

Fairgrounds Ad Hoc Committee, Friday, February 29, 2008

In attendance:	UW Extension representative Kay Schroeder
4 H Board Member John Brunnuell	Supervisor Joseph Sopko (Chair)
Supervisor Bill Niehaus	Ag Society President Ken Riemer
Supervisor John Hazelwood	Ag Society rep Mark Schubert
Supervisor Jim Uselding	Ag Society rep Bob Roden
Public Works Director Bob Dreblow	County Administrator Tom Meaux

Meeting called to order 300pm

Sopko: wanted agreement on what this ad hoc group wanted to accomplish on the Fairgrounds. His intent is to make a recommendation to the County Board, obtain necessary funding to phase in the project, probably over a five year period, and then turn it over to the Public Works Department, Committee for oversight and construction.

Hazelwood: 3 opinions on County Board in his estimation:

1. Fair stays where it is, with improvements
 2. Time to find new site, after appropriate transition move the Fair
 3. Work out deal, with Washington County, joint Fair or hold Ozaukee's on their grounds
- First option needs to be economically feasible, include consensus from City Cedarburg (controls zoning)

Uselding: willing to upgrade current buildings, but in past 4H has been hesitant to let anyone else use their buildings.

Brunnuell: speaking for himself only, growing realization that 4H does not want to be landlords, should be focused on programming for youth. They are willing to partner with County, others, including fundraising.

Niehaus: ad hoc group should recommend some option that is "possible", including any changes that require the support of the City of Cedarburg

Geoff Hurtado entered approximately 345pm. Mr. Hurtado did the 2002 Fairgrounds report, suggesting conceptual design for re-do of grounds, operating agreements

Sopko: suggested South building option as first priority, displayed a map, removing 5 buildings on south end of county owned Fairgrounds, constructing a multi purpose, approx 10,500 sq foot facility, and replacing the sheep barn on the grassy area north of horse barn. Sopko requested a formal motion, something to move forward to Board.

Roden, Riemer: Explained that any new barns built should be "open" similar to Washington County facilities. They also indicated that the open barns were proposed in Ozaukee County, but somehow the design was changed; pose a problem for the farm animals during Fair. Currently Oz facilities are heaving, due to faulty foundations and poor design at time of construction (i.e. 55 gal drums used for foundation vs. concrete)

Dreblow: If use remains the same, should be ok with Cedarburg regarding zoning requirements. The County may have to seek further approvals if new building or refurbished old facility generates different uses (i.e. wedding receptions, etc.)

Motion: Sopko, Niehaus, Uselding: (Ozaukee County to fund all improvements)

1. Maintain Fair in Cedarburg at current site
2. Raise 5 buildings; build one new multi purpose facility on south end
3. Build a replacement sheep barn on north end (open concept)
4. Address foundations as necessary in current structures

Hurtado: made an offer to meet with the Cedarburg Fire Department, City of Cedarburg to address any zoning issues and potential for partnership with Fire Dept.

Sopko: expressed appreciation to Hurtado, but at this time preferred that we move this plan forward as all improvements were contemplated on County owned property not requiring the Fire Department's formal approval

Meaux/Schubert: questioned if new sheep building best location is on north section, with possible problems with sheep-horse facilities.

Sopko: wanted to move this plan forward, not requiring any land acquisitions with Cedarburg Fire Department, but was willing to look at options as planning continues

Vote: 10-1 (all voting members aye, with Mr. Roden expressing his preference to move Fairgrounds as defined by option #2 of Supervisor Hazelwood)

Sopko: would like to meet once more to review the details of the proposal and is willing to discuss with the Cedarburg Fire Department Inc. other options for locating the Sheep Barn. He also supported phasing the construction, using the appropriated funds in the 08 budget to detail the building plans. He also thanked the members of the ad hoc group.

Motion by Niehaus, seconded by Uselding to adjourn
Ad Hoc Committee adjourned, 415pm.