

FAIRGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Held via Zoom Meeting Service
Wednesday, August 17, 2022 at 5:30 pm

AGENDA

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81535873561?pwd=MjrcWppUk5iR3NDbjdqSXJKU2NCQT09>

Meeting ID: 815 3587 3561

Passcode: 552570

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,81535873561#,,,,*552570# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 815 3587 3561

Passcode: 552570

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kboekAY2NO>

Meeting Agenda Approval

June 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes Approval

Port Update

Fairgrounds Update

General Discussion

- Other/Roundtable

Old Business

- Dedication/plaques on buildings or facility – plaque received

New Business

Action Items

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

Fairgrounds Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes – Aug 17, 2022
5:30 pm Remote Zoom meeting

In attendance

Gary Gabelein
Stan Reeves
Gwendy Hastings
Amanda Ellis
Jaime Ruddell
Jason Kalk
Clayton Canfield
Sandy Hunt

Organization

South Whidbey Historical Society, Chair
Port of South Whidbey
At-Large
Fairgrounds Director – Port of South Whidbey
4-H Coordinator
Fair Association
At-Large
4-H (Rabbits/Poultry)

Not in attendance

Sharon Edwards
Commissioner Bacon
Adam Fawcett
Darlene Baldwin
Sarah Howie
Nancy Rowan

WWGA
Island County
Tenants
City of Langley
At-Large
Langley Chamber of Commerce

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm.

Agenda Approved:

Minutes Approved:

Minutes from May 18, 2022: moved to approve by Jason and seconded by "consensus". Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Port Update:

Stan Reeves gave a report on the current projects/status of the ongoing Port projects throughout the Port District. Fairgrounds projects through mid-Aug, and provided budget execution/graphs/projections through end of July 2022.

Fairgrounds Update:

Funding/grant statuses: Island County RCED grant extended to 31 December 2023. USDA grant for Coffman Exhaust Hoods extended to July 2023. Described the grants awarded to the Port through the WA Department of Agriculture Fairs Program.

Coffman kitchen project:

No-change. Permits, plans are complete. The specification document/project manual will be based off the specification document prepared for the restroom project. Goal is to advertise/solicit bids in early September.

Restroom project:

No-change. Plans are complete, specification document is nearly complete. Building permits from City of Langley are complete. Goal is to advertise/solicit bids by the end of August.

Proposed Fairgrounds Workforce Housing:

The Port appeared before the Island County Commissioners on July 13. Island County Commissioners agreed to award \$135k in ARPA funds for preliminary engineering and design work on the condition that the City of Langley add the required zoning changed to the City's docket/work plan. Final paperwork required by the City was submitted on 11 August.

Fairgrounds Director Amanda Ellis: The Fairgrounds is recovering from the Fair. We are compiling a list of maintenance tasks required; Campground electrical repairs are scheduled. The Port is currently seeking to hire a Marketing and Events Coordinator. American Pickers TV show may film a segment on the Fairgrounds in October (nothing confirmed). DjangoFest organizers have not made any contact with the Fairgrounds to coordinate any activities so far.

Old Business:

The Plaque is still at the Port Office on the Fairgrounds for anyone to come and view with prior coordination. Gwendy asked if the Fair Association has any plans to coordinate with the family for some type of ceremony to have the plaque unveiled. Jason stated he was unaware that the Fair Association was supposed to coordinate an "event" for the plaque; however, they will look into it for a future date.

New Business: Jason inquired if the Port needs to remove the remaining "totem" pole on the Fairgrounds on the north side of the Pole Building due to its unknown origins. The Port will assess this pole for safety concerns; it may be removed in conjunction with electrical upgrades to the building. Discussion followed on the large Story Pole that was taken down in 2017; it was determined that particular pole was not carved by/or associated with William Shelton, and efforts will not be taken to have it restored.

Roundtable:

4-H: Jamie asked if there was a possibility/plan to add fans in the barns to help with keeping the animals from overheating. Also, she expressed appreciation for Ben's efforts supporting the 4-H program.

Sandy: 4-H (Rabbits/Poultry); the barns have ceiling fans that don't work, or at least the users do not know how to turn them on. Can this be fixed?

Gwendy: Inquired about why the Fair parade was "short" and did not go through downtown Langley. Both Jason and Jamie stated that the short route was safer/better for the kids.

Gary: Inquired if the Fair Association will provide "cooling areas" in the future during the Fair for fair patrons that need to cool off. Jason replied that the Fair Association did put up misters along the west side of Burrier this year to help with that. Also, he would like to see a comparison of attendance numbers for this year against last year at the Fair.

Jason: Reported that the Fair went well this year. Attendance was much lower than last year, which was expected. For some reason there was very low water pressure at the Swine Barn which had an adverse impact on the pigs given the warm temperatures (pigs were removed/went home early on Sunday morning of the Fair). Asked that the Port investigate the water pressure issue. The Port reported that part of the problem is likely the backflow prevention valve at the water main coming into the Fairgrounds: with high usage, water pressure at the end of the lines is lower than near the front of the lines. Also, The Fair Association appreciates the work that Ben performed to help get the property ready for the Fair, and thanked Amanda for helping with ticket booth operations.

Next Meeting: Scheduled for September 21, 2022 at 6:10 pm over Zoom meeting service

Meeting adjourned at 5:55pm.