

Oregon Country Fair Board of Directors' Meeting
December 5, 2016
7 p.m., NW Youth Corps, Columbia room

Board members present: Diane Albino, Ann Bennett-Rogers, Chewie Burgess (alternate,) Lucy Kingsley, Kenya Luvert, Jack Makarchek (president), Jon Silvermoon, Sue Theolass, Staff (Crystalyn, Shane, Stephanie, Shelly and Robin), Officers (Lynda and Randy) and 40 members in the Peach Gallery.

New Business

Appoint Heidi Doscher to the Bylaws committee (Sue)
KEPW donation request (Jon)
Donate Change line item to Egan Warming Center (Jon)

Jon moved and Sue seconded to move Egan Warming Center donation from New to Old Business.
Motion passed: 8-0.

Announcements

Joseph: There was a Standing Rock benefit last weekend that brought in over \$9,300.
norma: Today is Chewie's birthday!
Sue: The Holiday Market is open from now until December 24, check <http://holidaymarket.org/> for hours.

Staff Reports

Crystalyn: First off I want to give everyone an SUP update: Shane and I reached out to Thom Lanfear today and we are sad to say that we still do not have a decision.
November has been a busy month and I am happy to say that the Budget Committee is almost done with the 2017 budgets. I would like to thank Hilary, Jon, and Jen-Lin for helping with the Health Insurance process and we met with our insurance consultant a few weeks ago. I know that this is outside of the normal process but I would like to ask the BoD to approve the Health Insurance line item of the GM budget for the amount of \$67,000 for 2017 so that I can finalize employee insurance as soon as possible.
The Diversity Task force met last Saturday and I am happy to say they are planning another learning opportunity for this coming March. The last one was very collaborative and informative and I am looking forward to the next one.
Shane and I have been organizing the upstairs part of the town office so that we can easily find all needed documents. It has been very educational going through years' worth of files and I am looking forward to having a central location for reference.
Shane and I also met with the Fair Family News last week to learn about their process. As an FYI they are continuously looking for articles about what various crews and committees are up to. Even if you just have a story about last year's Fair that you would like to share with the whole family, please write up a draft and email it to ffn@oregoncountryfair.org.
A giant thank you to Shane, Shelly, Jeff, and Stephanie for working on a rainy and cold Sunday decorating the FART shuttle for the upcoming Veneta Light Parade. I am excited to see what it looks like all lit up in the dark.

On a personal note I would like to say that I am honored to work for an organization that helps fund the Free Whitaker Thanksgiving. I volunteered there this year and it was one of the best Thanksgivings I have ever had. I love being part of such an amazing community.

Shane: Much of November has been spent working on the crew and staff budgets with the Budget Committee. One primary focus for Crystalyn and I has been collecting data from vendors to project the GM budget proposal for 2017. Early in the month we met with Honey Buckets to forecast costs as well as logistics regarding Main Camp, the early Fourth of July date, and how to best mitigate any negative effects for the event. We also met with LTD and their team of planners who help put together the ridership and advertising program. The Fair has a team of five folks from LTD, whose focus is making the Fair as successful and enjoyable for all those who take advantage of this service. It was wonderful to learn about this amazing partnership, the history, and how it benefits all of our community.

We continue to participate with all the committees that meet throughout the month to help, support, and offer staff perspective. It is very interesting to see how all the committees serve the organization, the booth vendors and volunteers throughout the year. Some of these committees are currently working on new or improved guidelines for 2017.

I would also like to thank Dean Middleton and his KOCF advisory board for their continued support of the Veneta Elmira Community. They have been backing the Elmira School and providing a learning opportunity to students, allowing them to participate and learn about low-power FM radio. Besides broadcasting live sporting events, they have been allowing the students to create station spots and programs. I applaud them for their forward thinking and public outreach.

