

# OREGON COUNTRY FAIR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

## FEBRUARY 4, 2002

PRESENT: Charlie Zennache, Jim Newhall MD, Bear Wilner, Marlene Monette, Lawrence Taylor (LT), Jack Makarchek, Brad Lerch, David Helton and Diane Albino & Jim Sahr (alternates).

NOT: Charles Drew and David Liberty

Bear moved, and David H seconded, the BoD move the Donation to Elmira High School Student Directed Play from new business to old business.

The motion passed: 9 in favor and 1 opposed (Jim Sahr).

Charlie moved, and Bear seconded, the Board move Fire Crew Co-Coordinator Appointment from new business to old business.

Note: Tom Bruvold, the nominee, was present and had submitted a letter to the Board. But, the Board has yet to receive a letter of endorsement from Bill, the current Fire Crew Co-Coordinator. (It's in the mail.) Many folks on both sides of the table support Tom as co-coordinator. However, it would set a bad precedent to change the process now. Leslie -- In fact, the Board received a letter from a person requesting a crew coordinator appointment when it did not have the support of the other coordinator or crew. Tom was invited to introduce himself anyway so he need not appear before the Board next month. He's been attending the Fair since he was 13 and working on Fire Crew for the past four years. He knows his way around the Fair very well.

BoD: David H -- As a coordinator (Registration) he urged the Board not to take action on this until they hear from Bill as a measure of respect at the least.

The motion failed: 1 in favor (Charlie), 8 opposed (Jim, Bear, Marlene, Lawrence, Jack, Brad, David H, & Jim) and 1 abstention (Diane).

### ANNOUNCEMENTS/CALENDAR

Mon 2/18 Board work session on Job Description Review, 7pm, Knights of Pythias, 420 W 12th, Eugene.

Sat 2/23 Coordinator potluck.

Sun 3/17 The Board potluck & work session on Fundraising will be held at 11:30am at Alice's Wonderland. Brunch will be served until 12:30 followed by a panel discussion and work session.

Mon 3/25 Deadline to submit letters of interest to serve as a Fair mediator and/or arbitrator for the new grievance process. Howard Galvin (Grievance Administrator) said he hopes to have a cadre of folks that is representative of the Fair so we can draw on as wide a breadth of experience as possible. Also, there is no geographical limitation at this point.

Mon 4/1 is the deadline for Entertainment, Craft, and Food booths registration.

Sat 5/11 Spring Fling at the WOW Hall.

Highway Pick Up schedule for the next year: 4/13, 7/27 (tentatively), 10/19, and 1/11/03. Meet at the WareBarn at 10am.

Thanks to Phoenix Rising (Food Booth) for donating \$250 from their 2001 Fair profits! They requested the money be used to build a hand-washing station by the Main Camp Six-pack. Steve W has already begun talks with Tim Wolden, Water Crew Engineer.

LT requested folks to think good thoughts for the Dalai Lama who is in poor health and has been hospitalized.

### MINUTES APPROVAL

Jim moved, and Charlie seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the January 7, 2002 Board meeting. David H -- the date of the February work session is Monday, 2/18 not 2/19 as is printed. Sue Theolass (Community Village) pointed out to the scribe prior to the meeting the great deal proposed in one of the Guideline changes. Section 42 Booth Fees should add the word "each" after the cost of the passes. The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

## MEMBER INPUT

Jen, representing the School Garden Project which is listed as a Donation item on next month's agenda, introduced herself.

