



CITY OF MERRILL
FESTIVAL GROUNDS COMMITTEE
AGENDA • THURSDAY JUNE 1, 2017

Regular Meeting

Bierman Building

6:00 PM

- I. Call to Order
- II. Minutes of previous meeting(s):
 1. Minutes of May 4, 2017 meeting
- III. Agenda items for consideration:
 1. Rodeo Activities Update - Bryan Bloch
 2. Lincoln County Fair Five Year Plan - Dale Christiansen
 3. Report on Expo Center alcohol sales - City Attorney Tom Hayden
 4. Scheduling of Club/Food Vendor Events for Calendar - Picnic Licenses
 5. Discussion on August 5th Expo Center Event
 6. Discussion on 2018 Pork in the Park
 7. Continue discussion of Festival Grounds as potential campground
- IV. Public Comment Period
- V. Establish date, time & location of next meeting
- VI. Adjournment



CITY OF MERRILL
FESTIVAL GROUNDS COMMITTEE
MINUTES • THURSDAY MAY 4, 2017

Regular Meeting

City Hall Council Chambers

6:00 PM

I. Call to Order

Alderman Norton called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Rob Norton	Aldersperson - Seventh District	Present	
Tim Meehean	Aldersperson - Eighth District	Present	
Bill Bialecki	Mayor	Excused	
Paul Russell	Aldersperson - First District	Present	
Neal Christensen	Food Vendor Rep.	Present	
Dale Christiansen	Fair Assn. Rep.	Present	
Bryan Bloch	Rodeo Assn. Rep.	Present	

Others in attendance: City Administrator Dave Johnson, Alderwoman Kandy Peterson, Pete Annis, Mike Geisler, Joe Schfelbein, Cindi Christiansen, Dick Stoeckmann and City Clerk Bill Heideman.

II. Minutes of previous meeting(s):

1. Minutes of April 6, 2017 meeting

Neal Christensen stated that it was Mayor Bialecki who actually made the statement that the Police Chief would have no objection to not requiring fencing at the fair, for stands serving alcohol. City Administrator Johnson responded that he was actually the person who made that remark. Without objection, the minutes will be amended to indicate that City Administrator Johnson made the statement.

Motion (Meehean/Bloch) to approve the minutes, incorporating the amendment discussed earlier.

RESULT: APPROVED

III. Agenda items for consideration:

1. Discuss use of Festival Grounds as a potential campground.

City Administrator Johnson reported that, if the Festival Grounds were to be used as a campground, a campground permit would need to be purchased from Lincoln County. He added, however, that a permit would not be required if camping on the grounds is available in connection with a specific event on the grounds.

Bryan Bloch noted that the City of Antigo has a campground downtown. He also noted that several other counties are in the "campground" business. He stated that this is something that should definitely be considered.

Public input on this issue was requested. In response, Mike Geisler, who camps frequently in various campgrounds, explained various policies and procedures in effect at those campgrounds.

Alderman Meehean stated that there is much research to be done and several decisions to be made before offering the Festival Grounds as a campground. Several other committee members voiced their agreement. City Administrator Johnson recommended that, at this time, a campground permit not be purchased.

Discussion on the grounds as a potential campground will continue at the next meeting. No action was taken at this time.

2. Calendar for 2017

Alderman Norton provided verbal information on the Festival Grounds events calendar that is available on the City website.

Neal Christensen inquired about an event already held at the V.F.W. stand, and whether these types of events need prior committee approval. City Administrator Johnson replied that the seven permanent vendors can open their stand at any time to hold an event, without Festival Grounds Committee approval. Alderman Meehean added that the only exceptions are certain excluded events, in which the entities leasing the grounds specifically prohibit the permanent vendor(s) from opening during the event.

No action was necessary, requested or taken.

3. Discuss future improvements

City Administrator Johnson distributed a Festival Grounds 10-Year Capital Plan. Alderman Norton asked that the committee members review the plan, as it will be discussed at future meetings.

Alderman Norton stated that, in his opinion, restroom improvements should be the top priority. He suggested that the new restroom project (\$170,000) be moved from 2019 to 2018, with the grounds lighting (\$50,000), grounds wiring (\$50,000) and entry gate and signs (\$30,000) projects moved from 2018 to 2019. Alderman Russell agreed with moving the new restroom project to 2018.

Another suggestion was to move the new restroom project to 2018, move the lighting and wiring projects back to 2019, but keep the entry gate and signs project in 2018.

City Administrator Johnson remarked that anyone with potential additions to the plan should contact him. No formal action was taken at this time.

IV. Public Comment Period

Alderman Norton thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He then reminded everyone that May is Bicycle Safety Month, and urged everyone to be aware of bicycle traffic when driving.

V. Establish date, time and location of next meeting

Thursday, June 1st, 2017 at 6:00 P.M. at the Bierman Building.

VI. Adjournment

Motion (Meehean/Russell) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 6:45 P.M.