I would like to thank Stephanie, Shelly, Jeff, and Crystalyn for coming out to site on Sunday and helping to decorate our entry into the Veneta Light Parade. I appreciate the sacrifice of a few hours of weekend time to help prepare for our participation in Veneta's parade. We all had a fun time and are very excited to spread some holiday cheer within the local community.

The site was underwater for the first time this fall during the week of Thanksgiving. The river gauge never climbed above 11 feet, so the few folks whom came to enjoy the waters were limited to the lots. Shelly and Jeff have completed preparing the site for the winter season and it appears none too soon as the temperatures are expected to drop significantly. We continue to reorganize the Warebarn, Hub shop and storage with the hopes of freeing up additional storage, and useable workspace.

The final project that is ongoing is the tremendous pile of dimensional at Wood World. We still continue to sort, reuse, recycle all the lumber that has been brought out of the event area. This is one of the lengthiest winter projects onsite and if anyone would like to come and participate, please email Shelly or me so we can coordinate efforts.

Shelly: We have space heaters going on all the plumbing, so nothing is going to freeze. It is cold and wet. It is still nice to cruise around the Fair in rubber boots. My heart going out to Anna Ken, from construction crew. One of her four daughters is at River Bend and they could really use our love and prayers.

Stephanie: Many folks commented on the budget requests that have been made with the response that we need to be looking for ways to save money. Having been through my first budget season, I know that staff and the Budget Committee are continually looking for ways to do this, such as implementing the motor pool model for gators and golf carts during pre-Fair.

Staff members don't verbally ask for budget reductions, so I am letting the Fair Family know about some of the ways we are trying to be careful with the Fair's assets. We got a cheaper phone and internet provider for about a \$50 per month savings or \$600 per year. We eliminated two phone lines at \$29.95 per month \$718.80 per year savings. We reduced the number of times per year our HVAC gets serviced from four to two, for a \$100 per year savings. We halved our holiday card list and will be sending email greetings to coordinators and booth reps. We will continue to look for cost savings, but not at the cost of running efficiently.

As Indigo said last month, crew coordinators can impact the overall Fair budget tremendously by making prudent expenditures and right sizing their own crews. We all need to be stewards of all the Fair's assets, from the land, to human capital to actual dollars. The staff can't do it alone.

Robin: The *Creative Facilitation* training with Peggy Taylor on Nov. 18-19 was a huge hit. It's so good to be able to share this innovative approach to facilitating groups with organizations and institutions throughout the county. I got a fantastic email from the Chairman of the Fern Ridge School District saying, "Rarely, if ever, have I heard such praise from two highly qualified and creative professionals such as I heard about your workshop. One of them went so far as to tell me she felt it was life changing." That was so incredible to receive! I have also been working on the Culture Jam Reunion being held Dec. 10 at Andy's Art Barn. It's the first time we've done this, crossing Culture Jam with Andy's new nonprofit the Dodeca Art Farm. We already have 40 youth, staff and graduates from past years registered and the deadline for registrations hasn't even arrived. This should be a great adventure out there in Veneta!

Committee Reports

Elders: Peggy reported that the Elder minutes have not yet been published, but important dates to remember are: December 15, 7-9 pm, WOW Hall, for the Elder Holiday potluck; and March 11-12, 2017, for the Elder Spring Retreat. The newsletter is in process with all-important Elder dates for 2017. Next meeting will be held at Grower's Market, Thursday, January 26, 2017, 7 p.m.

Radio Station: Peggy reported for Dean that at the last KOCF Advisory Group meeting, we talked about how the radio station can provide more services for the Fair. We feel like we haven't done enough to keep the Fair alive in the hearts of the family. To this goal Dr. Yeti of the Dr. Yeti show (Saturday and Sunday at 10 p.m.), has made a commitment to begin the process of building a show that will run music from the Fair each week. Our current library is from the music performed at the Hoarse Chorale. Starting in January 2017, time and day yet to be announced, we will bring a bit of the Fair back on the air each week. I really hope you enjoy this.

