

Attendance: Jim Sahr, Kim Allen, Anita Parish, Cathy Coulson-Keegan, Diane McWhorter, Lucy Kingsley, Sue Theolass Other Participants: Bill Wright, Charlie Ruff, Justin Honea, James Nason, Vince LaRoche
Scribe: Diane McWhorter

Agenda: * Current Craft Issues -

_Future Planning / "The Bin or Parking Lot" _

* Crafter's Bill of Rights - Responsibilities and Duties

* CI Rejection / Acceptance letters-

* Survey

Please note: Discussion points are made by individuals and are not necessarily the consensus or position of the Craft Committee.

Current Craft Issues: The scribe asked for a collection of current issues before the craft committee. They included: Sanction Issues, Booth Succession, Maker is the Seller Clarification, Line Between Crafting and Manufacturing, Standards and Policies Next Steps, Stand-alone body for Craft Issues (Review Board), Craft Policy Guidelines Document, Imports/ Night Sales, Strengthen Craft Inventory, One-Year-Only Process, Vince's Status and Incident Report

Standards and Policies Next Steps: Craft Policy Document: Craft policies are found in several places in the guidelines, so to form a Craft Policy document the first step is to take the foundation from the guidelines and bylaws and create a structure of existing policy. The intent is to give people, especially crafters, clarity and one place to go for answers. Enforcement and follow-through will be easier with clear policy. Mechanics involve pulling specific guidelines out to compile and see areas where work is needed. Saturday Market and Portland Saturday Market guidelines can be used as models. Diane will work on pulling out relevant guidelines.

Bigger questions are how to come to consensus on the specifics such as the details that led to the sanction issues. It was suggested that it could be useful to bring in other members of Fair crews and groups for some of the wider questions, later in the process. Other interested parties might be invited to participate, such as BUMs, other crafters, possibly forming a SubCommittee or Task Force, or a forum could be held such as those for other organizational issues such as the Community Center and Barter Fair. Sunday work parties work well for tasks like this, perhaps meeting once a month for several months. The timeline does not have to be the December guideline-change deadline. It could take six months or a year to work through the policies. For now the Craft Committee will do the initial work. A first work session was set for Sunday, August 24, 11-3 at the town office.

Suggestions of specific areas of craft policy which need clarification included the definitions of terms such as Maker/Seller, manufactured items, employees/helpers, where items are made, what constitute craft techniques, and thresholds of percentage of manufactured goods or components or employee-done processes. Before or within the jury process is the best place to get the details from applicants.

Other questions arise for members grandfathered or juried-in in error.

Sanctions: The sanctions situations need to be processed in a timely fashion and can't wait for the policy document work to be completed. An opportunity for those sanctioned to be heard by a jury of their peers should be provided.

Status now is that all three sanctions were postponed and principals are waiting to be heard. Anita will write letters to them asking them to come to a meeting, send letters, or otherwise communicate with the committee.

Review Board: What would a review body look like? Craft Committee offers a place to be heard, and has traditionally played that role. Craft Committee already includes Board members, a representative from CI, and has traditionally included a representative from Registration. Crafters should be able to be heard by their peers and those who really understand the issues. Management is (admittedly) not necessarily informed enough to make the decisions. A Review Board could include representatives of related crews, Registration and CI, one or two Board members, and possibly other crafters who are not necessarily members of the Craft Committee. Regardless of OCF affiliation, all reviewers should be well-versed in craft techniques, practices, and issues. More discussions will be held on this concept.

Imports/ Night Sales: When do the Guidelines apply? Some seem to be public hours only, some all year around. There were lots of sales on Wednesday and at night, outside of booths, and items that were not handmade. Craft Inventory should monitor the night scene, with Security backup for enforcement. Security is busy with safety issues, and can't really interpret guidelines on the fly, so CI might need their own security people or a specially trained crew. Craft Inventory expansion would allow them to monitor after-hours sales as Ken has been doing for several years on his own volition, and some security presence would back them up.

One-Year-Only Process: James noted that he was the first craftsperson to receive a permanent booth in many years. He was in the process for 9 years and had several suggestions to examine and improve the options for crafters in the process.

1. End the 3rd year rule. It can be impossible to find a sharing situation in your first two years.
2. Change the conditions for permanent placement in booths (e.g. member for 5 years) By the third year the Fair and the crafter know each other.
3. Try to set numerical standards for the rate of increasing booth placements (such as one every two years) as a goal.

Members added historical information to the discussion. There have not been any spaces to allocate for many years. A couple of placements were made as solutions, out of process. Booth numbers fell from 250 to 241 due to erosion and other site conditions. There is very little attrition to open up new booths in the old locations. In 1989 the Board stopped giving permanent booths and mandated the twenty (later reduced to ten) one-year-only booths to showcase new crafts and crafters. They were meant to change every year. The number was reduced to ten when the policy changed to require two new crafters

to share each 1YO booth. The three-year rule was established to showcase the new crafts instead of allowing the same crafters to use the 1YO booths by jurying every year. Two years are given to allow the crafter to find space. The 5-year rule was established because of the large number of people on the wait-share list. Some of the people in Solutions have over 20 years with the Fair, and should have higher priority than the newly approved.

Getting back to the formal process with James' locating this year was a good step forward. The Crafts Lot addition should ease the situation by adding booths.

Vince's Status and Incident: Vince stated he wanted to rejoin the committee after a few years of absence. Charlie advised him to send a letter to the Board asking to be re-appointed.

Vince reported an incident of verbal harassment by another booth holder during the Fair, reportedly over comments he made at a CC meeting. The incident was a code-of-conduct violation.

Upcoming Meetings: Work Session: Sunday August 24, 11-3 Town office

September Meeting Wednesday, 9-10-14 6:00 pm Town office

Work Session: Sunday September 14, 11-3

October Meeting Wednesday 10-8-14 6:00 pm

Work session: Wednesday 10-29-14 6:00-8:00 pm.