



CITY OF MERRILL
FESTIVAL GROUNDS COMMITTEE
MINUTES • THURSDAY DECEMBER 5, 2019

Regular Meeting

Bierman Building

6:00 PM

I. Call to Order

Alderman Norton called the meeting to order at 6:04 P.M. Note: A quorum of members was not present at the meeting, so Alderman Norton announced that the meeting would consist of discussion only and that no decisions would be made.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Michael Caylor	Food Vendor Rep.	Present	
Rob Norton	Aldersperson - Seventh District	Present	
Steve Sabatke	Alderman - Eighth District	Present	
John M. Van Lieshout	Aldersperson - Fifth District	Excused	
Derek Woellner	Mayor	Excused	
Bryan Bloch	Rodeo Assn. Rep.	Excused	
Brad Becker	Fair Assn. Rep.	Excused	

Also in attendance: City Administrator Dave Johnson, City Attorney Tom Hayden, Festival Grounds Manager Richard Bjorklund, Krista Mitchell, September Murphy, Darrell Barker and City Clerk Bill Heideman. Hunter Lane was present to videotape the meeting for Merrill Productions.

II. Minutes of previous meeting(s):

1. Minutes of October 3, 2019 meeting

The minutes were not considered.

III. Agenda items for consideration:

1. Discuss location(s) for paving on the grounds in 2020

An aerial map of the grounds was distributed.

\$150,000 is available for paving the grounds in 2020. Options for paving various areas of the grounds were discussed. Mike Caylor suggested that no decision(s) on paving site(s) should be made until the permanent vendors have an opportunity to provide input.

After discussion, it was decided that this item should remain on future agendas until firm decisions are made. Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey will be directed to further explore various paving options and provide cost estimates.

No action taken at this time.

2. Fair exhibit and entertainment options

This agenda item was not considered.

3. Use of cattle barn for animals during natural disasters

Alderman Norton requested that the order of agenda items be changed and that this item be discussed immediately after the call to order. Without objection, it was so ordered.

Lincoln County Emergency Management Director September Murphy explained that she has begun researching the possibility of designating the cattle barn at the Festival Grounds as a shelter for pets and other domesticated animals in instances of natural disasters. The facility could be used for a single incident as well as for extensive disasters. Committee members in attendance supported this concept.

Work will continue on this. An agreement will be drafted for consideration at the next meeting.

No action was taken at this time.

4. Calendar of events

The calendar was in the meeting packet.

IV. Monthly Reports:

1. Festival Grounds Manager Bjorklund

The report was in the meeting packet.

2. Food Vendor Rep. Caylor - No report, because Food Vendor Committee did not meet.

V. Public Comment Period

Alderman Sabatke inquired as to the status of the cattle barn rehabilitation project. He was told that the project would be bid in the spring of 2020.

Alderman Sabatke then asked about the status of the proposed ordinance that would alter the composition of the Festival Grounds Committee. He was informed that consideration of the ordinance had been delayed until after the 2020 budget process was completed.

VI. Establish date, time & location of next meeting

The next meeting was not scheduled.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 P.M. (No motion or vote).