We also began talks with Elmira High School to create a Memorandum of Understanding. We spoke with Jon Guldeger, instructor at Elmira High School. He's going to set up a meeting some time before Christmas so we can work with Gary Carpenter, principal at Elmira High School and interim superintendent for the Fern Ridge School District. We hope to create a living document that will give us each a set of expectations for the two organizations. We hope to address topics such as finances, publicity, air time, programming and training.

We heard that the regular October Board Meeting for the group we are hoping to get a grant from was delayed until December 5, 2016. We are still crossing our fingers. We want to thank Crystallyn and Shane for coming to our last Advisory Group Meeting. We began to talk about how the station can better interface with the Fair. We tried a no-ask on-air pledge drive. This was a very soft pledge drive. It did not work; we did not get a single donation during that period of time. Until we have a studio, a pledge drive is difficult to produce. But with any luck we hope this changes this coming year.

We would like to encourage anyone planning to go to the thirteenth annual Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce Light parade to bring a portable radio and tune in the station. We will be providing holiday music during the parade.

Member Input

Joseph: Staff is taking on an unprecedented burden with a lot of change so I urge the Board to please give them your support.

Donations/Secretary Report

Singing Creek Educational Center \$500 (Lucy)

Karen Rainsong: Our nature and history programs for children and families include school field trips, classes, spring break and summer camps, and special events. Join us for our Living History Festival in spring, and use your pioneer passport to try out all the different hands-on activities at a multitude of booths, or go on the hayride along the creek to the pioneer homestead. We also offer homeschool pioneer "school" for your group on a one-time or regular basis. Some of our favorite activities include butter churning, grain grinding, sewing, making puppets, learning pioneer games and songs, collecting eggs from the henhouse, washing clothes, gardening, herbal walks and trading with the trapper. Summer camps include visits from costumed interpreters like the medicine woman, the trapper, "grandma" and the post-mistress.

Lucy moved and Chewie seconded to fund the Consent calendar.

Jon: I would like to offer as a friendly amendment to move \$500 from the Board expense line item to the Board donation line item, so that we are not going over budget.

Lucy: I approve the friendly amendment.

Chewie: I approve the friendly amendment.

Motion passed: 8-0.

Sue moved Lucy and seconded to donate the remainder of the Change line item to the Egan Warming Center.

Jain: Egan Warming Center needs volunteers as much as they do money.

Jon: The actual amount is \$2593.39. I would like to ask the maker of the motion for a friendly amendment to move 406.61 from the Board expense line item to fund Egan Warming Center with \$3,000.

Sue: I approve the friendly amendment.

Lucy: I approve the friendly amendment.

Jack: When we go over, we go over and adjust it in our next year's budget. Otherwise, we are just thinking we can spend the whole budget any way we want.

Jon: We have made budget amendments to the budget.

Jack: But not taking from other line items.

Jon: I am proposing we supplement the donation with money from the line item.

Motion as amended:

Sue moved Lucy seconded to donate the remainder of the Change line item and to move \$406.61 from the Board expense line item to fund Egan Warming Center with \$3,000.

Motion passed: 8-0.

Treasurers' Report/Budget Items

Lynda: The budget committee is tying up loose ends on the crew budgets. The coordinators will get a copy as soon as we're done. We'll review these at the coordinators potluck on January 21, 2017. The staff budgets are mostly done. Once we have the personnel costs we'll be able to finish up the GM budget. The Board budget meeting to cover the operating budgets will be January 30, 2017.

The last day to submit your Capital project is January 31, 2017. We will present our recommendations on the capital budgets at the March Board meeting. There are budget items from Shane, Crystalyn and Jon.

I have one request for the Board. Last month the Board approved to increase SO late fees to \$140. To finish the revenue projections, we need to understand the intention from the Board as to whether this late fee increase includes booth passes or is just for SOs and Elder companions.

Lucy: In the past it has been across the board to be clear and equitable. So, it would be for booth passes as well.

