

Minutes for the Center for The Performing Arts exploratory committee

Exploratory committee meeting held at 330 N. Third Ave. Sturgeon Bay, WI

In Attendance: Hans Christian, Bill Parsons, Beth Meissner-Gigstead, Paul Lurie, Kristi Roenning , David Utzinger, Alan Kopischke, Laurel Brooks, Jeremy Popelka.

recorded by: David Utzinger

5:05 – 5:20

- Call to order
- Discussion of agenda
- Hans Christian nominated as chair
- Alan Kopischke nominated as vice chair
- David Utzinger nominated as secretary

5:20 – 5:35 Discussion of the legal standing of the Granary

Hans first mentioned that he had already discussed the CFTA and the exploratory Committee with the City of Sturgeon Bay. He then went on to explain that an injunction has been placed on the two waterfront parcels until the DNR determines the high watermark. Hans then explained that the high watermark was based upon the original 1848 meander line.

5:35 – 5:40 Explanation of the roles of the WRA, The Friends of the Waterfront and the City the lawsuit

A negotiated high water mark was set and all three parties needed to agree to it. The “Friends” and the city agreed to it. Against legal council the WRA voted against agreeing to the negotiated high water mark. This is actually a positive as it gives the exploratory committee, TAP and MAM more time to develop ideas.

5:40 – 6:00 Info on Granary development

Below the high watermark, development must be for public use – which is where the CFTA comes in. The City recently voted to hold off on any vote to tear down the Granary until January 1st, 2018. If someone/some business entity comes up with a use (like the CFTA) for the Granary that costs the City of SB nothing, they’ll consider that use. If nothing is recommended the city could vote to tear the Granary down.

6:00 – 6:35 Where to go from here

Two tracks:

1) What does the Community want/need?

- How do we get the community invested in this project?
- Is it possible to get the Maritime Museum on board? It would be very worthwhile to try. The Maritime needs to be supported and it is currently struggling to fulfill its mission and to raise funds. A possible person to reach out to is Sam Shogren. He offered his skills to help the Maritime assess their collection, etc. He is still interested in the Maritime and Sturgeon Bay.
- Hans may reach out to Amy Paul, executive director of the Maritime.

2) What does each organization want/need?

- Assignment: define the space at the CFTA that each organization will need/want. What is ideal and what is feasible with regard to doing "X"? Focus not only on the physical issues, but on the programmatic aspects too.
- TAP already has some idea: 170 – 200 seat theatre is what is desired. Need "wings" to the sides of the stage. They need build space, storage space. Traditional proscenium theatre. If this works out, TAP would leave Third Avenue. What then, would go into the current TAP space?

Hans will contact Sarah to find out about the physical restrictions of the land.