

Barter Fair Task Force Meeting

September 30, 2013 6-9 p.m.

OCF town office

Facilitator: Colleen Bauman

Scribe: Amanda Moore

Tech/Go To Master: Bill

Members present: Sue Theolass, Spirit Leatherwood, Paxton Hoag, Amy Hand, Jon Pincus, Lucy Kingsley

Go To Meeting: Jefry Falkenstein

Absent: Robin Pruce, Jervil Wood, Catherine Clark, Kirk Schultz

Announcements

Explanation of voting quorum

Aug. 18, 2013 Minutes Approved Spirit Moves, Amy Seconds.

Minutes approved; one abstention

Public Comments

No public guests present

Board Liaison Report

Sue reported to Board of Directors at the last meeting on BFTF meetings and continued work

Subcommittee Reports

Budget to be put into a working draft

Simple majority vote will pass changes tonight. This is a time to find common ground. Barter Fair recommendation packet to the BoD will have to have a 2/3 vote prior to submission.

Colleen reads the OCF statement of content:

The Oregon Country Fair creates events and experiences that nourish the spirit, explore living artfully and authentically on Earth and transform culture in magical, joyous and healthy ways.

BFTF Recommendations to the BoD, edit and vote:

Colleen asks:

How does the Barter Fair align with OCF?

How does Barter Fair serve the infrastructure of Fair?

How does Barter Fair serve the Fair itself?

We need to craft a statement about how Barter Fair serves the Fair.

Spirit believes BF needs its own mission statement.

Jefry believes we should match the OCF mission statement to align with the matching goals of Barter Fair and the OCF. Emphasize how the Barter Fair is part of the OCF.

Jervil sent a BF mission statement via Sue to be read to the group since she was unable to attend this meeting tonight. Her statement read:

"Barter Fair is a gathering of the tribe. It creates an opportunity to share the diverse and creative resources that our family has to offer. It is a lively example of alternative economy. Bartering opens up individuals to the magic of the interaction. Barter Fair is a generational legacy. It encourages our children to be creative and empowers them with the experience of trading with fairness. Barter Fair serves as a springboard, provides structure for people to connect, network and succinctly depart and bring the positive experience to the larger community."

Paxton Likes Jervils statement, and we should carefully word the statement to align with Bill Wooten, Fair Founder. We should not lose the original alternative visions laid out by founding members.

Amy: Likes the BFTF mission statement. she has questions regarding why we would want to assist in the revenue generated by Barter Fair folks if it is not available to all volunteers. Discussion was had that folks who wanted to participate should have time from their crew leaders to attend if working Monday. Craft inventory has concerns regarding jurying in all items to be sold or bartered at Monday Market Barter Fair.

Discussion was had that everyone who participates as a crafter or food booth has the opportunity to make income from their sales during OCF. Entertainment gets paid by the OCF to entertain. There are even paid positions at the OCF, so WHY would we not allow whomever that wanted to participate at Barter Fair, including volunteer staff, vend on Monday to recoup some their income lost to give to the Fair by taking time of work, etc...?These volunteers also make the fair happen, with no financial gain.

Barter Fair reflects Bill Wootens intention that the OCF provide a way for alternative commodity for alternative lifestyles. Oregon Country

Fair is a three-day event: Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Juried crafts do not apply to Monday Market Barter Fair.

The Barter Fair helps get folks out of the "8" and helps people leave OCF in a safer manner.

Colleen reminds everyone that guidelines apply to whenever and wherever we gather for OCF on-site. These rules are in the Code of Conduct.

Bill Wooten believed in a community of choice and of reason. Align the Barter Fair with long held Fair Values. Fair is not possible without Fair Family. OCF exists because we support fair family and we should support Barter Fair.

Spirit: We have identified a category that needs more work. We need to craft a Barter Fair Mission Statement. We would all like to read Jirvils wording carefully in print. Requested written statement from Sue for Jirvil so we can revisit this statement.

