

**Joint Committee Meeting
Park & Recreation and UW-Extension & Agriculture Committees
Tuesday, December, 6, 2011
James P. Coughlin Center – Meeting Room B**

Members Present: Tom Konetzke, Jerry Finch, Mike Norton, Don Miller, Harold Singstock, Tom Widener, Nancy Barker, Guy Hegg, Susan Locke

Staff: Nick Schneider (UWEX), Melody Piper (UWEX), Loren Dieck (Parks), Rob Way (Parks)

Others Present: Tom Egan and Dan Fournier (Fair Board)

- I. **Meeting called to order** at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Jerry Finch/Tom Konetzke.
 - a. **Comments from the Public related to items on the Agenda:** None

- II. **Staff Review of Expo Shop – Storage Facility Project**

Rob Way (Parks Department Head) explained that the building sketch, members received is only a concept design and is not the final design. Park staff visited Greenville, Public works/Parks facility. Greenville facility is a metal building. Some of the designs elements Winnebago County Parks department is looking at in-floor radiant heat system, office and work spaces, rest room and shower facility.

Rob explained to the committee members the problems of the current buildings. The storage space that UW-Extension and Fair utilize was built in 1914, the building is made of brick and is approximately 1600 sq. feet, the windows and window sills are rotted, there is a major crack up the southwest wall of the building. At this time the roof is in fair condition. The space and type of space is inadequate for the UW-Extension

The park building is also made of brick and was constructed in 1918; this building was originally built for Sunnyview Sanitarium to house their vehicles. At this time this building is used for vehicle and equipment as well as for a workshop. It is not heated and all of the larger vehicles and plows are housed out side the building.

- III. **UW-Extension Committee, Parks & Recreation Committee and Fair's Input Regarding Design Option**

UW-Extension Committee Member Guy Hegg questioned the new location choice, Rob Way explained the existing site (buildings) is not conducive to traffic flow and Expo events.

Nick Schneider, UW-Extension advised the committees that currently the UWEX has equipment stored in three locations, the garage behind the J.P. Coughlin Building, the Parks workshop area on Butler building and the fairgrounds. The goal is to eliminate the three locations and have everything stored in one location. The animal pens take approximately 500 square feet and an overhead door of 16 feet to get them in and out of storage.

UWEX Committee member Guy Hegg wanted know if the animal pens could be stored outdoors? Nick Schneider stated that they could but the weather would cause the pens to rust and the maintenance and time to keep them in working order would out way inside storage. It was also discussed what the cost of renting a private storage facility. Nick Schneider would check into the cost factor.

UWEX Committee member Hegg also questioned if a study was done on repairing the building vs. new building. Rob explained that from the Parks perspective it is no longer a question of trying to restore the building in order to prolong its use as much as addressing the need to discontinue it use because of the profound shortcomings code-wise.

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Hegg also wanted to know if any of the work of the new building could be done in-house, and if the building plans are for “Green Space” vs. Asphalt Construction?

UWEX Committee member Nancy Barker also explained that ordinances also have to be considered and met as to the type of construction, and that she did not think the county had an engineer on staff to do an in-house assessment.

Parks Committee member Harold Singstock, wanted to know why the original estimate was \$330,000 and now the estimate is around \$500,000. UWEX Committee member Guy Hegg inquired about the concept drawing and also the cost difference. Rob Way explained that the \$330,000 estimate did not take into account for the expansion for UWEX and the Fair and the added space needed by Parks. The new concept design will include a 3 bay structure and extra open area for projects, in-floor radiate heat, rest room with a shower facility, office space and break room area for the parks facility. The break room and office space will take the place of the Expo crew having to take-up space in the Expo Building and causing issues for the clientele. UWEX and Fair portion will include, 2 story shelving units, a 16 foot overhead door; this will be cold storage.

Park employee, Loren Dieck invited all committee members to tour the existing facility, and he would explain the full operation and what duties parks perform and the inefficiencies related to having the 1918 building serve as a workshop.

Both UWEX and Park Committee Members wanted to know the time table and what steps needed to be done. It was suggested by Jerry Finch, Parks Committee Chair that a meeting of the Parks and UW-Extension Committees be schedule in January 2012. Rob Way was looking at a possible Fall of 2012 construction date. Committee members suggested photographs be taken of the deterioration of the current buildings for a presentation to the full county board, in April 2012 if possible.

Mike Norton moved to accept the concept design, with two separate drawing submitted, one in-house, using county resources and one drawing from an engineer. (Note: Clarification of motion language by Rob Way “An attempt would be made to explore what things the county could do to facilitate building of the structure in-house”.) Second by Nancy Barker.

Vote 9-1. Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 a.m. by Finch/Konetzke. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted by: Melody Piper, Recording Secretary