## STAFF & OFFICER REPORTS

**General Manager** It has been a month of budgets. Thanks to the Budget Committee and the Treasurers and coordinators for all of their hard work and a very smooth process. Unhappily, because of a family medical emergency, Leslie had to miss the coordinator potluck in January on budgets. Thanks so much to norma for all her support during this difficult time, and to Hilary for covering for her at the potluck. Leslie just learned that LTD (bus) rates increased from \$58 to \$68/hour for each bus. She expects to stay within the approved \$39,000 budget as she estimated the cost at \$66/hour and should be able to cover the rest out of the contingency in that line item. She has begun talks with Zak Schwartz and Jude Bannister to do the mediation training. Their fees fall within the budget parameters of the Education and Training line item. If we receive a large pool of applicants she may request more funding later. The Express Yourself: Using the Arts in Working with Youth workshop, held last Friday and Saturday, was very successful on many levels. Community members, as well as Board and Youth Program Development Committee members attended. Charlie Murphy and Peggy Taylor (Power of Hope Directors and Express Yourself facilitators) are holding another workshop on March 8-10, in Tualalip, Washington, titled "Make Your Mark -- a Teen Gathering on Creativity and Community Action." Leslie will miss the March Board meeting in order to attend the Northwest Festivals and Event Conference where she will present a talk called, "Beyond the Weekend -- Living the Mission Year Round." The Fair is one of only two events (the other is Bumbershoot) which has year round programs that speak to its mission.

**Administrative Assistant** norma thanked Leslie for all of her hard work to coordinate the Express Yourself workshop. She, too, had a great time attending Express Yourself. Thanks to Susannah MacDonald (Entertainment crew) for putting such beautiful Entertainment applications on the Fair website. Now, one may apply on-line for just about everything the Fair has to offer. Thanks to Michele Sharpy for hosting the January Coordinator potluck. norma spent the past month investigating health insurance rates for the staff. Unfortunately, the Fair may be unable to take advantage of a lower premium and higher deductible this year as changes can only be made at the renewal date which just passed. The Business Directory committee hopes to take the final draft to the printer by February 28. She has also been busy editing the Guidelines and copying for the Budget Committee. Russell will review the agreement with USA Credit Card Store to install two ATM machines this. (Remember, change comes from within.)

**Site Manager** "It is still mid-winter but, things like Indian plum and daffodils are beginning to pop up! Thanks to the dedicated volunteers who came out for the mid-winter Highway Pick-up on January 13th. Howard McCartney (VegManECs), who coordinates the Highway Pick Up, has set the dates for the future pick ups: April 13, July 27 (tentative), October 19, (2002) and January 11, (2003). It has been another wet month on site with several floods and the site is looking rather hammered. The Lodge Project Steering Committee and the Path Planning/LUMP Committees met in January, and will meet on February 16, and February 17, respectively. Thanks go out to John Tilson and Chris Reid Murray of McKenzie River Broadcasting for donating a used telephone system which Ichabod and Tommy (Communications) will install this winter, giving us a permanent internal phone system on site. Steve, Andy and Arrow (Traffic Co-Coord) are organizing a work party for February 16: they'll use some of the recycled wood on site to build bird nesting boxes. Steve also invited folks to come out on Saturdays to collect cuttings and prepare them for planting this spring. He is planning a big work party in March for the Indian Creek Restoration project, planting trees and shrubs.

"Late breaking news! The windstorm that struck Lane County on February 7, did extensive damage to the Fair site. The power was out for three days. On our upland acreage, 30-40 big fir trees were blown down in Zenn Acres and Alice's Wonderland. Thankfully, none of our permanent structures were damaged. Down in the floodplain, many trees were toppled or lost major limbs. Several booths have been damaged or flattened. It was already going to be a busy spring for Tree, Site and VegManECs crews, and the storm really added to the work load. We'll have to wait, though, for drier weather and firmer ground before we can begin to clear the paths. As always, Fair family are welcome to visit the site and make plans to rebuild their booths; reconstruction will still follow the timetable in the Guidelines."

**Treasurers** Hilary appreciated that more Board members attended the work session on the budget. It makes the Treasurers and the Budget Committee feel good knowing that you care about the details. We have begun the first year of a new two-year budget cycle. At present, we have approximately \$30,000 remaining for Capital Projects with requests totaling close to \$130,000. The Budget Committee has its work laid before them to present a working Capital Projects budget to the Board next month for approval.

President Jack thanked the Budget Committee and the Treasurers for their hard work and making the process seem painless. Jack wants to remind coordinators that available SOPs increased another ten percent this year. He anticipates a successful youth camp this summer with a lot of human and green energy. The Fair is also considering holding a concert on site, which would be the third event this year. Take note -- we are beginning to bring some long-germinating seeds to fruition. Let's help each other pull it all together!

