

Five offers for former Laurelton Center

By: Sue Getz

LAURELTON – Last week five potential buyers were named for the former Laurelton Center.

Firetree Ltd., was among those five potential buyers. Woodward Camp and Randy Duncan were also among those named.

The highest bid was submitted by Firetree at \$237,500. The lowest bid was submitted by Randy Duncan, who expressed an interest in building a resort on the property.

The proposals were presented at a special public meeting of the Laurelton Advisory Committee at the Hartley Township Community Center.

The advisory committee consists of seven members who will review the proposals and then make recommendations to state Sen. Jake Corman, R-34 Bellefonte and state Rep. Russell Fairchild, R-85 of Lewisburg.

The legislators will then attempt to guide the sale through the state Legislature.

During the special meeting, each prospective buyer was given about an hour to present plans and answer questions from the committee.

Firetree's latest proposal included plans for a corporate training center and drug and alcohol treatment facility.

A bid of \$200,000 came from Gary Murphy, owner of a Maryland-based company called RBIS Ltd.

Mr. Murphy proposed the use of the site which included a vocational-technical school, busi-

ness park, new business mentoring facility, retail complex and convention center.

At a bid of \$171,000, Woodward Camp's bid was the third highest.

Camp Woodward's plan included a regional sports complex combined with Woodward's traditional extreme sports camp and a prep school with an emphasis on sports along with a golf course.

James Saenger presented a bid of \$175,000 and plans for a resort called Carillon at Laurelton.

Saenger proposed a resort that combined a hotel and restaurant, approximately 200 condominiums or co-ops and an assisted-living facility will regularly planned theatrical, musical or outdoor events alongside an institution of higher learning.

Following the meeting, Saenger stated there was some confusion over the bid he had submitted.

Apparently his bid was \$850,000 not the reported \$175,000. He stated \$175,000 was the amount he planned to put down as an initial payment on the property.

The lowest bid at \$1 came from Mr. Duncan. He also proposed a resort. He proposed the resort be named the Laurelton Sports Village Resort. He proposed establishing a 1,200-room resort for about 2,400 guests with three restaurants, a theater and a museum. Also included would be biking, shooting, American Kennel Club events, ATV and snowmobile activities.