

JOHNSON TUESDAY NIGHT LIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
MOOG'S JOINT, ROUTE 15, JOHNSON
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

Present: Howard Romero, Sophia Berard, Tim Mikovitz, Joie Lehouillier (via Zoom), Abby Gladstone-Strobel (via Zoom)

Note: All votes taken are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Howard called the meeting to order at 7:08.

Sophie said she thinks sponsors and vendors were very happy with the season. Howard and Sophie discussed one issue with vendors having trouble plugging into a power station.

Howard said one suggestion he got was that having some “good old American rock and roll” at least once during the season would be good. The group discussed bands that might fit that description.

Joie said she thought the sound was a little louder this year than it has been in the past. Tim said we did get new speakers but we only used half as many. He would be surprised if it was louder. Joie said she noticed it was harder to have a conversation while the music was going than in the past. Sophie said there was one show where she heard someone was claiming there was a dead zone in the middle. Tim said that was a show he wasn't at. Abby said she always sat all the way back near the sidewalk and the volume was perfect.

Sophie said she thought the sound crew did well. Tim said it would be helpful for the sound crew to get stage plot information for each band ahead of time. He suggested we could have something on Google Drive with information we ask each band to provide when we book them. Sophie said she can do that.

Sophie said there were 9 Tuesdays in July and August but we booked 8 nights. She has heard people say an open mic night would be fun. What if in years with 9 Tuesdays we had an open mic night? Howard suggested that if we do that we have an open mic for the first set with a band ready to play for the second set. Tim suggested maybe instead of extending the season with an open mic night we could have an open mic opener for a couple of shows during the season.

All went well with communications and posters. Sophie said Mara did a great job with Facebook communications. Howard said he would like every communication we put out to include a mention of bringing your own dish for food. Sophie said she knows someone who got a comment from a vendor about bringing her own plate that made her feel uncomfortable. Howard said we need to communicate with vendors about that.

Abby volunteered to handle collecting and reimbursing for vouchers next year. Joie suggested a different system so vouchers don't all have to be spent at one place. Sophie suggested maybe we could give three \$5 vouchers. Abby asked if there is a reason we don't just give the bands money. Tim said with vouchers we only have to pay for what they actually get. Sophie said this past year we were giving each vendor except the pizza place \$15 regardless of what food they gave out. Tim suggested using fake \$1 bills and paying vendors back \$1 for each one they get. There was general support for that idea.

Howard said very little of the waste we get can be recycled because most has food on it. We don't get a large amount of compostable material. In theory the containers are recyclable but the compost facility in Johnson is not hot enough to break them down and won't accept them. We end up with a small amount of compostable food scraps and a small box of recyclables but mostly trash. But by separating out recyclables and compost we have gone from 5 bags of trash down to 3. At the Jeffersonville Farmer's Market he thinks they expect everyone to bring their own plates. But that is a much smaller operation.

Tim suggested we might be able to get interns from the high school or somewhere else where people need to do community service. His local high school requires community service hours.

Howard said every time we communicate with the public he would like to include the message that people should bring their own plates, forks, etc. He would like to put that message on posters.

Tim said he thinks nothing needs to change with regard to the site.

Sophie said Peter Hammond has volunteered to help Howard take down the signs. She gave Howard his phone number. Howard said he will post on Front Porch Forum and see if he can get others to help as well. He will try to put all the signs and brackets in the closet.

Howard suggested that since there is so little recyclable waste next year we might just want to separate out compostable waste and redeemables and put everything else in the trash.

Sophie said one non-profit asked about putting out a jar for donations. Mara and Sophie couldn't remember what the board had decided about that so they ended up agreeing that they would have a donation jar but no sign asking for donations. Tim suggested allowing the non-profit at each TNL to use it as a fund raising opportunity. Joie said she thinks fundraising should be for things that provide benefit throughout Lamoille County, not something like a playground in one town. Tim suggested we could have a formal application process at the beginning of the season and we could choose the groups we want to be able to do fundraising. Howard said that would give us the opportunity to assign weeks to people.

Abby asked how many people we think attend TNL. Howard said he got a flyover drone for the third concert this year and counted roughly 300 people. Tim said that was a small night. He thinks it is generally closer to 500 and sometimes significantly more, especially in the last year before COVID, when there were nights with 1000 people.

Sophie said she thinks next spring when this committee starts work we should designate someone to deal with non-profits.

Howard said he would like to get TNL spray painted on all our gear. He asked if he could make a template and pass it to Tim to use. Tim agreed.

Sophie asked what happened to the person whose windshield was smashed. Tim said she got paid by the town. It was well below the deductible.

Abby said she would be willing to organize the non-profits.

Howard said he learned from NEMS that, thanks to us, roughly 20 vaccinations were done at TNL. He is pleased. NEMS is willing to do it again.

Sophie said she thinks we were talking about trying to fundraise more so we can pay bands more next year. Abby said she thinks that is a good idea. She asked the total season cost of paying bands. Sophie said it is about \$5K. Tim suggested shooting for \$7500 next year. He suggested allowing a vendor to pay to set up a beer garden area at TNL as a way of raising money. Howard said he has a feeling the selectboard would not be in favor of that. He will look into it.

Tim said he thinks we should charge vendors a percentage of their revenue. The vendor fee this year was \$200.

It was agreed to leave the sponsorship tiers the same. It seems like that worked well.

Howard will try to get volunteers to help take down the signs. Tim has the speakers at NVU.

Howard said he is planning to write a recap of the season for the paper and Front Porch Forum. It was agreed that he should send it to the whole committee for people to look at before submitting it.

Tim suggested that if Howard gets enough people for end-of-season help and we have enough money in the bank maybe we should make use of the labor to expand the closet now. Howard said we need permission from the selectboard.

All committee members present said they were willing to stay on the committee. Joie said if we got one or two more committee members she would step away.

Joie suggested increasing the vendor fee to \$250 for next year. It was agreed to wait until spring to decide.

Howard said he will ask the general public if anyone is interested in being part of the committee.

Howard said the TNL committee, the skating rink and the bread oven could all use a shared shed on Legion Field. He doesn't know where we would find the space for it. If we could take a chunk out of the bank behind the bandstand or playground and put it there, that would be ideal. He and Tim think they could build a shed on the side and back of the bandstand that would meet TNL's needs.

It was agreed to meet next in mid February.

Tim moved to adjourn, Sophie seconded, the motion was passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:19.

Minutes submitted by Donna Griffiths