

Attendance: Members Present: Kim Allen, Anita Parish, Cathy Coulson-Keegan, Jim Sahr, Sue Theolass, Ken Kirby, Diane McWhorter

Other Participants: Bill Wright, Jeff Allen, Jeff Harrison, Gary Nolan, Tim Jarvis, Justin Honea, Vince LaRochelle, Phil TalkingRaven, Peter Huiras

Recorder: Diane McWhorter

Post-Fair Report from Craft Inventory: Gary and Tim shared their summary of Craft Inventory activities during the 2013 Fair. The photo project went very well, with only one strong complaint from an artisan. Most were happy to be documented, and the well-written letter informing artists was very helpful in articulating the goals of the documentation. Several booths selling commercially made products were identified and the documentation as well as scrutiny of their websites should lead to progress in eliminating mass-produced commercial products from sale to the public. The early stages of the jury process will be improved to catch such sellers before they are admitted, by clearly stating the terms and conditions of application and sales at OCF. Guideline changes won't be required, just an improved process. This will be much easier than removing booths after they are admitted. A suggestion was made that a guideline could say that crafts must be made in the US, which might eliminate a few imports.

A few individual situations were discussed and suggestions made to the crew. Booth photos are often required by other fairs and those will help give some indication of the way the crafts would be presented. The committee appreciated Gary and Tim's work and the thorough reports and enthusiastic attitudes.

Post-Fair Report from Registration: Justin reported that his crew was well-trained and the year was positive overall. There was confusion about the different pass prices that caused some refunds to be given. He will appeal to the Budget committee to simplify the structure a bit. A booth cancelled at 9:00 am on Friday in response to a call, and a strolling vendor moved in and made it a booth in less than two hours. The team effort to fill the booth with no notice was impressive and welcomed. He analyzed his crew hours and found that half of the crew works more than 50 hours and the managers work more than 80, so he will be trying to work on lessening that burden on those individuals. The lines worked smoothly except for Wed morning when the longest waits occurred. There seemed to be too much problem-solving in the lines when problems should have gone to the WTF line instead of the front counter. He will focus on training the counter workers to work faster and send the problems to another line.

The crews are aware that there is an information gap when only booth reps are sent the communications and the other craftspeople do not receive them. Work on the database by CI should help make a better list of craftspeople for more complete mailings. Not all craftspeople have made their contact information available, and compilation of complete information has taken a few years already.

Emailing is the best way to get in touch with Registration, especially pre-Fair. Several people handle the emails. A craftspeople reported having trouble getting on the wait/share list. There are two mailings and two deadlines for the wait/share list, the FFN and the Peach Pit.

Customer complaint response: Anita will send a follow-up message to see if the situation was resolved to the satisfaction of the customer.

False Candidate Statement: Deane Morrow made assertions in his candidate statement regarding his wish to turn "his" booth into an Elders' Craft Booth. Despite the fact that he is not the Booth Rep due to sanctions until 2014, and the fact that no craftsperson can use the Fair-owned Booth space for any purpose except to sell their own crafts, he claimed to have agreement from both Registration and Craft Inventory, as well as management. Members wish to correct this assertion in the FFN and to the Board.

Craft Committee is willing to continue discussing a place for Elders to sell or showcase some of their creations. First the number of craft booths should be returned to 250 before any new types of booths are added. Everyone selling crafts to the public should have to go through the same jurying or grandfathering process as those selling in booths. Most of the stakeholders have agreed to these conditions. Ideas include some type of cooperative booth such as the kids crafts booth, where sellers do not have to be in attendance during the entire Fair, but display their crafts when they are there. The Kids booth pays a service fee, but it could be subsidized by the OCF. The kids and Elders could sell together, as well, in a type of mentoring arrangement.

Neither the CI or Registration coordinators are in agreement with Deane, as he states. Each will write a statement to the FFN. Diane will write a statement for the FFN and will include it in the report to the Board. The statement to the FFN read: *Craft Committee wishes to clarify an issue which appeared in the candidate statement of Deane Morrow. While discussions of an "Elder's Craft Booth" are continuing, no concept has been approved or even discussed beyond the theoretical. Furthermore, no booth holder has the power to designate a booth to any purpose other than selling their own products. Booths belong to the OCF, not individuals.*

The candidate statement was inappropriate and shows a lack of Board skills. CI, Craft Committee, and Registration are not sure that the booth situation was resolved completely, and discussed some statement of opposition to the management solution.

Peach Pit Artisan Listings: Although the info booth listings are comprehensive, accurate, and cross-referenced, the public could be better informed of them as a way to check on the sometimes inaccurate Peach Pit listing. Another idea would be to find a volunteer or a small budget increase to do the data entry for the Peach Pit to bring their listings into a more accurate form, working with the improving database. Craft categories could be broadened instead of being limited due to space in the paper.

WIFI project: Craftspeople were disappointed that the wireless wasn't available for use at the Fair. Gary will contact Cliff and pass on his ideas about the password distribution. The project needs to be higher priority next year.

Permanent Placement of Booths: If permanent booths are allocated, the process needs to be followed so that all eligible craftspersons can be considered for the spaces. A Task Force has been formed to allocate booth space in the new area created from Crafts Lot, and will include Ken, Sue, Justin, and others. We will hear a report from them next month, as well as from Charlie Ruff, who could not attend

this month.

Adjourned 8:00pm. Next meeting the second Wednesday, October 9, at 6:00 pm in the town office.