An email will go around to the BFTF members to revisit Jirvils mission statement so that we can craft one together by the next meeting. all members need to identify what and how the Barter Fair aligns with OCF mission statement and founding intentions if the fair. ***Take this home and work on it before next meeting, please!***

How we came to be:

Paxton will update this section of the BFTF recommendation

How We Work:

This will change and need to be updated by the time we resubmit a new packet to the BoD. Set aside and revamp before submission

Recommendations to the BoD Revisited

Where:

Delete the 2013 line. First line passes. Strike second sentence. Remove OCF guidelines.

Spirit believes is line should move and thinks the Hows should be focused on prior to the Where. Does the BoD like the direction we are headed?

Who Sells:

New Wording:

Anyone who has an OCF wristband with verified fair affiliation and who has registered to vend at Monday Market Barter Fair.

What Sells: (Long Discussion follows)

Approved craft items, recycled and reused items, goods handcrafted by fair folks, vintage items

Lucy would like to change the date from 2015 to 2016 in the line, "imported finished items banned by".

Enforcement of what sells will be a major concern. Who will regulate this?

Imports:

Imported items are still a very hot issue amongst the group and the broader Fair Family. Some members want to support imported items that are sold by fair family who travel abroad and bring them back to share with all of us. some embers believe that we need to phase this out and only allow embellished items that are imported and refurbished into a handmade item be sold.

Craft committee interviewed juried crafters who many supported raw materials, but not direct imports as this may effect their sales and they can't match costs when handmade.

How do we ban cheap, plastic crap and garage sell type junk? How do we keep the items authentic and crafty, even if they are imported goods? How do we verify fair trade? Mass commercial sales are not supported by any of the members, but importing is being discussed. What verifies Antique, Vintage, and Recycled or reused? Anyone can make the claim that his or her items fall under this allowance. Regulation=more staffing, more resources, more infrastructure.

Produce should be available for trade or sell from local farmers who support the OCF in some way. People leave the fair and need to get groceries, why can't they buy organic produce from fair family to go home with?

The OCF identifies right livelihood and what this means to us. Bill Wooten supported "cottage industry" and what sells area needs more work and clarity.

Maybe the question should be: What do discourage, rather than what sells!

Discussion: Piccadilly flea market only allows a vendor to sell what is on top of their table, so folks are wise to what sells and catches buyer/traders eye. Limited Space will control many issues regarding vending/sales.

It is imperative to protect arts and crafts and handmade goods.

Regulation should be for things that are discouraged, like it worked for this years ban on glows ticks. Glow Stick's are highly discouraged by the BoD and Fair Family, this issue was respected and there was no need for regulation. So asking folks to respect the ideals set by the BFTF may empower folks and not mandate regulation.

Let's keep the Barter Fair simple, too many rules already. It used to be trade circle amongst fair family. Folks discussed how no rules or regulations is how and why the BF is where it is now with the Task Force. It needs guidance to minimize impact on crews; the land and it must be respectful.

What Sells category will go to further work between now and next meeting.

The How's:

Spirit reminds folks to keep wording transitional, low-impact.

BF wrist banded vendors have own wristband for set-up process and enforcement.

Revamped wording:

The BFTF recommends a transitional, low impact 2014 M M BF remain viable for the greater benefit of the O C F.

Registration Process:

Discussion surrounded what registration would look like on-site for fair family to vend at BF. Lucy suggests a Registration on Monday for many reasons. We need to work with Registration Crew (Justin Honea). Folks must register one-fair to lighten the load on Monday, or else they don't vend. People could register at a window kiosk after they were wristbanded during wristband or registration hours. Concerns were again raised about counterfeit wristbands.

No booth or wristband is non-transferable. This must be in BF guidelines.

A motion was passed unanimously regarding removing the bottom two bullet points from this section and sending them to a subcommittee for a work plan. The first two bullet points will remain.

