

Property Coordinator Update March 28, 2016

Community House Painting

Tony Martin & Company completed the interior painting of the Community House hall and kitchen last week. The crew of 4 was awesome – timely, professional, communicative, and skilled! I had to come over every morning to re-silence the fire alarm panel (it only holds a “silence” signal for 24 hours), and check the heat, so I got to see the daily progress of the job. Thanks to Kevin and his crew that helped to empty the hall and kitchen beforehand. I was able to get everything back in the closets, etc, myself afterwards. Thanks also to my wondrous husband Buddy who spent 2 days with me spackling and sanding the hall, foyer, closets, and kitchen in preparation for the painters. (Tony and crew were impressed.) Thanks, also, to Jen Moura for her expertise in choosing the paint colors.

Heating the Buildings

A tech from Brodeur & Sons serviced both furnaces earlier this month, including replacing the air filters. We got a discount for having them done in what is considered the middle of the heating season. (Property Committee might consider doing this again next year.) The tech determined that the thermostat in the Meeting House is calling for heat accurately, but is flashing for no apparent reason. He recommended replacing it. (We did this just a couple of years ago.) Seems timely for getting those remote controlled thermostats in place!

Snow Plowing and Shoveling

Dave Palmer and crew were great about plowing and shoveling the snow this winter, but their trucks did a number on the driveway a couple of times. We'll need to take care of that this spring.

Use of the Buildings

Partners Store hosted a very large book signing for Dawn Tripp in late February. We have private parties scheduled for almost every weekend in April. South Coast Music Together has booked another 10 week cycle of Wednesday mornings for a class in April, May and June. I continue to keep our Google Calendar (visible on our website) up to date. Thanks to committee clerks for more consistently notifying me of meetings in the building, too.

Outside Lights

I took the outside light directly over the Community House door to King Lamp on Hathaway Road and they rewired it. They were very impressed with the quality of the lamp and were pleased we were having it repaired instead of replacing it. They replaced the missing glass in it with clear glass, as the yellow is no longer available. I learned a great deal about the light that day! Jeff Kobza has not returned yet to finish this work. I will get in touch with him this week about this.

Water Filtration

Bodington Plumbers will be installing a water softener in the Community House on Friday, April 1. This system will require 3-4 bags of salt per month (apparently we can maintain this easily), but will take care of both the sediment issue as well as the small presence of iron in the water.

Book Fair

Books continue to come in! Last week I got a call regarding 140 boxes of books from a couple in Dartmouth. Today I got a call from a different person -- he was on his way to drop off a truck load at the shed. It is amazing.

Gretchen Baker-Smith, Westport Meeting Property Coordinator