

## **FAIRGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Held via Zoom Meeting Service  
Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 6:00 pm

### **AGENDA**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83791670633>

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#### **Meeting Agenda Approval**

#### **Meeting Minutes Approval from February 21, 2024**

#### **May FAC Meeting Date**

- Proposal to meet May 22 rather than May 15

#### **By-Laws and Charter**

#### **Port Update**

#### **Fairgrounds Update**

#### **General Discussion**

- Other/Roundtable

#### **Old Business**

#### **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 – April 17, 2024**  
**6:00 pm Hybrid (In person and Zoom) meeting**

**In attendance**

Gary Gabelein South Whidbey Historical Society, Chair  
Gwendy Gabelein At-Large  
Mayor Kennedy Horstman City of Langley  
R-A Mazzola 4-H  
Commissioner Melanie Bacon Island County  
Clayton Canfield At-Large  
Virginia Keck – Fair Association  
Angi Mozer Port of South Whidbey – Executive Director

**Not in attendance**

Carissa WWGA  
Jeff Markette Tenants  
Sarah Moncey Gordon Langley Chamber of Commerce  
Amanda Ellis Port of South Whidbey – Fairgrounds Director  
Michael Hastings – Fair Association

**Agenda Approved:** Approved.

**Minutes Approved:** Minutes from the February 21, 2024 Meeting approved.

**Reschedule of May regular meeting:** Committee approved rescheduling the May meeting to occur on May 22 (rather than May 15).

**FAC Charter and By-Laws:** Revisions of the documents as a result of the March 27 Special Meeting were included in the meeting packet, to make the documents relevant and current. Gwendy pointed out that with the new attendees (e.g. Mayor Horstman), perhaps the Committee should delay the implementation of the documents to provide additional review time. Virginia asked about the 5 consecutive terms for the At-Large and Tenant members (updated from 3 consecutive year-long terms in the previous version. Angi explained that the reason for the proposed change is that 3 consecutive terms may not be enough for a Committee member to learn and get up to speed on what is going on with the Committee. 5 years would not be required, but would be allowed. Virginia asked if this update would make it more difficult to find new members to join the Committee. Gwendy indicated her support for getting new members on the Committee, however there has been limited interest for new members to become part of the Committee. Clayton described that he found out about the Committee by attending the Port meetings. Angi reported that she doesn't believe open positions have been advertised widely to date. Mayor Horstman added that understanding of the various roles of the Committee members can be challenging for a newcomer. She added that the typical term of Committee members at the City of Langley is 3 years. Mayor Horstman asked if the Mayor could assign another representative to serve as a Committee member representing the City, and the general consensus was yes, that is acceptable and allowable.

Gwendy asked about advertising for open positions at this time. Angi reviewed the open positions and indicated that the only open position would be Gwendy's. Angi agreed that the position could be advertised properly once vacated- Virginia suggested social media to advertise.

The question came up regarding the timing of new positions- Angi reported that permanent committee member terms begin January 1 of each year, and at-large members begin September 1 of each year. Gwendy indicated she would be willing to serve until September.

Gwendy suggested that maybe a new person should have a set number of meetings before gaining the ability to vote. The group agreed to adding a clause that new Committee members should attend 2 meetings before they are able to vote.

#### **Port Update:**

- Workforce housing project update: the City of Langley will consider the Port's zoning application at an upcoming meeting.
- Campgrounds utilities project – a survey was completed and the engineer should have received a mapping of the current infrastructure. Design work will continue from there. The Port is working on backup plans should power hookups not be available for Fair.
- Midway food booths: the Port received specifications to reinforce the foundation with Controlled Density Fill (CDF). Angi is finalizing a scope based on those specifications. Once the foundation is reinforced, a wall will be sistered along the back of the structure to provide a stable and safe structure.
- Coffman alcove: specifications are in hand, and volunteers from the community who have construction experience will work with Port staff to build a support wall.
- The Port was successful in its request to reallocate funds among projects funded by the Rural County Economic Development funds from Island County.
- The Agreements with the Fair Association for the Fair are still being finalized. The lawyers from each organization are in communication and are working out a couple of relatively minor terms in the Agreements.
- The Fair Association is coordinating directly with the County Health Department regarding their ability to use the food booths for food vending for Fair. The Fair is meeting with the Health Department on May 2.

#### **Fairgrounds Update:**

- LittleBIGFest is collaborating with Meerkerk Gardens, VentureOut Nursery and Whidbey Island Grown to put on an Earth Day celebration, including a rhododendron planting ceremony. Live music will be performed by the South Whidbey high school jazz band, a group of high school students from Oak Harbor, and two other bands.
- 4-H is ramping up and other groups are planning events on the grounds.

#### **General Discussion/Roundtable:**

Virginia: Fair Association is ramping up for Fair, 4-H has gotten a little bit more involved which is great.

Gary: Historical Society will be remodeling the history building. He encouraged people to visit the Historical Museum in Langley.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** None.

**Next Meeting:** May 22, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. – hybrid format at the Freeland Library.