Jon: My question would be for our Crafts representative on the Board, Sue. Given that there was nothing in the original proposal to raise the price for the booths, whether interpreting the Board's intent would be seen negatively by the crafts booth people.

Sue: In the past, our deadline to get passes is right about the end of June. I would support this, but I can hear the screaming and ill will already. If we could avoid the increase for this year and move this to the 2018 Fair, I would more readily support it.

Diane: My understanding is one year we sock it to the booths and another year we sock it to the public and another year we sock it to the volunteers.

Jon: It was my understanding when we took that vote we were talking about the volunteer side and not the crafts booth side. I can't say what the intent of the Board was. I can see for equity reasons why it makes sense to do both.

Crystalyn: "...passes move to \$140, vehicle stickers remain at \$10, and late vehicle stickers move to \$40." was what passed in November.

Jon: Do we need a motion that states the Board's intent?

Lynda: Can you just tell me?

Sue: I'd like to point out that booths do not have SOs.

Chewie: Booth vehicle stickers are \$20.00 and they were \$15 last year. I sniveled and whined about equity and we are all part of the same family. What happened last time was to go to the staff, not the booths. I'd like to take a pause this year on the booths and make it equitable.

Jon: In Hilary's report it says, "The other two price increases are to raise the vehicle stickers for staff from \$10 to \$15, the late vehicle stickers from \$20 to \$25 and the oversized vehicle stickers for staff and booths from \$50 to \$60." So, the discussion about the vehicle stickers was exclusively for the staff, except for the oversized vehicle stickers.

Randy: The motion is at the very bottom and reads, "Amended revenue projection as is with exception of the SO passes remaining at \$80, SO late passes move to \$140, vehicle stickers remain at \$10, and late vehicle stickers move to \$40."

Jon: When Hilary proposed it, late vehicle stickers just referred to staff and I would interpret this to mean that this is just referring to staff.

Randy: I concur as your secretary.

Sam: So, this is staff only?

Lucy: No, it should be across the board.

Jack: There had to be a motion that started this whole hoopla.

Crystalyn: The budget projections were to increase the cost of SOs in 2017 to \$90 and in 2018 to increase it to \$100/ And to increase the cost of staff onsite parking stickers.

Randy: The initial motion was, "Casey moved and Sue seconded to approve the revenue projection for 2017" as a blanket statement.

Chewie: I want to repeat; we did this about staff. I want to make it equitable.

Jon: I guess my question for the Treasurer is, do you have clarification that you need?

Lynda: I'd say your interpretation of the motion is the raise in late fees needs to stay with staff only.

Crystalyn: I would like to ask the Board to approve \$67,000 for the Health Insurance line item.

Chewie and Jack seconded to approve \$67,000 for the Health Insurance line item.

Motion passed: 8-0.

Old Business

Jon moved and Sue seconded to confirm the minutes from November 7, 2016 Board meeting.

Motion passed: 8-0.

Jack moved and Diane seconded to create a Fiftieth Oregon Country Fair Anniversary task force comprised of Cynthia Wooten, Sandra Bauer, Leslie Scott, Jerry Joffe, Sally Edmunds and norma sax.

Amy: There has been discussion with Path Planning about the fiftieth celebration. I would encourage the task force to include Path Planning committee members who are interested in being involved in that planning.

norma: I am part of the task force and we have been meeting. We are getting started and brainstorming on how we celebrate that momentous occasion. We envision a gathering of old timers on Thursday. Our group wants to be the central clearinghouse for ideas and a central hub, so that there are not a lot of different things going on and people are not talking to each other and duplicating efforts. We think a task force is best to facilitating the activities. We'll solicit input from everyone. We want to use the FFN, involve Path Planning and we'd love to have a Board member with us, and we'd love to have a staff member with us. We think 10 members is enough and then break out into smaller groups.

Jerry: This is just the beginning and we want to be inclusive. We just want the go-ahead to start doing our work. We plan to meet in February.

