

Harry Potter Fest

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Administrator Tim Freitag said. "That was an agreement between the festival organizers and the city that would outline everyone's responsibilities."

The agreement for Harry Potter Festival 2017 is between the City of Jefferson and HP Fans Inc. and allows the city to contribute an initial \$25,000 to market the event, which represents about 35 percent of the festival's initial proposal for marketing investment.

HP Fans Inc. is a subsidiary of Innovative Economic Development Corporation (IED Corp.).

The agreement was drafted by City Attorney Ben Brantmeier and had been reviewed by Scott and Robert.

According to a search on the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions website, the registered agent for IED Corp., created Dec. 13, 2016, is Scott Cramer, while the registered agent for HP Fans Inc., which was created Feb. 10, 2017, is Robert Cramer.

Both IED Corp. and HP Fans Inc. are non-stock corporations, have a status of incorporated/qualified/registered and have their principal office at 20 S Main St., Edgerton, Wis.

Freitag and the Cramer brothers provided an update on the progress of the festival's organization to the Com-

mittee of the Whole.

"I'm going to start with some real general comments," Freitag said. "First, I can tell you that there are a large number of people working on this. There is a planning committee that meets regularly. It's about 12 members. There's a lot of city staff members, but the school superintendent and folks like that, as well."

The city administrator explained he always has felt there are a certain number of prerequisites that would have to be fulfilled in order for the city to undertake a festival that "might turn out to be pretty darn large."

He listed five:

- The Jefferson County Fair Park for parking.

"Jefferson County Fair Park has been secured for parking," Robert said. "Also, wristband sales will happen out there for people who did not pre-purchase them online or other outlets."

In addition, Robert said, Fair Park director David Diestler said there would be some camping space available.

•St. Coletta of Wisconsin's cooperation for use of its fleet of vehicles to transport people from event to event.

"We've met with Ted (Behncke, St. Coletta's president) and his team quite a few times," Robert said. "It's good to see their excitement and en-

thusiasm. The bus shuttles for transporting people has been confirmed. Also, their greenhouse for the mandrake experience has been confirmed."

•Tomorrow's Hope to help recruit and coordinate 200-plus volunteers.

Barb Endl, executive director of Tomorrow's Hope, is current on staffing needs, according to Robert. She has more than 200 volunteers and is trying to get closer to 300 in case some cannot work at the last minute.

•The School District of Jefferson's approval for use of some of its facilities.

Use of school facilities has been scaled back, Freitag said, but the locations that will be used have been secured.

•A finalized map specifying different event locations.

"I'm going to say, by and large, those five things are generally in place," Freitag said. "Discussions with all those organizations have taken place and I'm believing everyone is on board. ... Once we had those five really important things taken care of, that allows the people working on the festival to kind of get into the next tier of things that need to be planned. That's really what we're doing now."

The "next tier" includes issues such as how to secure facilities; dealing with refuse and recycling

collection; crossing pedestrians downtown in a big crowd; where to house the Quidditch players, of which more than 100 are expected; facilitating construction of a corn maze; and maintaining the access to people who have property or live along the alleys that will be used.

"We're trying to deal with those secondary issues right now and, I would imagine, that work will continue for a long, long time," Freitag said.

Robert also addressed "early-bird" wristbands, which currently are being sold in three locations in Jefferson: City Hall, the Jefferson Chamber of Commerce and The Drug Store.

Tickets will be available for \$11, which includes tax and handling, until the end of the month. On Saturday, April 1, tickets will become full-priced at \$15 for children ages 4-12 and \$25 for adults, plus tax and handling. Also at that time, they will be available online.

"The map venue placement, I believe, is about 95-percent complete," Robert said. "There's going to be three bus routes and all the buses will be working A, B and C routes to help move people around."

He added that they have worked with Bill Pinnow, city engineer and Public Works director, who has toured all the



The Harry Potter Festival is moving from Edgerton to Jefferson this year. Harry Potter fans—such as these, who were photographed at the festival in Edgerton last year—will now have new stomping grounds. (File photo)

venues and is comfortable with the sites. Also, Robert said, Pinnow is in the process of securing fencing and barricades for the venues and parade route.

Venues and activities include Jefferson County Fair Park, for primary parking; the sorting hat experience at the Masonic Lodge; presentations at the Performing Arts Center at Jefferson High School; a topiary Wizard's Chess set, Wizard's Prison (Azkaban) and Potter's Pictures at Riverfront Park; The Lost Tunnel (Gringotts) at the Fort Community Credit Union; Festival Alley 1/Dragon's Alley in Riverside Alley and the adjacent Alley; Festival Alley 2/Serpent's Alley in the Old Firehouse Alley; live chess at East Elementary School; Festival Village at 230 S. Main St.; a Lego display at city hall; a mandrake greenhouse, creature walk and funfair at St.

Coletta; Quidditch pitches at Tensfeldt Park; an owl post and corn maze at the VFW Recreation Department; and a lighted parade down South Main Street on Friday.

"All the venues we just discussed, we have agreements with them," Robert said. "They are all on board. There is just crazy enthusiasm with all these people."

(Editor's note: Part of the article detailing the agreement between the city and festival organizers has been omitted due to space restraints.)

Mayor Dale Oppermann commented on the unanimous approval of the agreement.

"I'm happy to say that this is going to be really exciting for the City of Jefferson and all of the Jefferson County area," Oppermann said. "We're excited about hosting the festival this year and we look forward to a very successful event."

Milton's Concert in the Park Schedule

Sponsored by The Gathering Place • North Goodrich Park, Milton



Thursday, June 8
Bathtub Mothers

Thursday, July 13
Piper Road Spring Band

Thursday, August 10
Main Street Big Band

COOKOUT at 5:30 p.m.
Brats, Hamburgers, Hotdogs

CONCERT at 6:30 p.m.
FREE!

In case of increment weather the concert will be moved to The Gathering Place, 715 Campus Street.

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