

MINUTES  
SUNBELT IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
July 16, 2009

The meeting was called to order shortly after 9:00 a.m. Those participating in the call were: Amy Simone, Clyde Fraise for Art Teixeira, Ben Beach, Clay Olson, Charlotte Emerson, Diann Douglas, Heather Kent, Henry Grant, John Arthington, Louise Ryan, Nick Comerford, Pete Vergot, and Wayne Smith.

Status of Irrigation/Electrical adjustments. Steve Perry was not present so Wayne Smith agreed to report in the minutes the status of the adjustments. Contact with Steve revealed:

“We installed a timer on the inside of the building with pipe to the valve box and 1 ¼” pipe under the back slab with ¾” pipe inside for water supply. Also installed new ¾” pipe with valve at the main by the pole to the new valve box on the corner of building with two ¾” valves inside the box. The back slab was 16” deep so we had a lot of digging to do and could only get 1 ¼” pipe under it, ground is clay and very hard to dig.”

Nick reported that the irrigation system would be installed within two weeks of budget approval and notice that Steve had made the adjustments.

Clay indicated that the grower would donate labor, delivery and installation of the perennial peanut but would charge for the turf. He is also compiling the cost of the other plants needed—coontie, knockout roses, kumquat and Satsuma trees. A question raised was whether the area south of the building from the door to the power pole should be mulched instead of planted because of the traffic from the “Featured State?”

Pete Vergot confirmed that the Leon County Master Gardeners were good to go on installing the plants once Clay had them onsite.

Interior Signs. Diann Douglas indicated that a list of ten signs was prepared based upon the feedback on the list she circulated earlier to the committee. These were reviewed with Communication Services and a design artist was assigned to the project. The decision was made to use photographs to “tell the story” as it is very difficult to get in everyone’s identifier words. The list is attached to these minutes. Two drafts have already been delivered to Diann for responding. Any comments on the signs should be sent to Diann.

Charlotte reported that we had applications for ten displays. Pending exhibits were reported by John Arthington, Amy Simone, Clyde Fraise, and Wayne Smith. These represent six more potential displays. The submission date was extended until July 24; afterwards, Charlotte will provide summaries for the committee to review.

As promised Wayne made contact with Steve to find out the status of the front porch modification (adding a picket fence) and to find out if the picket fence would be

removable in case it was desirable to back a trailer onto the porch as was done last year. Here is his response;

“I have the exact measurements from yesterday so they can start fabrication. The side panels will have a gate, so we can make the front panels removable. That should give us room to back a trailer under the carport?”

Web cams will be installed and computer stations available but blocked to all sites except IFAS. It was pointed out that these stations are there to assist county faculty in providing answers and documents to visitors.

Lodging information on the Baptist facility and Camp Cherry Lake (adequate but low cost facilities) will be provided Ben who will work with Louise in getting them on the website along with motel information.

Ben Harrison can start with the application form to build his schedule of staffers.

Henry needs the number of passes (name tags) needed before September 1. Heather said she would work with Pete to determine the County staffers from Districts 1, 2, and 3 and develop an estimate of travel needs. It was pointed out that Parking Passes are only needed on the day before opening. General parking which is free is generally more convenient than exhibitor parking.

All those responsible for budget items were requested to get their estimates to Wayne by tomorrow if possible.

Charlotte will “dootle” all to determine the best date after August 1 and member review of the applications for the committee to meet again and finalize the exhibition and opening day plans.

Meeting adjourned about 10:15 a.m.