Charlie Z: I'd point out that the Fiftieth Anniversary is a big deal for the organization and I'm glad to see the Board is talking about planning this early. I mean no disrespect to the people who are planning this event, but they are all Elders. The Fiftieth Anniversary shouldn't just be a look back, but a look forward for the next 50 years. There should be some younger people who will be leaders in the future involved in the planning, not just a bunch of folks looking back at the glorious thing it has been. If we are going to be successful, it will be a lot of the younger people that will be running the Fair.

norma: This is the reason that I approached Kenya at the retreat to be our Board liaison.

Charlie: I respect the names on the list. I would hope they can garner and get the kind of budget it deserves, get the outreach it could create, and define our culture for the next 50 years and let the youth know what the future can bring.

Mambo: One of my concerns is duplication of effort. I'd like a clear statement of mission and to know the budgetary impact.

Keith: We have a huge piece of land out there, we have musicians who can play and throw an epic show and raise money so we don't have to jack up anybody's prices on anyone's SO passes.

Andrew: I believe those mentioned will include forward-thinking people for the anniversary celebration.

Jon: I see this as just a start and I'd expect the task force to develop the budget. I see six names here and I'd anticipate adding new people. I think if Kenya wanted to be a Board liaison that would be great. I'd also suggest checking with Casey to see if he wants to be a Board liaison to address the forward thinking concerns that Charlie Z raised here. I trust them to be inclusive and be forward looking and involving all generations of the Fair.

Jack: I envisioned a task force as developing a mission and a budget. I was not thinking of the task force as planning what it is going to be. A task force is, like Jon said, very preliminary and not the end result. I would think that somewhere there would be a motion presented by the task force as to what the budget is and to create a committee to implement. The task force, to me, is to answer those questions. The task force is not to decide what the Fiftieth Anniversary is going to look like.

Motion passed: 7-0-1; Lucy abstained.

Jon moved and Kenya seconded to direct the Budget Committee not to fund the Fourth of July line item in the 2017 budget.

Laurel: I want to encourage the Board to not approve this motion. Defunding the line item closes a lot of doors. I do not think that the motion addresses the key issue, which is the fireworks.

Charlie Z: I will encourage the Board to vote no on this motion as well. We got to where we were on the fireworks because for many years the Fair did not have fireworks. That is despite the fact that hundreds of people came and set off fireworks. In those times there was tacit understanding of the organization that our equipment would be used to wet the fields down and provide a perimeter.

None of this was sanctioned, licensed or insured. A few years ago the management team

recommended we get a permit and a licensed fireworks shooter to do the show. It is an event that the volunteers enjoy.

Defunding the line item results in directing management to shut down fireworks at the site. By doing this we will again be exposing the organization to risk. We are aware of the closeness of the Fourth of July and the event, but we can work together in a more constructive way to address that issue.

Crystalyn: From a management perspective, we are addressing how close this volunteer appreciation event falls to the Fair.

Grumpy (given by Crystalyn): As you know, I am on the Budget Committee as well as being a BUM (back up manager). The Fourth of July party, is in fact a volunteer appreciation event. The fact that it coincides with the celebration of the founding of America is a convenience and appropriate. We should not cancel this volunteer appreciation event because some in the Fair family object to fireworks, for in my opinion, non-scientific reasons. As others have pointed out, fireworks can be done in an environmentally correct way. If we are stopping the fireworks part of this event for that reason, it is not scientifically based. It is really just the opinion of the few trying to control the many. While a majority of the 900 voters in the non-binding election did not want fireworks, an overwhelming number, more than 2,000 people attend and enjoy our volunteer appreciation event that includes fireworks.

Historically the Fair started its own celebration of the Fourth of July, including fireworks, because the use of illegal fireworks at the Fair became an increasing problem. To combat this problem, we decided to do an approved, permitted firework show as part of a larger volunteer appreciation day celebrating the Fourth of July. This year we would like to continue this now traditional event with or without fireworks on the Saturday before the Fair. To do otherwise will encourage a dangerous situation at the Fair. While we will try to control it, will be our own faults if we can't. Doing our own controlled safe event, takes a dangerous situation and makes it safe.

