

Friends of Agriculture
MINUTES
March 17, 2022

Establish Quorum:

Board Members: Pam Blakeney, Sue Cuzzort, Linda Holland, David Jackson, Glenn Robinson, Laura Robinson & Doug Singleton

Opening Remarks:

Minutes. Unavailable.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Stakeholders Meeting Review.** Glenn noted that the meeting went very well with at least 88+ participants! We appreciated that the Polk Standard had articles both before and after the event which really helped boost attendance. Laura went over the proposed changes to the plan. The most significant is the suggestion that the covered arena be expanded to accommodate equestrian events such as barrel racing or shows. This would require it be doubled in size and use a different base potentially adding to the overall cost. Another request was to increase parking for large vehicles which may be limited due to the 5-acre envelope limits per the land trust contract. Glenn and Laura will meet with the architect Brian Rindt to incorporate the changes.

We then discussed other ideas that need to be considered such as restroom accommodations, accessibility/ADA compliance, signage as it may apply under the land trust, and Fire Marshall approval. These will be addressed in the final architectural plans.

- **Payment to Brian Rindt,** Architect of \$6500 will be made by Laura at the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Zoning as A1 Agriculture Special Use.** Glenn described the two-month process for application. Once the application is submitted, along with the \$500 fee, zoning will post a sign at the property and notify any homeowners or businesses near the proposed area. After allowing one month for comments, a representative from Friends of Agriculture may appear before a formal zoning board meeting to present the plan and answer questions. Anyone opposed to the plan may also present their objections. The board will vote to recommend approval or disapproval. The zoning committee recommendation then goes to the Polk County Commission for final approval at the next committee meeting.
 - **VOTE:** Approve \$500 to apply for zoning permit. **Approved.**

- **Soil sample.** Glenn reported that a soil sample from a specific list approved by the state is required for a septic field. While this step is not required until zoning and initial architectural plans (see January meeting minutes) are completed, however, the wait time can be as much as six or more months to schedule the sampling. Will need to vote once cost is determined.
- **CUVA Requirements.** We discussed when we should turn over the land and how it would impact CUVA. CUVA requires a minimum of 10 acres to take advantage of the significant tax savings. It will remain in effect as long as the new owner agrees to the stipulations in place at the time of transfer. We agreed to discuss a milestone plan for land transfer to Friends of Agriculture at a future meeting.

OPEN DISCUSSION

- **Social Media.** Laura told the group about working with the Social Media professor and her class to help expand our communication. She is working with a team of three students and requested they help produce podcasts for All Things Ag and more plus boost Instagram visibility.

Treasurers Report. None available.

Closing Remarks

Adjourn

[Signed Copy on File]

Glenn Robinson, President