

## Board of Directors 2023

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Jeff Mobus, *Town Manager*

### Executive Director

Jessica Martin



July 2023

Greetings from your Designated Downtown Organization!

We look forward to sending out our annual membership letter as it gives up the opportunity to catch you up on all that's been happening in our Designated Downtown! Once again, our volunteers and financial contributors enable us to accomplish so many wonderful things for our Main Street corridor including:

**\*Designated Downtown Renewal:** This past Spring, Town Manager Mobus and Jessica traveled to Montpelier to seek approval for the Designated Downtown application that was submitted to the State at the end of 2022. We are proud to say that we were granted the renewal for another eight years!

**\*The Woolson Block Building Commercial Spaces.** All four spaces are filled!!! Shear Beauty Salon celebrated their second-year anniversary at 33 Main Street this summer. Uplift Acrobatics not only had their one-year anniversary in 37 Main Street space but have committed their lease to include 39 and 41 as well! Both service businesses continue to contribute to our downtown vibrancy through their daily operations and support of all things downtown.

**\*Light the Falls.** The Slack Dam and the Lovejoy Dams are now lit with a little bit of tweaking yet to do! These complement the already lit Comtu Falls. Thanks to in-kind labor donations from HB Energy Solutions and financial contributions from Boccaccio's, Claremont Savings Bank, the Springfield Housing Authority, and several private donors we were able to get this done. We will be looking to light the Fellows and Parks & Woolson Dams next!

**\*Adna Brown Stagecoach Mural Install.** Thanks to HB Energy Solutions, the mural has now been framed out and we are currently looking to install the information panel adjacent to the mural. We hope to have this completed by Fall 2023.

**\*The Alleyway.** Thanks to the Springfield Housing Authority, we were finally able to reinstall the alleyway artwork that was taken down in 2020 for the Huber Building's exterior insulation project. Additional volunteers continue to beautify the alley.

**\*Downtown Holiday Program.** We had over 120 children participate in the 2022 Downtown Holiday Program! Thanks to Knit Wits for their generous donation of mittens that children received during the evening, Renee Capen for her design of our sticker map, the 28 downtown businesses who participated, and our many volunteers who made it happen!

**\*Downtown Holiday Window Decorating Contest.** For our inaugural year, we had 18 businesses vying for one of three \$100.00 prizes for a family-friendly, winter-themed window. Our winners (in no order) were: Lawrence & Wheeler/Division of the Richards Group, Shear Beauty Salon, and Uplift Acrobatics. Black River Coffee Bar was an honorable mention. Thanks to all who participated!

**\*Annual Beautification.** SOM continues to work on Springfield's downtown beautification through the annual upkeep of mulching and weeding of several areas along Main Street. We also work with property owners to power wash their buildings' facades and help them clean their storefront windows. We are appreciative of the Springfield Garden Club's flower boxes and their annual donation to help us with what we do downtown. SOM is truly thankful for all who volunteer to water and weed throughout the entire spring, summer, and fall; it is a tremendous amount of work.

**\*The Wayfinding Signage Project.** This is a multiphase project in which we had hoped that Phase I would be completed in 2022. Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, this project, with the help of the Town (TOS) and the Mount Ascutney Regional Commission (MARC), has a projected 2023 timeline for completion.

**\*Springfield Street Fest and Zero K Donut Dash.** This was the inaugural year for these two events and it was a tremendous success!. We hope to eventually close Main Street and have multiple musical performances, vendors, and activities to attract locals and visitors to our beautiful downtown. This was funded by Bob and Lisa Rivers, Dragonfly Designs, Lawrence and Wheeler/A Division of the Richards Group, Springfield Regional Development Corporation, Lisa and Jeff Mobus, and HB Energy Solutions.

**\*The Alan R. Woodbury Memorial Courtyard.** Thanks to the Downtown Transportation Fund, The Town of Springfield, Skyline Landscaping, Standing Stone, LLC, and SOM the courtyard's improvements are complete! Included in the new slate edging are four Eastern Redbud sapling trees.

**\*Concerts at the Comtu.** This is the third year that SOM will provide attendees with a family-friendly and free concert series in the Comtu Cascade Park on Fridays in August. We received significant funding from Bob and Lisa Rivers which enable us to have four quality bands and appropriate sound provided for the concerts. We also receive funding from the Springfield Housing Authority and Springfield Regional Development Corporation.

On behalf of Springfield On The Move, we thank you for your continued support, both financially and through your volunteer hours--without these we would not be able to move forward with the betterment of downtown Springfield.

With Gratitude,

Tom Yennerell, President



Jessica Martin, Executive Director