such a request. A licensing agreement will be discussed at the Sept. 24th Select Board meeting. It is likely that the Town will advertise the opportunity and solicit bids. FOMH are encouraged to attend this meeting to support a positive use of the MH property.
- Alex welcomed a new ‘friend’ of the FOMH, Katie Green, who was attending her first meeting. Welcome, Katie!
- The Board of Directors of FOMH (Alex, Faith, Ken and Phil) met on Sept. 12th to review drafts of our By-Laws, Business Plan and Conflict of Interest policy (a big “THANK YOU” was given to Phil for his yeoman efforts in drafting these documents!). These must be finalized before we proceed with our registrations with the Secretary of State and the Attorney General’s offices and must be in place before we apply for our 501(c)3 designation. It is expected that these will be finalized within the next 2 weeks and Phil and Ken will then tackle the filing of the 501(c)3 application. It was noted that the financial resources must be available as each of these filings involves a fee.

- Ground and Maintenance Update: Mark reported that:
 - An Eagle Scout candidate has approached the FOMH to see if there is a project related to our efforts on behalf of MH suitable for him to undertake. At this time, no specific project could be identified but we will keep this in mind going forward.
 - Water run-off continues to be a major detriment to the foundation of MH. Mark has installed a temporary solution for one area by placing a rain barrel beneath the spot where the water cascades to the ground. Since the existing gutters are diverting the water to this spot on the building's south side and another spot on the north side, he is recommending that these gutters be removed to more evenly distribute the water run-off. He will send an e-mail to John Lebeaux explaining the problem and asking permission to have the gutters removed. A bucket truck will be needed and it is hoped that the Town will agree to handle the removal.
 - Electrical Update: Geoff has agreed to donate some equipment and another meeting with AI will be necessary to detail exactly what other equipment we need to undertake the preliminary electrical work necessary to reduce the risk of fire in the building. We will then need to price out this list. It was suggested that we approach a local supplier (i.e. Aubuchon) to explain our mission and solicit the donation of this equipment.
- Cell phones: Alex relayed Mickey's suggestion of adding cell phone numbers to our FOMH list to allow for more direct contact as we embark upon various activities like the Yard Sale, Sonoma, etc. She will send an e-mail requesting these numbers.
- Yard Sale Update:
 - Volunteers to accept donations on 9/15 and 9/18 are in place.
 - Volunteers to person the tables during the yard sale on 9/29 are in place. Anyone with time to spare is asked to join these volunteers, especially on the day of the yard sale, as we have also offered tours of the building to donators and shoppers.
 - We have volunteers to bake, Friends are planning to donate and we have received e-mails re: donations, canopies in case of inclement weather are available and we can utilize 4 table from the 2nd floor to display our wares for sale. Alex and Mark will provide 2 round tables for baked goods and informational material about our efforts, as well as an e-mail sign-up list.
 - Sheila discussed the issue of price guides and reserve pricing. There may be some donations of items of significant value that should not be sold at a price below the reserve price. She has designed a spreadsheet for recording such donations and the reserve price suggested by the donator. She believes that there may be other ways to sell these items (i.e. E-bay)

to maximize the income. These spreadsheets will be on hand on donation days and will be referenced by those working the tables on yard sale day. It is planned that these items will be displayed with a unique color price tag.

Next meetings:

Sonoma planning: Thursday, October 4th at 7 PM in the Annex.

Regular meeting: Thursday, Oct. 11th at 7 PM in the Annex.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Seims

Secretary

FRIENDS OF MECHANICS HALL
Agenda

September 13, 2012

Updates:

- Sonoma fundraising event changed to Thursday November 15th, 6pm to 8pm.
- Grounds and Maintenance (Eagle Scout project interest, water run-off, electrical plan)
- Farmers Market request
- 501c3
- Yard Sale!

Yard Sale:

Volunteers to accept donations and offer guided tours on drop-off days:

Saturday, September 15th from 10 AM to Noon: [Ann Marie, Sheila and Larry D.](#)

Tuesday, September 18th from 4PM to 6 PM: [Ken, Phil and Tom](#)

Volunteers to work the tables on the day of the yard sale, Saturday, September 29th:

8 to 10 AM: [Larry D. and Ann Marie](#)

10 to Noon: [Mickey, Karen](#)

Noon to 2 PM: [Sheila and Phil](#)

WHAT WE NEED:

Bakers

Donations

Canopies

Tables

Price guides and reserve pricing system

Next Meeting: October 11th, 7 PM, Annex