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Election Committee** The Election Committee received 24 responses to the survey that was in the November issue of the Fair Family News. The survey was stimulated by one, very vocal member stating that she did not have time to return her ballot. Thus, the committee decided to look into this issue and request feedback. We received some comments that the survey was biased. It was much more positive than what we had originally written. Considering that we have approximately 3,000 voting members, we send out 1,000 absentee ballot packets, and receive about 350 back and approximately an additional 150 ballots are cast at the annual meeting, we are very discouraged. We don't understand why a bunch of radicals or folks who want to bring the Fair to the rest of the world aren't voting in the first place. All respondents are absentee voters. All, but four, received their ballot, and all of them returned their ballot this year. Heidi Doscher (Membership Secretary) is reviewing their data to make sure it is current. Most respondents live in Oregon and Washington, although we had a few from California, and one each from New Mexico and New York. Our current mailing time is two weeks there and two weeks for return via First Class Mail. We considered extending the mailing time (to and from) by two weeks which would put the candidate and petition deadline prior to the Teddy Bear picnic. Later, after talking with Norma and Leslie, we realized that the picnic date is flexible (dependent upon other events on site) and the deadline considerations shouldn't center around the picnic. Twenty-one people said yes and two said no that this would be enough time. One member criticized a timing centered around the picnic because she thought the picnic is only open to staff and thus, biased against crafters. We'd like to respond that whether the picnic is used as a political forum or not, the Teddy Bear Picnic is open to all Fair family; it is closed to the public. Then we asked if this would be too much time and the ballot would get lost in a pile of stuff and so miss the deadline: eight people said yes and fourteen said no. The next question asked, do you think changing the timing will work: six said yes and twelve said no (all for conflicting reasons). The New York response said they had plenty of time and New Mexico said just barely. Given these results, the Election Committee was split as to whether we should extend the timing, and so makes no recommendation. Thus, we bring the information to the Bylaws Committee and the Board. What is significant about the responses is that most of them want to know the candidates' views on the issues facing the Fair, what do people do in their non-Fair life and Fair participation. They expect that you want to continue the magic at the Fair; the members want to know how you are going to handle the hard issues. The Election Committee is considering how to sponsor an on-line candidate forum or some other question/response venue which may be implemented this year or in 2003. Lastly, it is the Election Committee's feeling that we are not responsible for the US Mail and we don't care how you vote; we care that you vote.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **DONATION -- HIV ALLIANCE**

Diane moved, and David H seconded, that the Board donate \$500 as a sponsor of the HIV Alliance Riverwalk. Peach Gallery: Darnel Mandelblatt (HIV Alliance) appreciated the Fair's past support and hopes the OCF will continue as a sponsor. The Riverwalk fundraiser will be held on Saturday, May 18. Contact the HIV Alliance office if you want more information about organizing a team and collecting pledges. Their two newest programs include a needle exchange (considered illegal by the federal government) and community outreach and education with the Latino population. Many people in the room were amazed/dismayed to learn that Lane County has 10,000 reported heroin addicts. HIV Alliance exchanges 20-30,000 needles each month. Jack noted this is one reason HIV continues to remain high.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

### **DONATION -- ELMIRA HIGH SCHOOL, STUDENT DIRECTED PLAY**

Marlene moved, and Dr Jim seconded, the Board donate \$150 to the student-directed play at Elmira High School.

Peach Gallery: Michelle Davies, Vice-president of the Elmira High School Thespian Society, requested funds to produce "The Crucible" this winter. Because the school went from a two-semester program to a three-semester program no funds are available for a winter play. The drama coach encouraged the students to produce a play themselves. The play will run March 1st and 2nd. Tickets cost \$4. Leslie said she will be sure to get the information for a student contact so proposals may be made to the Endowment Committee in the future.

