

BFTF Meeting w/ Charlie Ruff, OCF General Manager & Tom Lanfear, Cartographer & OCF Land Use November 14, 2012 at OCF Office

Present: Charlie Ruff, Tom Lanfear, Joseph Newton, Sue Theoles, Lucy Kingsley, Shiela Showalter, John Silvermoon, John Pincus, Amy Hand, Amanda Moore, Spirit Leatherwood, Judy & Paxton Hoag
Facilitator: Jen-Lin Hodgden

Charlie addressed the task force emphasizing the importance of our committee working towards a viable solution for Barter Fair.

He would like our task force to focus on the basic organization that defines the Barter Fair before focusing on location.

Organization:

- Core Statement Defined/Prioritize: What is the barter fair? How does it serve the OCF? ex: " A space where we can buy, sell, trade goods Monday after Fair." What exactly is the relation of Barter Fair to OCF?
- Guidelines and Standards Defined: Organization, Registration, costs, basic rules and regulations, etc...
- Locations: Temporary and Long Term Locations, Footprint Impact and to see the Fair and Barter Fair as a work in progress overtime. The Barter Fair should be easy to move for a more longterm, viable solution in the future.

Concerns/Extremes:

Camping/Vehicle Storage/Vending space together take a large footprint

Dedicated Camping for Barter Fair may have larger impact regarding crews, footprint, land use compliance, etc...

Traffic Concerns

A new dedicated BF crew not likely. It took 3 years to create the new camping crew and a BF crew may not happen quickly. It would also need the expertise and experience from management positions to run smoothly and effectively.

Charlie has been working with the City of Veneta for the last 3 years to support the weekend economy from Fair goers. Veneta interested in holding some type of Monday market after fair. OCF interested in supporting Veneta in some capacity.

Line In The Sand

Charlie and Tom discussed the Line in the Sand with us as it pertains to location and event activities compliant with our land use permits.

Hx: The Line in the Sand was created in 1998 during the time OCF family created, defined and submitted what event activities are and where they would take place on our property. This Line in the Sand was created during the time our fair changed with alcohol/drug use policies and when we worked with Lane County on land use issues during this time. It was also created at the same time tickets sales were to be purchased off-site. It is a OCF created moveable line that is being considered for change as the Fair grows and expands, possibly within the next two years.

Purpose this line serves:

1. Vehicle Access
2. Control mechanism for public/private access
3. Mimics event location purposes
4. Bag/Pack check for alcohol/drug policy compliance

Event Activities, Parking and Camping Concerns:

Tom shared that event activities areas do not require specific permits. This holds true since 1984 when Lane County "grandfathered" in fair operations and verified our building permits as "non-conforming use".

Tom shared a Land Use map which helps define what the land can be used for in compliance with county permits.

Both Tom and Charlie highly encouraged our committee to stay within the guidelines and use the line in the sand as a reference when considering Barter Fair location/change.

The OCF is given 5 camping permits by Lane County per year that extend to camping areas like Marshalls, Far Side, Zen Acres & Alice's. However, camping can happen ANYWHERE on original property.

We have approval from Lane County to use the land only for the Fair event in the summer.

Out of Site Lots can only be used for parking.

A handout of Definitions was shared, regarding: Activity area, Camping Area, Open Space Area, Operations Area, Parking Areas

These definitions were created by Fair Family and help define how we use the land use map.

Traffic Issues with Barter Fair

Sheldon highly suggested moving Barter Fair away from North Miss Piggy's Lot where campers and vendors are relocating their vehicles closer to the 8 to pack out their weekend camp and goods for exiting and this area is busy all day. There is a lot of traffic in this area and can be a big mess at times on Monday. Charlie agreed that there are some serious woes concerning traffic in this region related to Barter Fair and folks heading home. Sheldon recommends pushing Barter Fair away from any packing out areas and considers this a key factor when deciding where to move the Barter Fair to.

Comments from the Task Force

Amy Hand reports that 60% of S. Miss Piggy's Lot is used by Barter Fair people, their cars, camping and vending spaces.

Craft Lot closing will move 1400 people in 89 clusters into S. Miss Piggy's Lot. and 600 people into the woods.

She feels that of the 159 registered BF vendors, they can be moved to accommodate for needed camping space.

(Reminder: 159 vendors that registered, may not reflect the accurate count of BF vendors.)

Spirit commented that the Barter Fair may deeply effect fair function and internal procedures and management and we should consider placement of BF in relation to the Line in the Sand

Judy commented that the Board should have had a clearer, collective vision for the BF for its transition and change.

She believes that we are slicing and hacking at the essence of the Barter Fair and basically starting over again by defining the purpose of the Barter Fair.

John Pincus stated that it is a 5 hour event after Fair time which has become an organic experience/event that many fair goers enjoy.

He pointed out that The Fairs attempt to intervene highly complicates things with rules and regulations

Lucy has concerns for the lack of consensus amongst our task force. She feels that agreements haven't been made and suggests several groups of people brain storm and bring back a proposal (s) to submit to the Board.

These would include: visions, mission statement, guidelines, organization to be defined by these sub-committees.

Lucy has also organized the BF vendor list into contact information so that we can outreach BF participants.

Joseph agrees that there is lack of consensus regarding details for BF. He believes the task force was created for weight/ purpose for fair. (?)*** *I hope I understood this and interpreted it correctly.*

John Silvermoon feels that location will determine form and function of Barter Fair, not form and function defining location of Barter Fair as Charlie Ruff had explained earlier. He feels that by not focusing on a solution and space for Barter Fair to exist, it is a way for the Fair management to eliminate BF altogether.

Judy would like to reach consensus with our BFTF group; since much work has been done and research gained into the history and existence of the BF so far.

Amanda asked the group to focus on what the Barter Fair means to each task force member and to write it down in a few simple sentences so that we can define the Barter Fair by the next scheduled meeting. She also reminded and suggested that we must put a placeholder amount proposal into the Budget Committee by November 27 to ensure funds allocated for Barter Fair so that it can function in 2013. This meeting must happen before the next BFTF meeting and will require another special meeting to accomplish. Spirit Leatherwood agreed to help create the budget request and we volunteered Lucy (she had left at this point) for this as well since she has much experience in OCF budget process. BFTF Budget proposal sub-committee: Lucy, Spirit & Amanda

The next Barter Force Task Force meeting will be on either Tuesday, Dec. 4 ~~~OR~~~ Monday, Dec. 10 from 7-9 pm at the OCF office.

It will be decided via email as many members had to leave early for other OCF meetings.