

SIMSBURY TOURISM COMMITTEE

“Heritage, Charm, Adventure”

Simsbury Inn

Monday, August 21, 2017 – 7:00 PM

Attendance: Joe Buda, Rick Wagner, Jeff Dornenburg, Charmaine Seavy, Pat Carbone, Cathy Barnard, Paulette Clark, Diane Phillips

Call to Order at 7:10PM Prior to welcoming by our host, we first spoke of the passing of Edward Marrone, husband of Dominique Avery, and our plan to honor him by recognizing the Glioblastoma Foundation and sending out cards of sympathy to Dominique.

1. We reviewed and approved the minutes of June 22, 2017.

2. We were welcomed by our host, in lieu of the absence of Jan Losee, Jeff Dornenburg, representing the Performing Arts Center Board to discuss its effort to gather public input on their operation. Jeff was looking for feedback from our Tourism Committee on the workings of the PAC, which exists on private monies, ticket sales, donations, and the sale of beer. An Executive Director model is in the works, and they are looking for a working plan between the PAC and Tourism Committee. Jeff told us about costs they need to spend on roofing, and showed us a new layout of the proposed building of a building behind the shell, which would house restrooms, dressing rooms for the performers, and many other amenities not currently well-suited, in the back of the bandshell, and sorely lacking for use of the acts. He touched on other topics within their area, such as the potential use of a campgrounds in the parking area behind the newly proposed building, in the parking lot and dog park area, which would be well-controlled and limited, and without campfires and pre-registration of the RV owners, and with the permission of the Simsbury Police Department which would be aware of that area being used at pre-appointed times. Jeff discussed ways with which our Committee could help enhance sales and promotion of the Pac, through media coverage, and promoting the events in other towns, and TV announcements of coming events. We covered many topics and hope to develop an impactful working relationship. Jeff spoke in Phases, Phase One being the Physical Plan, such as the building of the back area, the Barriers for Poachers, Added Signage, and development of new ideas...ie: Friday night movies in the summer, a Teen Talent Show, Road Races, a Food Truck Festival and many other ideas that could be brought to fruition. All in all a very worthwhile and productive discussion was brought to the fore.

3. OLD BUSINESS AND TEAM DISCUSSION: Joe Buda led a discussion on Events...addressing the Triathlon, the Simsbury Historical Garden Party, the PAC Party, and the June 10th Open House Day as well as addressing the Historic House Tours. Joe also discussed the Team Plans and we will address a discussion on that in September, as to whether we want to work the Team approach or individual workings of the Committee on a singular basis, handling them as present and future events to be addressed. Further discussion was tabled until we review our plan at the September meeting.

4. NEW BUSINESS: Joe discussed our need for coordination with the Town, and the need for locations of our future meetings. Paulette volunteered to be responsible for the locations of future meetings and

we all spoke of future options, such as the Simsbury Library, Eno, and Community Farms of Simsbury, as well as the Simsbury Historical Society which could be used anytime we were called upon to change our date and/or location due to the weather or cancellation of the chosen location on our meeting date.

5. UPDATES ON TOWN EVENTS FOR THE ENSUING THREE MONTHS, INCLUDING THOSE THAT ARE CURRENT: Taste of Simsbury, Septemberfest, Arts & Crafts Festival by Simsbury Women's Club, the Scarecrow Building Event at Simsbury Historical Society, Spooktacular Chili Challenge in October, the Holiday Market & Village at the Historical Society.

6. ADJOURNMENT AT 8:50PM

Next meeting on Monday, September 18th, Location TBA

Respectfully submitted by Pat Carbone