

Hometown Action Team Meeting

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Attending: Karen Mixdorf, Lori Baier, Trudy Koch, Dorothy Zmolek, Shelly Riley, Warren Riley, Denise Fletcher, Mark McFate, Jeff Shaw, and Jim Roan

Celebrations

We have raised approximately \$70,000 to date. This includes \$20,000 awarded from Blackhawk Gaming and \$5,000 from Lincoln Savings Bank. The Highway Safety Improvement Grant was awarded by the DOT for the stoplight on Highway 63.

Upcoming

The Chamber of Commerce will present the HAT Committee with a donation of \$2,000 toward the project and would like as many of our members as possible to be at their next meeting on May 8th at 5 p.m. at LaTerraza for a photo.

The Lincoln Highway Festival was discussed. We talked about the many legal hoops for the City of Tama to engage in a 50 x 50 Raffle and decided it was not worth it. We will support “The Battle of the Brians” and encourage people to donate by dunking either Mayor Hanus or Mayor Sokol with money going to the project. Committee members will be available to give details of the project to the public.

Grants

- Guernsey Foundation for \$35,000 pending
- Mansfield Foundation for \$100,000 pending
- ITC \$5,000 in progress with a personal note from Mark Reinig, Chairman of the Board encouraging us saying he was part of a protest to get sidewalks when he attended STC
- Corteva Agriscience Community Betterment Application \$5,000 pending
- Aureon Community Development Grant for \$5,000 will be pursued. Waiting for information from Katherine Ollendieck.
- Iowa Premium has been contacted by phone to Jenny Mora and two text messages. Got an email address and will email Jenny and attach additional information.
- REAP – Marty Wymore thinks we may have a chance for \$75,000 but applications are accepted this fall.

Business Fundraising

Businesses have gotten an initial letter with details of the project. This was followed up with a personal visit by committee members and another letter was just mailed as a reminder. Jim Roan has also reached out to business leaders for donations as well.

Alumni Fundraising

The Alumni Committee is meeting tomorrow and will compare our list of donors to their alumni list. They will also send a reminder through Messenger.

STC Involvement

- The Middle School students made a cute video with an update on our fundraising which was put on Facebook.
- Scott Bolen would like to have a dunk tank with teachers to raise money from the Middle School Students.
- The High School is still talking about an event.
- Would like to encourage a competition between all three school buildings for a week to generate funds for this project.

Social Media Updates

- A short video was added to the website and will be in the preshow at the Wieting Theatre. Names of donors are also listed on our website: HAT.TamaToledo.org
- Shelly is doing a wonderful job keeping the project in front of the public on Facebook. She encourages us to like and share. Tama/Toledo Hometown Action Team
- Karen will try to include our current total raised on Square Space the fundraising app. ConnectTamaToledo.com
- Steve Kenkel, Denise Fletcher and Berleen Wobeter have constructed and painted two cows. One will begin in Tama the other in Toledo. As we raise money, the cows will move closer together. When they meet, that means we have reached our goal and it will be cause for a **celebration!**

This vital project takes everyone.

Please encourage our citizens who believe it is necessary project to take the time to write the all-important check to the City of Tama.

This was needed when Mark Reinig was in high school.

Let's not delay any longer!

Submitted by Denise Fletcher