

Meeting Notes

Present at the meeting were Amy Hagner, Jane Wallace, Charlie Westbrook, Lisa Spangler, C. W. Senn, Carrie Bolin, Ginger Marr, Heath Branham, Beth White, Meg Ferguson, and Janet Parker.

Amy Hagner welcomed the group and thanked them for coming.

Charlie Westbrook provided the group with an update on the construction site, along with pictures taken last week. Amy explained that Charlie meets with the site crew on a weekly basis to keep up with progress and discuss matters as they arise.

Amy provided an update on sponsorship and funding

- Sponsorship Update
 - Lobby (\$250,000)
 - York County Natural Gas Authority
 - Concession Stand (\$150,000)
 - Farm Bureau
 - Meeting Room Sponsor (\$75,000)
 - York Electric Cooperative
 - Section Seating Sponsors (5 out of the 5 sections) - (\$25,000)
 - Bank of York
 - Bratton Family
 - Comporium
 - Senn Family
 - York Rotary Club

- Funding Update
 - Total - \$5,029,475.12
 - State Funds - \$4,250,000
 - Interest Earnings - \$145,444.77
 - Fundraised/Sponsorships - \$422,030.35
 - York County School Districts - \$212,000
 - Committed \$975,000:
 - York County Council – \$800,000
 - YCNGA - \$175,000

- York School District One Education Foundation received a \$5,000 grant from the York County Community Foundation for panels for the arena.

At the last meeting, the discussion indicated that there needed to be some clarification in the Sponsorship Agreement. There was some confusion around the 10-year renewal of the sponsorship. Amy offered an amendment to Article 6: Term of Agreement. She suggested this statement be added: “Nothing in this agreement shall obligate the Sponsor to renew and/or pledge funds in excess of those promised in this Agreement, including this renewal provision.” The group questioned the necessity of the statement if new funds were not collected. Some stated that they felt families who had their names on seating, etc. most likely expected that to be for perpetuity, not changed every 10 years. After several minutes of discussion, it was decided to completely delete Article 6. This would remove the 10-year renewal of sponsorships.

A subcommittee presented a proposed list of other sponsorship options ranging from \$2,500 - \$10,000+. The ranges were divided into Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum levels, with sponsors being recognized on a “Wall of Honor” inside the arena. The presented document contains types of equipment/services needed to operate the arena and potential sponsors to contact. It was decided to place the information on a shared Google Doc so that the group could add information as well as keep track of contacts. We do not want several people to approach the same business or individual. There will be a column added to keep notes on contact attempts and progress.



Beyond the sponsorships already secured, the Western York County Agricultural Arena Steering Committee welcomes additional sponsorships dedicated to capital investments that will help equip the facility for exceptional events and experiences. These generous contributions will be recognized on a prominently displayed "Wall of Honor" inside the arena, alongside other donors with named spaces. Donors whose financial contributions or in-kind gifts meet the following levels will be included:

- Platinum (\$10,000+)
- Gold (\$7,500-9,999)
- Silver (\$5,000-7,499)
- Bronze (\$2500-\$4,999)

Needed equipment and services include:

Equipment & Grounds Maintenance	Potential Sponsors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tractor (~55hp) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Bucket ◦ Forks ◦ Hay Spear ◦ Quick-Attach • Arena Drag • Rakes, Shovels, Wheelbarrows 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comer Equipment • Fred Cadwell Tractors (Mahindra) • James River/John Deere • Kubota • Tractor Supply • Northern Tool & Equipment • Faulkner Development • Carolina Eastern, Inc.
Bedding & Waste Management	Potential Sponsors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bedding (per show/event) • Bedding Containment/Haul-Off per Show/Event) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste Management • Jack Ferguson Roll Off Dumpsters • Trent Sandifer Sawmill • Propst Sawmill & Logging
Animal & Show Support	Potential Sponsors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock Scales • Backdrop Area for Champions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ag AmericaT • Top Gun Veterinary Services • Palmetto Animal Hospital • Sandifer Feed & Seed • Bucking K Ranch • Ag South • State Farm

Electrical & Utilities	Potential Sponsors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop-Down Outlets • Adequate Show Lighting • Speaker/Audio/PA System • Heat/Air and Proper Ventilation • Giant Fans (H/LS "Big Ass" Style) • Blower/Fan Mounts • Fire Protection/Security System 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harper Company of the Carolinas • Brown's Heating & Plumbing • Tractor Supply • Northern Tool & Equipment • Lowe's • CPI • Johnson Controls
Water & Wash Infrastructure	Potential Sponsors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wash Racks • Multiple Spigots, Hoses and Reels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Present on multiple sides of the show facility • Adequate Water Pressure/Plumbing Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morris Jenkins, Inc. • Substation Concrete • Tractor Supply • Northern Tool & Equipment • Lowe's • Local Plumbing Companies
Arena & Pen Systems	Potential Sponsors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panels (Species appropriate & creep resistant) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Arena ◦ Holding • Outdoor Tie Rails • Panel Storage • Sweep Tub (Swine Show) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers Service Center of York-Lewis Hicks • Tractor Supply • Northern Tool & Equipment
Other Considerations	Potential Sponsors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lockable Tool/Tact/Chemical/Panel Storage • Internet/WiFi • Perimeter Fencing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tryon Equine Hospital • Nancy Cornwell Daves (Daves Land Development Corp.) • Josh Boyd - Allen Tate Realty • Faulkner Law Firm • JL Gaddy Enterprises, Inc. • Brice Law Firm • Legacy Environmental Services • Harding Custom Homes • Comporium • Edmunds Fence Co.

Mr. Senn suggested we add Rusty Thompson to our list to contact for the livestock scales. It was also suggested that we add kitchen equipment and furniture to the list.

Carrie Bolin suggested that we take a look at the facility located at 308 Osborne Rd. in Laurens for ideas. The next event is October 24 and 25. The group was invited to attend to look at the arena.

Jane Wallace will be writing grants to request funds from T-Mobile (sound equipment for the arena and tech for the meeting room) and the Charlotte Hornets Foundation. Charlie Westbrook also mentioned a grant from the State Energy Office for energy-efficient lighting for the arena.

At the last meeting, we also discussed an appropriate way to honor Chris Revels. The last idea was the flag pole, and the group agreed this would be the best idea. It was suggested that the flagpole have solar lighting. The group also discussed the best way to honor Senator Peeler and Representative Moss. Without their efforts, the arena would not have been possible. All agreed that whatever the recognition, it needed to be "in your face," prominent in the facility.

At the close of the meeting, Amy Hagner reminded the group of the Hometown Harvest Fundraiser coming up on October 16. The event is sponsored by the YSD 1 Education Foundation.

There will also be a 4H and FFA Student Awards Recognition held in Clover School District's Auditorium on November 10 at 6:30 pm. Students from all 4 districts will be celebrated for placing at the state level or representing York County/SC at the regional/national level.

Meeting was adjourned with our next meeting date being **November 12**.