While our guidelines state that we are an "association of equals," this does not mean that we are all the same. We strive to recognize diversity as well as equality. **This takes balance**, especially when we look at financing different parts and programs of the Fair. We should not let one part of the Fair control all the other parts of the Fair by demanding that certain things be either done or not done. For example it would not be "fair" for the Kitchen Crew to only serve meat and ignore those who are vegetarians. We need to keep the balance, especially when it comes to how we spend our resources. Thus to allow the few who do not like fireworks to eliminate the volunteer appreciation event is not fair and you should not agree to this motion as stated.

Peggy: This motion sounds to me like there is a pause for 2017 being proposed so the issues can be discussed more fully. There have been pauses for other events like the Barter Fair. I don't have an opinion on the fireworks, but this is merely for 2017.

Amy: I wanted to talk a little about what Charlie Z was saying on security versus enforcement. We have set up a sanctioned event with the resources in place to keep people and our land safe. In this year where the volunteer appreciation and the event are so close, throwing enforcement into the mix is a waste of volunteer resources. This motion lacks backbone and is a way to put it off, like the Barter Fair motions in the past. As far as advisory ballots go, it is interesting we're looking at this one and not looking at those that passed last year. We have a lot better things to worry about than defunding of the volunteer appreciation event.

Charlie J.: Currently we have 17 committees, six meeting regularly, but if I had a July Fourth issue there is no place to go with an idea. My idea is to triple the funding for the Fourth of July party to honor and respect the volunteers.

Joseph: The motion passed with a large majority. There are thousands of pieces of plastic from the fireworks that end up in the Long Tom.

Mambo: The fireworks are a direct violation of our guidelines. Most of our volunteers are not supposed to be onsite when this volunteer appreciation event is going on. Calling it volunteer appreciation is somewhat disingenuous.

Jen-Lin: The motion as it reads is to defund the Fourth of July party. I'd rather see the money kept and determine what we could do that would be fun prior to Fair. It doesn't have to be fireworks, but I'm not willing to say let's not do anything.

Andrew: It is frustrating to me to see the fireworks targeted that are celebrating our freedoms, those that the generations before me came to where they wanted to have a countercultural fair to celebrate how we were not like everyone else. The wording for the proposal is to take it away next year, opens the door to just take it away.

Shelley: Speaking as a member and not a staff member, there is a plethora of reasons to vote no on the motion and I urge you to do so.

Chewie: I am not voting for the motion because it defunds the Fourth of July party. I agree with what Jen-Lin said. Fireworks are not the issue. Doing a volunteer appreciation during the time around the Fourth of July is a great idea. There is a lot we can do short of blowing things up. We need to think about the downstream effects of fireworks, but defunding the volunteer appreciation is not a good idea.

Jon: The motion is on the agenda because we had an advisory vote that passed. People may not like that the advisory vote passed. I hear a silent majority argument that we should ignore the advisory vote. I wish I could ignore election results. There is an election result lately that I very much wish I could ignore, but it was the result. If it was not on the agenda and not up for a vote, I could see on the Facebook pages how the Board was ignoring the people's advisory votes once again. I put it on the agenda to address the critics who assume that the Board never discussed last year's advisory votes and to make it explicit that the discussion would occur in the public about this advisory vote. On last year's advisory vote, there was Board discussion, but it was not done in a public forum. I wanted to make sure we discussed this in public.