BoD: Bear and Marlene each performed in The Crucible when they were in high school. Dr Jim -- this represents the best of the Fair's values: community, arts education, and youth.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

### **DONATION -- MARIJUANA POLICY PROJECT**

Bear moved, and LT seconded, that the Board donate \$100 to the Marijuana Policy Project.

Background: The Marijuana Policy Project is one of the nation's foremost groups lobbying for drug law reform. Currently, they are bringing a lawsuit against the federal government for prohibiting the people of Washington, DC, from implementing a medical marijuana program approved by the voters.

BoD: Brad -- Check out their website, [www.mpp.org](http://www.mpp.org); get active.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

### **APPOINTMENT -- RECYCLING CO-COORDINATOR**

Bear moved, and Brad seconded, that the Board appoint Lara Howe as Recycling Co-Coordinator.

Peach Gallery: The Board received a letter of endorsement from Brent (Co-Coord), a letter from Lara, as well as her presence at the meeting! Randy Nowell (VegManECs), Steve W, norma, and Palmer all spoke in support of Lara. She is always smiling even when recycling!

The motion passed 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

### **APPOINTMENT -- YOUTH PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (YPDC)**

Marlene moved, and Brad seconded, that the Board appoint Katrina Zavalny to the YPDC.

Peach Gallery: Caleb worked with Katrina at last year's teen camp. It is good to have someone just out of their teens involved in the planning. Hilary -- Katrina has a lot of enthusiasm and recruited many folks to participate in the Express Yourself workshop

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

## BYLAWS AMENDMENT RE ANNUAL MEETINGS

Jim moved, and David H seconded, that the Board amend the following sentences in Article VI. Membership Meetings, Section 1. Annual Meetings, to read: "Agendas for the annual meeting shall be set 60 days prior to the meeting. Items may be placed on the agenda for the annual meeting upon the petition of 25 or more of the members, by presenting the petition to the Secretary at least 60 days before the annual meeting, or at such earlier time as the Board of Directors may designate."

Note: The prior text listed 30 days.

BoD: Jim then began to question whether 60 days was appropriate as Lawrence began to advocate for fewer days so that members could collect petition signatures at the picnic. Board members could not agree during the discussion whether the Bylaws should change or what time frame is appropriate. The motion is essentially tabled until next month even though no formal motion to table was made.

## GUIDELINES CHANGES

Bear moved, and David H seconded that the following portion of Section 31 Towing will read " ...will be towed to an out-of-the-way area on Fair property, identified via their vehicle sticker number and assessed a \$50 towing fee. Those who fail to pay and/or repeat offenders may lose the privilege to purchase a vehicle sticker at subsequent Fair(s).

David H's friendly amendment to increase the fee from \$25 to \$50 was accepted. LT tinkered with the grammar. Peach Gallery: Steve W -- Traffic has tried many soft solutions and this continues to be a problem. All persuasive measures have failed. The result is the paying public must walk from the furthest points in the parking lot past Fair family vehicles. Leslie fully supports this change. It is comparable to the abandoned refrigerator problem of several years past. It was not until the Fair took the hard road and implemented a fine that people got serious about removing their own junk. The Fair also spends thousands of dollars to tow our own family's cars back to Dead Lot.

BoD: Brad -- \$25 is a valet parking fee while \$50 is a fine. David H noted the letter from Kim Allen (Artisan) which states she was told by staff where to park only to later find her car towed to the Dead Lot. Charlie, Jim, and Dr Jim are concerned that \$50 may be too expensive for many people.

The motion failed: 5 in favor and 5 opposed (Jack, Diane, LT, Jim, and Dr Jim).

Dr Jim moved, and Bear seconded, the Board adopt the above change as written with a \$25 fee.

The motion passed: 9 in favor and 1 opposed (Jack).

Bear moved, and Brad seconded, that the following portions of Section 42 Booth Fees will read:

"Strolling craft vendors pay \$120, which includes two wristbands and one vehicle sticker. Two additional wristbands may be purchased at the cost of \$50 each on or before June 30. On or after July 1, additional wristbands will be \$60 each." And before 'Non-profit organizations' add: "Food carts pay \$170, which includes three wristbands and one vehicle sticker. Three additional wristbands may be purchased for \$50 each on or before June 30. On or after July 1, additional wristbands will be \$60 each."

