

Hearing held on reported violations of County's Unsafe Building Ordinance

Written by Administrator

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A hearing preceded the normal business meeting of Scott County Commissioners on Monday night, November 2, involving several pieces of property alleged to have violated the county's Unsafe Building Ordinance.

The session was scheduled to allow those property owners notified of possible violations a chance to talk with Commissioners and schedule action to correct the alleged violations.

Commissioners were looking at three properties, 1887 North State Road 3, Lexington; 1276 North Boatman Road, Scottsburg; and 4027 West State Road 56, Scottsburg. A couple who owns one of the pieces of property attended the hearing. After talking with the couple, who is divorcing and is in the midst of a dispute over ownership, Commissioners told them to work out their legal problems and get the property cleaned up.

Ken McMichael, chairman of the Greater Scott County Chamber of Commerce's Agri-Business Committee, appeared before the officials to get their continued support for the Farmers' Market that operated at the Fairgrounds this past spring and summer.

Commissioner Bob Tobias said he certainly supported the market. "We're still having a problem with some people setting up tables in the courtyard. Those I view as a safety issue (because of their proximity to State Road 56). I thought you did a good job this year with your set-up at the fairgrounds," he told McMichael.

McMichael told officials that the market was looking at other sites. One discussed is to the north of the Scottsburg city parking lot off North Main Street. That site would require portable garages, explained McMichael. "I like the fairgrounds site the best, so we don't know if we'll move it or not. Neither the Chamber nor the committee wants to run this; we want the producers (who sell homemade breads, vegetables and fruit) to run it," he went on. He explained that producers who grow at least 50% of what they sell can participate in the market. A market master has been appointed, and he is the person who determines who and who cannot sell at the market.

"We did have some issues, including people who set up in the courtyard," noted McMichael. He said the committee's project for this year will be emphasizing career education in agriculture. The project has already begun at Scottsburg Middle School.

"We're hoping the market can expand if we get a better growing season than what we had this year. We need more variety, and our growers are looking at that and re-evaluating what they are doing," McMichael concluded.

"We're behind you. Persistence pays off so keep up what you're doing. A farmers' market is an asset to our community," Tobias told him.