The motion mentions the line item and the 2017 Fair. Passage of this motion does not mean there could not be a volunteer appreciation event. If in the General Manager budget we want to propose a volunteer appreciation event, it can go into the budget. This decouples the volunteer appreciation from the Fourth of July party. When the volunteer appreciation event occurs could change in years to come. This just directs the Budget Committee to not include this line item in the budget. The history of this issue is interesting. If we want to have fireworks, we need to change the guideline. Guidelines changes come up in March. I see the Barter Fair and the fireworks as similar issues. I find it ironic that some of the proponents of the fireworks, are the same people who said we should not do the Barter Fair. The Board did vote to put the Fourth of July in the budget, partially because the Fair was unable to enforce or unwilling to enforce the ban on fireworks because some of the people that were primary to doing fireworks in violation to the guidelines held major high positions in the Fair management or in the Fair governance structure. Those people were never held accountable for violating the guidelines. The only reason that I can think of was because they were too important to be held accountable, like we would hold an individual craft person accountable. This is the history of how the fireworks got into the budget. I've always had a problem with that. I will vote for the motion but I'm not opposed to a volunteer appreciation event pre-Fair. If the motion passes, I'd hope those who are so ably handling the transition we are going through would put in a budget item and call it volunteer appreciation and decouple it from the Fourth of July. If someone wants fireworks, put in a guidelines change and we'll debate the pros and cons of fireworks.

Sue: Fireworks put me on edge, but I understand there are a lot of people who do like fireworks and enjoy them. I also know that if we don't have fireworks, there are a lot of people who will set them off anyway. So, yes I think we should hold people accountable to the guidelines, but I don't want to see the party go away for the volunteers. It is important and it is community building. I cannot support this motion.

Ann: This is a guidelines issue, but I am concerned about the environmental impacts even if they are little pieces of plastic. Dilution is not the solution. This year, probably the hardest thing is celebrating the Fourth of July because I don't feel that our country is doing and being responsible in looking out for the things that the Declaration of Independence was written for and we can begin with

sovereignty for the native peoples and treaty rights. There are times when our government is not doing the right thing and I don't see a reason to celebrate. Volunteer appreciation is different. Someone should tell Grumpy he can learn about the toxicity of fireworks in the book Chemistry of Explosions.

Kenya: With the Fair being anti-establishment, I think the Fourth of July is a celebration of the establishment. The Fourth of July means something different to every one of you, but as a person of color, it does not represent the same independence and freedom for me. So, I think it is great we are celebrating freedom, But freedom is different for each person and especially black folks here in America. Anti-establishment is not necessarily having a volunteer appreciation for Independence Day for some, but not all. We should separate the two and volunteers should be appreciated.

Diane: I don't want to take volunteer appreciation out of the budget. It falls in the GM budget, which means Shane and Crystalyn will have to decide what to do. I hope we still have freedoms by July Fourth. I think we ought to have something more along the lines of the Boston Tea party. If it doesn't pass we'll get to talk about it in budget discussions. I would like to see the volunteer appreciation date never be closer to the Fair than the Saturday before the Fair. As far as the ecological effects, I can't say much until I stop driving my car.

Lucy: I think it is important that we have a way to appreciate the volunteers. I think everyone should have an opportunity to play. I don't particularly like fireworks, but that is just me. I do know they make a mess.

Motion failed: 3-5; Jack, Diane, Sue, Chewie and Lucy opposed.

President's Peace

Jack: It happens to be coming to the time of the year when we talk a lot about peace on Earth. We really don't have it. It is an interesting perspective that we are dealing with the notion of the Fourth of July in such an insular way. I've always looked at the Fair's celebrating it as more of a mockery, not necessarily a showing of support. We've just had a president of eight years who has indiscriminately used drones, we are involved in three or four different wars and we have friends and relatives dying over there. It is important that we center on peace and understand how we are connected to that. I don't think fireworks is why we are connected to that; there are a lot of other reasons why we are connected to peace. The fact that the United States is probably one of the most warlike nations is where we are right now. Since it is that time of the year, my message is peace.

Draft of Agenda for January 2017 Board Meeting

Approve minutes for the December 5, 2016, Board meeting
Appoint Heidi Doscher to the Bylaws committee (Sue)
KEPW donation request (Jon)