Craft Committee Meeting Minutes

September 26, 2017

Attendance: Jim Sahr, James Nason, Cathy Coulson-Keegan, Sue Theolass, Vince LaRochelle, Lucy Kingsley, Ken Kirby, Diane McWhorter

Scribe: Diane McWhorter

Other participants: Bill Wright, Corona, Tait Duus, Amy Ehn

Announcements: none

Agenda Approval: *** Motion: Approve the agenda (Sue/Cathy) 6-0-0

Minutes Approval: Minutes of August 9, 2017. ***Motion: Approve the minutes (Cathy/ Jim) 6-0-0

<u>Guest Concerns</u>: Having noticed that there is no representation from Esoteric practitioners on the committee, Tait and Amy are interested in becoming members (they are married.) The process includes coming to meetings for some period of time, announcing interest to the committee, interest from the committee members in return, and a letter to the Board asking to be appointed, accompanied by a letter from the Committee approving the appointment. Generally married couples and committee members have decided that one member per household is preferred. Tait and Amy will discuss whether they want to formally apply.

Board Liaison Report: Sue reported that the SUP was approved with lots of conditions and there were two appeals, one from neighbors and one from Land Watch Lane County. The appeals went to the State Land Use Board of Appeals. That will extend the process of approval for the Special Use Permit. She attended a Financial Planning Meeting and suggested that rather than a pass increase, an increase in the booth fee represented a more reasonable increase for booths. Twenty percent would raise the crafts booth fee from \$150 to \$180, and food booths from \$250 to \$300. Booth fees have not been increased in several years. Proposed increases will go to the Board in November. Improvements specified in the SUP approval process include widening and building roads, which will be very expensive.

Discussion brought up an improvement in the wifi as a benefit of increased fees, and members were assured that the need for increased wifi access is definitely in the memories of management and the Board, and they are still open to hearing suggestions such as what is done at Horning's Hideout. Members have many stories about lost sales due to lack of wifi access.

The elections are coming and all members are urged to vote. Watch the candidates forum and listen to the candidates' statements and look for skills and solid experience.

Scribe Tribe Report: Diane reported that some of the scribes have met a few times with staff and outlined some standard procedures to help committees be consistent in keeping records. Duties are currently not being covered for several key committees (LUMP, Path Planning, Financial and Budget), so incentives such as passes for 40-60 hours of volunteering are being considered. Some of the suggested duties include keeping a contact list, sending minutes out for approval, sending meeting reminders, and some standard details for minutes. This committee has had another member (Kim) compose and send out the agendas, which seems to work to distribute the duties. Cathy agreed to send meeting reminders. Diane will make sure meeting dates are sent to the office to be placed on the calendars, but minutes

approval by email has been a frustrating process so the committee will continue to approve minutes at the following meeting. Diane will send approved minutes to the office to be posted on the website. Members felt confident allowing Sue to give an oral report to the Board.

***Motion: It's okay for Craft Committee Board Liaisons to give an oral report to the Board (Cathy/Vince) 7-0-0

<u>Post-Fair Reports</u>: Adam did distribute his written report which was sent to committee members, and a few items were discussed at the last meeting (vinyl signage, craft carts, jury process, permanent placements) and some appear on the agenda. Justin has been invited to attend the next meeting to discuss Registration's opinions on these issues.

Old Business: Permanent Placement Process (#58): Discussion was held on the possibility of deciding on placements in the post-Fair period, for placement in the following Fair. Details in guidelines #57 and #58 would be changed to allow the timing change. There would be less pressure to grant booths and more time for those awarded booths to plan their building projects and displays. A deadline for the Letters of Interest would need to be set, and the discussions to evaluate the applicants could take place in October with notification of the crafter by January. A specific booth location might still not be available until May, but it might be possible to select the space based on what is known in the fall (such as if a booth were released by a crafter into the pool.) Registration input is needed before a guideline change is requested. Members can think about wording changes as homework.

<u>Signage</u>: The handmade and rustic ambiance is important to preserve, and the use of commercially printed vinyl signage has been discouraged. This year notices were given to those using commercial signs in both craft and food booths, making a formal process from CI. Craft Committee supports the guideline, but doesn't want people to risk expulsion over the issue. The BUM liaison to CI does monitor and encourage aesthetic standards. Rather than an enforcement process, an education process might be more helpful to get cooperation. The guideline (#75) bans commercial printing processes, which may go too far, but it is still possible to make signs by hand in many media. Sue will write an article for the FFN in January or February and mention the item at a Board meeting. It can be mentioned in our packet letter, or even be a separate flyer, and could include suggestions for solutions. Members can speak to other members discouraging vinyl, which is a toxic product to manufacture and handle.

<u>Booth Repair</u>: When a Booth Rep is having stressful life conditions, it can be a hardship to have to invest in a booth structure damaged by weather. Could it be possible for Construction Crew to provide more assistance in rebuilding, or perhaps provide some of the wood? This is done in some cases at present, when damage is extreme. Tree crew removes the trees when they fall. Unfortunately Construction Crew is already overworked and like all crews, is trying to hold costs and volunteer numbers down, but they are generally available to give advice and recommend solutions. Booth reps leave structures on site at their own risk. Members were asked to think about ways that booth reps might get some help with structural costs and labor. Craft Committee might be able to play a role in helping connect crafters with assistance.

Bullying: It's possible that a policy specifically defining the practice and sanctions against bullying is

needed in addition to the Code of Conduct. This will be placed on next month's agenda.

New Business: Craft Policy Document: The Craft Policy Working Group completed the document in May 2016 and it was recently updated with guideline changes from the last round. This compilation was requested by the former GM to put all craft policy in one place as an easily accessible document for anyone who wanted a more clear representation of what was policy, procedures, and practices. Only the definitions and a bit of the discussion about crews was written by the group, which included wide representation over the length of the two-year process. The document would best be approved by Craft Committee and then forwarded to the Board for their adoption. It could be available online, as an inhouse reference, or used in some other way. Members can read it and review it before the next meeting for ratification, so that it could be discussed at the Board retreat and adopted at the December Board meeting.

Discussion: Empowering and trusting coordinators is a goal and this would make it easier to give that trust, with all parties aware of clear policy language. The Guidelines booklet tends to break up the points because of the way they have been submitted and put into the booklet. The CPD is much the same as the Guidelines booklet in all of the details and language. This would be useful in resolution of conflicts, and make staff's jobs easier. It's educational and user-friendly.

Next meeting October 11, 5:30 pm. Items for the agenda: Craft Carts, Craft Partners.

Adjourned 7:30 pm.