

FAIRGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Held at Coffman Building, Fairgrounds, 819 Camano Ave, Langley WA

Friday, May 21, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Reestablish/Reset Committee Member Terms and Appointments due to hiatus caused by COVID-19 restrictions

Meeting Agenda Approval

February 28, 2020 Meeting Minutes Approval

Port Update

Fairgrounds Update

General Discussion

- Other/Roundtable

Old Business

- Dedication/plaques on buildings or facility

New Business

Action Items

- Review current list of concerns/action items/top priorities to Commissioners
- Any formal correspondence to Port Commissioners
- Other

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In Attendance

Gary Gabelein
Gwendy Hastings
Daniel McCarty
Jason Kalk
Stan Reeves
Bryon Midkiff

Organization

South Whidbey Historical Society, Chair
At-Large
4-H
Island County Fair Association
Port of South Whidbey – non voting
Fairgrounds Director (POSW) – non voting

Not In Attendance:

Commissioner Bacon	Island County – non voting
Darlene Baldwin	City of Langley – non voting
Sharon Edwards	WWGA
Adam Fawcett	Tenants
Inge Morascini	Langley Chamber of Commerce

Meeting called to order at 3:05 pm. by Gary Gabelein

Agenda Approved:

Moved by Gwendy Hastings, second by Jason Kalk, unanimously approved.

Motion to Reestablish/Reset Committee Member Terms and Appointments due to hiatus caused by COVID-19 restrictions Approved: Moved by Daniel McCarty, seconded by Jason Kalk, unanimously approved.

Minutes Approved:

Minutes of February 28, 2020 moved by Gwendy Hastings, second by Gary Gabelein, unanimously approved.

Port Update: Stan Reeves gave a brief report on the current projects/status of the ongoing Port projects throughout the Port District. Fairgrounds budget execution and graphs through April 2021, and the Port's Executive Director report to the Port Board of Commissioners for the May Port Meeting were distributed.

Fairgrounds Update: Bryon Midkiff gave a brief report on the current projects/status of the Fairgrounds; operations are primarily focused on preparation for the Whidbey Island Fair. The Grandstand is condemned and will not be available for use during the Fair. There is currently a project to have plans/specifications

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prepared for the upgrade of existing restroom facilities on the Fairgrounds. This is being paid for by a grant from the Washington State Department of Agriculture, funds from the Island County Rural County Economic Development grant, and Port funds. The intent is to have bid set plans prepared and ready for renovations if/when additional funding is available to execute renovations.

General Roundtable:

South Whidbey Historical Society, Chair: Emphasized that the Port should encourage members to attend meetings; that the FAC needs the participation.

4H: The state 4-H coordinator issued guidance that guidelines for COVID-19 precautions will not be issued at the state program level; local 4-H programs will follow the guidelines in effect at local venues the guidelines issued by the Governor's office specific to "Fairs, Parades, Festivals, and Special Events". 4-H is still working the specifics on "how" to participate in Fairs and Shows; however, there is no requirement to offer "virtual" participation.

Fair Association: The state issued guidance to conduct "Fairs, Parades, Festivals and Special Events" on April 26. The Fair Association is expecting the Governor's office to issue new revisions for "Events" in the very near future. The Fair Association is still trying to coordinate with the Carnival vendor for the Fair; they want to have at least three events to support in NW Washington before committing. Also, the Fair Association is waiting to see participation numbers from the 4-H Spring Show in order to project 4-H participants in the Fair.

At Large: Nothing to report

Island County: Not Present

Langley Chamber of Commerce: Not Present

WWGA: Not Present

Tenants: Not Present

City of Langley: Not Present

Old Business:

Signage: The Historical Society wants the "Antique Barn" sign that used to be fixed to the building reattached; or, for the Fair Association to revise their "Scavenger Hunt" sheets to identify the "Ray Gabelein Sr" barn instead of the

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“Antique Barn”. During the 2019 Fair, some folks were upset that they couldn’t find the “Antique Barn” since no buildings were labeled in that way. The Fair Association suggested that as an alternative, they could supply a banner to hang on the building indication that it was the “Antique Barn”.

Dedication/plaques on buildings or facility: This topic was the subject of considerable conversation. Highlights include:

- The Port will pay for the cost of plaques/engraving so long as the cost is reasonable.
- Size and exact type of plaques is still to be determined.
- Wording on the plaques is still to be determined; “wording” examples from the January 2020 will be disseminated at the June meeting for discussion.

The Fair Association reiterated that they preferred to have one of the Horse Barns named for “Marilyn Gabelein”. Given that the FAC had previously decided to move forward with dedication plaques that could include multiple names, the Fair Association suggested compiling a small history on the individuals to include on the plaque.

New Business:

Additional changes to the Bylaws were proposed; specifically, to change the day/time of meetings, add alternates to Permanent Organization representation, and adjust language throughout for consistency.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm

Next meeting: Wednesday, 3 pm, June 30, 2021