>>(need to put this wording in)

Pre-Registration Form:

Justin will also need to help with creating this framework. It will generally work, otherwise. # of pre-registered vendors will effect limited vending space, which should be adjusted to allow all to vend.

Booth Size Discussion:

Different sized vending booth spaces were discussed.

Most BF members would like to avoid the larger vending scenes, which promoted junk, import vending garbage; box trucks and regulation concerns.

Want to avoid land rush scenarios. These situations are not in alignment with our O C F values and neighborly respect.

Non-transferable vending spot critical as it allows us to track who is disrespecting the signed agreement involved with conduct at registration. Folks would need to sign this agreement at time of pre registration. This needs to be in the BF guidelines!

booth size effects what sells. Let's keep this simple and small, no large booths. Lets get Justin's help on how to refine this process and help with the necessary details. We need to collect vendors contact information so we can begin a snail mail or email pre-registration packet system that can be implemented In the future. We could be online or send in the mail by 2015 if we have a way for folks to sign up before hand. We can generate a mailing list after the first year of transition.

Booth Size Motion:

Jon moves and Lucy seconds that: Vending spaces be no larger than a 10x10 space per wristband.

6 approved; 2 opposed

Accountability:

Pack in pack out waste and debris discussed. There could be some sort of system that allows vendors to check in and out of their space.

We could ask for a deposit which could be returned upon check out if their space is cleaned.

Most believe the pack in and pack out honor system will be respected and followed of it is recommended and part of the BF guidelines.

Sue motions and Lucy's seconds that:

Pack In and pack out concept will be part of the BF guidelines and followed under the O C F guidelines.

Unanimously passed.

Implementation and Management:

Board appointed. 2014 existing crews and management.

Unanimously passed.

Guidelines for the Monday Market Barter Fair are due by December 15, 2013.

Discussion surrounded the differences between a committee and a task force. A task force is given a project to focus on. A committee is approved by the Bo D to meet regularly about on going specifics the Fair needs addressed, which they focus on and help guide process and prepare recommendations.

Stakeholders:

Schedule a stakeholder meeting of effected/impacted crews.

BFTF members are to contact specific crew coordinators regarding operational pieces and staffing necessary to make Barter Fair work. We are seeking feedback to prepare and manage a Barter Fair.

Amy: Site Crew and Recycling

Lucy: Budget Committee, Inventory, and Management

Spirit: Registration and Lot

Amanda: Wristbands, Traffic, and Registration

Sue: Craft Committee and Craft Inventory

Paxton: Fair Central, Fire, , White Bird and De Con

Jon: Quarter Master and Pre/Post Security

We also need to invite the Management team to a meeting

Conclusion:

Edit the last line: Delete "for themselves".

Renewed line:

The BFTF recommends that the BoD continue the efforts of the task force so that the MMBF can continue.

Unanimously agreed upon.

Work Plan

BFTF Co-Chairs will work on this draft and bring to the next meeting for the months of: October, November, and December

New Business

-Homework Review

-Report back at next meeting regarding stakeholder feedback

-Barter Fair Mission Statement

-Guidelines for the Barter Fair Monday Market due by Dec.15, 2013

-Jirvils Mission statement will be written and emailed out to all BFTF members to read and help craft their own Mission Statement

Next Meeting:

October 28, 2013

6-9 pm at the OCF office in town

all are welcome

****BFTF Workshop Meeting****

November 10, 2013

11-6 OCF office in town

Potluck Style

Evaluation:

Thanks to Bill for facilitating the Go to Meeting. Computer access(he will email Tony prior to next meeting); email exchange to identify work areas; unified identity of BF is good; great to contact stakeholders; push forward with their requests for budget planning AS AP; productive and good ideas; good meeting, felt heard and respected; much improved process and cohesion since last year; everything is grand; WALSTIB!!!!!! And, as always, Much Love, Thanks and Respect to Colleen!!!!!!