

Report of the Trustees of the Stetson School Fund

For the Trustees of the Stetson School Fund, it has been a busy year of challenges.

The year began with the Trustees welcoming Congressman Michael Capuano's and his staff to Stetson Hall as they established a satellite office at Stetson Hall.

The past year saw the number of function rentals increase from 30 in 2012 to 45 in 2013. These help to offset the operating costs of the hall, along with lease income from the first floor offices.

The Trustees continue to work towards the development of Stetson Hall as a center for the performing arts, both locally and across the South Shore. Late in the Fall, two local residents and the Community Arts Council have stepped forward to offer their assistance and expertise to help the Trustees develop the space as a performance venue. Additionally, the Hall is home to the Randolph Theater Company and the Randolph Community Band.

In addition to the Randolph Theater Company, the Trustees have hosted performances by the Stoughton Little Theater as they await the renovations to their home in Stoughton.

Maintaining this magnificent building is a time and resource consuming challenge. Keeping the HVAC system operating in an efficient manner is necessary for the comfort of our tenants and attendees at the numerous activities that take place in the Hall. In December, a sprinkler freeze up resulted in minor water damage to the stage, which was repaired in time for the Town's Inauguration Day. The Trustees continue to work with Administrative Assistant Linda Sproules to insure more timely transmission of invoice information to maximize operational efficiency.

In addition to ongoing maintenance of building systems, the Trustees must also plan for more intermittent projects, including exterior repairs and painting. Carpenters repaired weak subfloor areas in the Hall that were not addressed in the 2008 rehab project, along with repairs to doors and windows that were damaged by continued, and occasionally, improper usage. Exterior carpentry repairs are next to be done, along with window glazing and shutter maintenance, all of which will be completed prior to the painting of the building which the Trustees hope will finally go forward in the spring of 2014.

The Trustees applied to the CPC in February for a grant to paint the exterior of Stetson Hall. The application process was considerably delayed by the difficulty in securing price quotes from qualified painting contractors as required by the CPC, which took until early July to complete. Despite this, the grant application seemed to have stalled, and the painting season concluded with the needed painting project still awaiting funding from the CPC. The Trustees hope that this project can finally receive the go-ahead in early 2014, so the project can be bid during the winter months to get the best deal for the town, and allow this much needed project to commence once the weather permits in the Spring.

The Trustees also applied to the CPC for a grant for the paving of the parking areas that surround the building. The latter project was approved for funding, but discussions with the Town Planner during the summer, revealed the need to add lighting to the paving project. Planning went forward to identify funding sources and integrate the lighting into the paving project resulted in the project having to be postponed until the spring of 2014. In early November, electrical

conduit was installed, along with terminals at each lighting fixture location. The Trustees thank Town Planner Michelle Tyler, Electrical Inspector Richard Sass, and DPW Director David Zecchini for their advice and assistance in the planning and development of this project, and we look forward to the completion of it in the Spring.

Maintaining the building and the surrounding grounds is a team effort between the Trustees, the DPW, the Garden Club and others. The Trustees particularly thank the DPW for their efforts during the winter months to keep the driveways and parking lots free of snow and ice, and in the summer, to maintain the green spaces around the building, providing an attractive setting around an attractive building.

In conclusion, the Trustees thank the people of Randolph for their continued support and ideas, and hope that 2014 will witness the continued growth and development of Stetson Hall as a cultural icon.

Respectfully Submitted,

Henry Cooke, Chairman
Ira Greene, Vice Chairman
Joseph A. Mulligan, Jr., Clerk