

AG Arena Meeting
February 12, 2025

Amy welcomed all in attendance

She gave an overview of funds received to date, inclusive of \$32,000 in earned interest for a total on hand of \$4,347,000.

Amy gave an update of 3 activities in relation to approaching York County for support:

1. Jan. 28: Meeting was held with Mr. Edwards and Mr. Madden re. the Economic Impact Report
2. Feb. 3: 4H students, under coordination of Kristen Kunde, attended and spoke at the York County Council meeting. The room was full, standing room only, and students accurately articulated the need for the ag arena and its potential impact. Students represented all 4 school districts in addition to home school and charter school students.
3. May 13: A formal ask for support will be held at York County Council's Budget Workshop. The suggestion was made to ask council for the balance, recognizing that it will likely be scaled back. The Economic Development Impact report needs to be presented as well.

Amy prefaced the LMG update by explaining that given current estimates of construction and to stay within budget, several components of the arena will bid as alternates. This approach allows us to benefit from a more competitive bid process. Jim explained that plans need to go to the state department OSF by Feb. 21. To stay within our \$5.5 million budget, 6 alternates will be added to the bid:

Alternate 1: Office, toilets, janitor and storage rooms on back side of arena

Alternate 2: 2nd asphalt overlay for the entry drive and visitor parking area (Tony offered to help in this area with variance with York County)

Alternate 3: End sections of bleachers

Alternate 4: Heavy timber framed front entrance structure

Alternate 5: Low volume fans and infrared heaters (Tony had a suggestion for fans at lower cost)

Alternate 6: Meeting room and associated restrooms and storage

Kristen suggested fans on both sides and nixing heaters vs. heaters and fans one side only, stating that animals needed the fans and that most arenas currently used do not have heat. Tony suggested doing some type of installation.

Mrs. Coxe explained that the sprinkler system requirement for OSF is costly. Tony asked about ability to water the arena.

Mrs. Coxe explained that by making alternates, this opens the door for support of in-kind contributions (labor). With the fundraising not at the \$5.5 million mark, coupled with the inability to make a request to County Council until May, the groundbreaking event will need to be pushed out.

Fundraising efforts including the Sponsorship Agreement and Brick Campaign were discussed.

- The sponsoring and naming rights agreement was distributed in hard copy and will be also distributed electronically. It has been reviewed by legal and is ready to go.

- Brick campaign is up and running both through printed flyer and check as well as online by credit card with electronic purchase. The link to purchase is on the website. Bricks are available in 3 sizes. The first brick purchase has been made. Online funding is through a stripe account to the York School District One Education Foundation. Referral names can be listed in the comment box.
- Sponsorship Guide: Hagner and Coxe met with El Close who also came to the student event. They will be following up with them. Hagner and Coxe also met with Piedmont and Chartwells as potential sponsors. Mr. Westbrook has set up a meeting with Comer Equipment regarding a potential sponsorship.
- March 22 Line Worker Rodeo at York Electric: The district will provide breakfast for the event and will be able to reap benefits from the sale of breakfast from 7-10 am. Amy will communicate to the committee re. volunteering for the event. York School District One Education Foundation and Clover Leaf Foundation will assist as well. Kristin will recruit 4H students.
- Potential other fundraising effort: Host a rodeo, not only to raise funds but also to raise awareness of the project.
- Charlie suggested a cow drop, along with raffles, barbeque, etc.
- An oyster roast was also discussed as a potential fundraiser.

