Craft Committee Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2015

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

Other Participants: Bill Wright, James Nason, Wren Davidson, Adam Budd, Michael James Long, Tom Gannon Scribe: Diane McWhorter

<u>Introductions and Announcements</u>: Intros around the room. Jim said that the paths on the Fair site were originally cow paths followed by Bill Wooten who had a vision. Cathy announced that the Space Station would be traveling overhead at 8:01 and she will most certainly be going outside to see it. (It was a cool sight indeed.)

<u>Board Liaison Report</u>: Sue reported that the election was held with increased participation and some results that should be favorable for crafters. The Board Retreat will be the first weekend in November and crafts-related issues will be discussed. The Food Committee is putting out their applications on

December 1<sup>st</sup> and it might be good to do some early outreach to crafters to encourage movement to Avant Gardens.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of September 15

\*\*\*Motion: Approve the minutes of the September meeting (Sue/Ken) 5-0-1

<u>Guideline Changes</u>: The process was begun to review possible guideline changes to be submitted in December. Most of the suggestions came through the process of looking at the Craft Policy Document draft and seeing what clarifications might be useful to coherence. Added sentences are in blue. No final decisions were made as several committee members have not had a chance to weigh in.

49. Prohibited Items: Imported or manufactured items. Illegal drug paraphernalia. Questions? Contact Craft Inventory Crew.

are inappropriate for prohibited from the Oregon Country Fair. Crafters who believe that any of their items may be interpreted by staff to be in violation of this guideline should contact Craft Inventory and the Craft Committee at the Fair office before the April 1 craft jury deadline to resolve questions about what they may exhibit at the Fair.

Discussion resulted in this trimmed guideline. Weapons were considered but that was problematic as knives are both crafts and weapons. Calling the office is the best method to get answers to questions as they will refer people to the committee or crew or guideline with the answers, but as this is under Craft Jurying in the booklet, they are the logical contact. It does say in #52 who to contact and how.

51. **Returning Crafters:** For purposes of jurying a craft, a returning craftsperson is defined as a craftsperson who has been at one of the two three previous years' Fairs selling their approved craft. A craftsperson may be absent from the Fair (on Leave of Absence) for up to two consecutive years. A craftsperson absent from the Fair for three years or more than two consecutive years will be dropped from the records of approved crafters. Any craft for which a crafter is approved as of the 2015 Fair will remain on his or her list of approved crafts for as long as that crafter remains active at the Fair. Crafters

are required to have items in their inventory that they have made within the previous twelve months. Returning crafters who wish to have crafts they make using different techniques and materials than those for which they are already approved added to their list of approved crafts, must have them approved for sale by jurying. They should submit three digital jpeg images with a craft jury application and a non-refundable application fee of \$10 by the April 1 deadline.

This guideline change was unfinished as the language "materials and technique" needs to be inserted to clarify that those are the criteria that CI uses. This could be inserted in #52. The word "different" craft technique was discussed at length...perhaps "new" or "formerly unapproved" would be better.

Adam pointed out that the first sentences give a confusing and contradictory message and don't follow policy. It can be fixed by changing the numbers so that they agree with policy. There is not really a formal Leave of Absence process (like a form to file) but both CI and Reg keep track of absences using that language.

52. New Craft Vendors. Each year a few new applicants are approved through the jury process to sell their crafts at the Fair. Applicants with the highest jury scores for that year will be placed in one-year-only booths and will be required to share these booths with other approved crafters.

For the purposes of jurying a craft, a new craftsperson is defined as a craftsperson who has not been at any of the three previous years' Fairs selling their approved craft. Crafts are identified by the techniques and materials used in their production. New crafters...(no changes to the rest of the guideline)

Discussion of these details was extensive and the point of the tiny details is to give CI sharper tools so that when decisions are made the guidelines are specific enough to stand if challenged. Definitions need to be added for materials and technique.

Michael James Long brought up the Utilikilts issue in terms of the process and said that in bringing the issue to the Board he made it a public issue instead of a confidential one. He felt there needed to be a public process that could be examined. The Elders review felt that there were two points that needed more explanation: 1. He had no means of appeal and 2. He was banned from using "sewn canvas" which was his craft when he juried.

He suggested that the process be clarified for all to see, and that Craft Committee should be involved in that process as the experts on the subjects and as appointees of the Board. He was informed that the GM and CI were the final authorities and the appeal was to the body of the combined Craft Committee, CI crew and the GM. The appeals process that was in place was followed. The work the committee is presently doing will result in a formalized and public process for this type of decision-making, and that is why the GM asked Craft Committee to work on it. Michael James will report back to the Elders that there was a process and it was diligent.

Meeting Dates: In January we can go back to the regularly scheduled second Wednesday. In November we will meet on Tuesday Nov.  $10^{th}$ , 6:00 pm.