

Playland Pier Carousel: Richard LeFrancis, 810 Parkhurst Court, stated that he had a carousel web site www.playlandcarousel.org. He reminded the City Council that the Walker Macy plan calls for the carousel to be relocated at its original location at Independence point. He has spoken to Post Falls Mayor Clay Larkin, who has stated that they would be interested in having the carousel be placed in Post Falls, if the City of Coeur d'Alene did not object. He asked the City Council and Mayor to send a letter to the City of Post Falls stating that they would have no objection to the carousel being located in Post Falls.

Councilman Kennedy asked if Mr. LeFrancis was speaking on the behalf of the Carousel Foundation. Mr. LeFrancis stated that he was speaking as a citizen, not on behalf of the Foundation. Mr. Kennedy stated that it would be important to know if the Foundation was in support of the request. Mr. LeFrancis stated that he did not think it mattered whether or not the Foundation supported the request, as it would allow the carousel to be put back into commission for kids to use rather than leaving it in storage. Mayor Bloem stated that she did not think that any of the City Council opposed the carousel being in Coeur d'Alene. Councilman Edinger stated he would not be in favor of sending a letter stating that the City of Coeur d'Alene would not be interested in the carousel. He also stated that he knows that the Foundation has been meeting and they have tried to make arrangements with the City of Coeur d'Alene to place it in Coeur d'Alene, which is why he thinks the Foundation should be included in discussions with Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. LeFrancis stated he has talked to Mr. Eastwood regarding options for placement at the Museum site, but there has been no activity on the matter. He feels that the City of Post Falls is anxious to have the carousel, and the letter would simply confirm that the City of Coeur d'Alene does not oppose it. Councilman Edinger stated that his wife is on the Carousel Foundation board and it seems that the City has not been very cooperative in relocating it to Coeur d'Alene. Councilman Edinger stated that he understands other items have taken priority over the carousel, but if you took it to a vote of the people, the people would say they want to carousel back.

City Administrator Wendy Gabriel clarified that the Museum lease term is expiring; however, the City Council has not indicated that they would not renew lease, therefore the Museum would stay at its location. The Museum Director, Ms. Dahlgren, stated that the Museum, the Carousel Foundation, and the Human Rights Institute all want a home on city property and should consider working together toward one building. Additionally, the Lake City Development Corporation recently stated that they would like to get the four corners planning started soon. Mayor Bloem stated that the City has never said they do not want the carousel, and through the partnership with a non-profit, there are some funds that still need to be raised. She further stated that as the four corners planning comes forward it is a good time to re-engage the stakeholders; this would not be the time to walk away from the Carousel. Mayor Bloem stated that if Post Falls wants the Carousel they should talk directly to the Foundation, and the Foundation could decide if they want to work with them. Councilman Gookin stated that if the City gave stronger support it could help with the fundraising. Mr. LeFrancis stated that a location is needed in order to have successful fundraising.

Rita Sims Snyder, 818 Front Avenue, stated that she is a member of the Coeur d'Alene Carousel Foundation. She clarified that the carousel is in secure storage (with insurance) and the Foundation has been working hard to find a location. The Foundation has spoken to the City off and on and some members may feel they did not get as much support for the City but that is water under the bridge. The Foundation is looking at locations within Coeur d'Alene, however, there is not enough information to make public at this time. The Foundation does not intend to move the carousel to Post Falls. The Foundation has a web page www.cdacarousel.org (owners of the carousel) and will keep the public aware more information is finalized. The Foundation would love to be included in the four corners planning, if there is a possibility for partnerships with other entities. They will find a location and then begin fundraising efforts. She thanked Mr. LeFrancis for all of his work to bring the carousel to community and she does not believe that they would have the carousel here without him.