

FAIRGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Held at the Freeland Library, 5495 S. Harbor Avenue, Freeland WA 98249

With virtual access via Zoom Meeting Service

Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at 6:00 pm

AGENDA

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89409135141>

Meeting ID: 894 0913 5141

One tap mobile

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+12532050468,,89409135141# US

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Meeting ID: 837 9167 0633

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89409135141>

Meeting Agenda Approval

Meeting Minutes Approval from March 20, March 27, and April 17, 2024

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 – May 22, 2024
6:00 pm Hybrid (In person and Zoom) meeting

In attendance

Gary Gabelein South Whidbey Historical Society, Chair
Mayor Kennedy Horstman City of Langley
Commissioner Melanie Bacon Island County
Gwendy Gabelein At-Large
R-A Mazzola 4-H
Virginia Keck – Fair Association
Angi Mozer Port of South Whidbey – Executive Director
David Stern Port of South Whidbey – Fairgrounds Marketing & Events Coordinator
Elise Gabelein – Fair Association

Not in attendance

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

Agenda Approved: Approved.

Minutes Approved: Minutes from the March 20, March 27, and April 17, 2024 Meetings approved.

By-Laws and Charter:

Angi made one change as per the request of the Committee, which was to add language that new members will need to attend 2 meetings before having the ability to vote.

Mayor Horstman clarified an item in the By-Laws: if a member misses 3 meetings, then the total committee members will be reduced by 1, and the 50% + 1 quorum will be re-calculated.

In the Charter, the document still includes the language that the City of Langley is a non-voting member. The document will be updated to include the City as a voting member.

A motion was made and seconded that the By-Laws and Charter be reinstated with the one update as previously mentioned. Motion passed unanimously.

The Committee will select Chair, Vice Char and Secretary at a future meeting. Virginia recommended that we announce specifically that we will be selecting the Officer positions, and that absent members may be selected for one of the positions.

Port Update:

- Workforce housing project update: the City of Langley voted to proceed with the Port's zoning application. There will be many more steps in that process.
- Campgrounds utilities project – Water line investigation is underway, which will require a contractor to dig and determine the size of the water line feeding the campground. Virginia asked if the water to the Swine Barn could come from the Antique Barn, rather than from the campground in order to have more pressure. Angi responded that it is the plan to have enough water pressure to have a fire hydrant near the log show area. That amount of water pressure at that point should be enough to provide adequate water pressure to the Swine Barn. The electrical system will also be replaced; the new

pedestals will almost exactly mimic the existing pedestals. There are only 3 or 4 pedestals that won't be replaced. For Ren Faire, camping is open to staff, organizers and volunteers, not the public. Angi will discuss backup plans for the campgrounds for the Fair should the electrical system not be replaced by then.

- Midway food booths: A scope of work was distributed to 3 contractors to fill in the voids under portions of the Midway concrete slab floor with Controlled Density Fill. We received responses and will meet with the Port Commissioners very soon to discuss those. The next step will be to create a wall on the interior back side of some of the booths to ensure the roof is adequately supported. Insulation will not be part of the current project.
- Angi attended a walkthrough with the Health Department at the Fairgrounds. The Health Inspector has indicated that the food booths will be able to be used depending on the equipment and infrastructure available in each booth. For example, if there is a stove, it cannot be used for grease laden cooking if it doesn't have a hood. However, it can be used as warming equipment and for baking.
- Coffman alcove: there is a temporary framing wall to support the structure. Within the next month volunteers should be able to rebuild the wall.

Fairgrounds Update:

- Ren Faire is on the grounds setting up. It is a good "dry run" for Fair, being a whole-grounds event for which staff has been preparing.
- 4-H is ramping up and has had a few events.

General Discussion/Roundtable:

Gwendy: attended the Langley City Council meeting where the Port's zoning application was discussed. She loved the conversation, and is excited that the City is interested in expanding the conversation to apply more broadly than the Fairgrounds property, for example Whidbey Telecom property or School District property. Langley is the only area in South Whidbey that has the infrastructure for multifamily housing.

Virginia: there is a wagon sitting outside, it would be great if it could be stored inside. Angi is relatively certain it was already moved inside into the Antique Barn for the Ren Faire event. Lawyers are still looking over the Agreements with the Fair Association. The quilting superintendent quit because they lost space in the Malone building. The Fair is also looking for a new superintendent for Adults Arts & Crafts.

R-A: 4-H is ramping up for Spring Shows- unfortunately they weren't able to coordinate the shows to happen at one time, so they have had various shows for different projects

Mayor Horstman: Is also very happy with the City Council's decision to look more broadly at where housing might go. She also hopes Ren Faire will go really well this weekend and is excited for the event. The quilts are her favorite part of the Fair, so she hopes that program will come through.

Commissioner Bacon: the Commissioners Board decided this week to extend the grant to the Port of South Whidbey for the workforce housing feasibility study because of the action taken by the Langley City Council.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Virginia will keep an eye on the rhododendron that Meerkerk donated for the Earth Day celebration and make sure it gets watered.

Next Meeting: June 19, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. – hybrid format.