BoD: David H -- this reflects the working reality of Registration.

The motion passed: 9 in favor and 1 opposed (Jack).

Bear moved, and David H seconded, that the following portion of Section 44 Vehicle Stickers will read: "...Additional vehicle stickers are available for \$20 each to booth members. Total vehicle stickers sold to a booth cannot exceed one-half the number of passes. Because of limited parking..."

BoD: David H -- this reflects the working reality of Registration.

The motion passed 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Bear moved, and David H seconded, that the following portion of Section 44, Worker Day Passes will read:

"These are available to daytime booth workers for \$10 each."

BoD: Diane is concerned about the impact this will have on Community Village day workers which all represent non-profit organizations. David said he did not intend for it to affect Community Village. He proposed this change because he is caught in the middle facing a legitimate need by some vendors and the sense from management that there is ongoing abuse of a cheap ticket. Food booths are the biggest users of day passes and

each year he needs more. Jack -- are we then creating a third type of entry ticket? Leslie responded, "no." This is a disincentive to abuse. David and management view the end result differently. There will be enough passes for legitimate requests. The actual practice will change very little as the majority of day passes are sold after July 1. The motion passed: 8 in favor and 2 opposed (Jack and Diane).

Bear moved, and Brad seconded, that a new section be added after Section 49: "Floodplain Considerations All vertical surfaces must be hinged and/or removable to a minimum of four feet above ground level. Modifications in the areas of the worst erosion (i.e., E 13th and other small areas) must be completed by 7/31/03. All other booths must comply by the 2006 Fair.

Charlie's friendly amendment to change the dates to 7/31/04, and 7/31/06 was accepted.

Peach Gallery: Dave Peek (Artisan) would support a motion applying this condition to booths as they rebuild but, not to existing booths. Randy has devised an inexpensive method for converting skirt boards to hinged skirt boards. He will gladly organize volunteers to assist booth folk to make the changes. Grumpy noted Kim Allen's letter opposing this guideline. The Craft Committee also opposed this guideline. Arrow (Traffic) and Andy (Caretaker) advocated for the change -- The land suffers less erosion if the water is allowed to move as a sheet rather than channeled .

Board: Jack -- this motion contradicts the county construction codes. The issue is still permanent vs. temporary. This moves us away from the direction to convert to all temporary structures as is the code in a flood plain.

David H opposed the motion as it will cost booth people hundreds of dollars to rebuild/convert their booths. He added that it isn't feasible for the Fair to convert all of their structures: fences, booths, Six-packs, etc. within this time frame given the budgetary impact and work load. It should be addressed on a case by case basis.

Bear withdrew the motion.

Bear moved, and Dr Jim seconded that the following text be added to the beginning of Section 57 New Craft Vendors: "Each year a limited number of applicants are approved through a jury process to sell their crafts at the Fair. The applicants with the highest jury scores for that year will be placed in one-year-only booths and required to share the booth with other approved craftspersons.

BoD: Dr Jim -- the amount of verbiage does not represent the amount of time and effort that Craft Committee used to draft the proposal. David H -- this is a clarification for folks who are new to the Fair.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Bear moved, and David H seconded, that the following text will be added to the end of section 57 New Craft Vendors. "Sales space is not guaranteed to all approved crafters; there is simply not enough booth space available to all the craftspeople who want to participate."

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

The proposed change for Section 59 One-Year-Only Booths was deemed to be operational, not policy.

Bear moved, and David H seconded that the following portion of Section 62 Craft Inventory shall read: "...All crafts sold at the Fair must be hand crafted, handmade, homegrown, hand-gathered, or significantly altered by the person(s) who had that craft approved by the Fair. ... The craft must be made, displayed and sold by the craftsperson who juried that craft.

Peach Gallery: Dave Peek -- We may soon be dealing with people who no longer make their own craft. This guideline will help Craft Inventory.

BoD: -- David H -- this motion reaffirms one of the Fair's central tenets -- that one buys an item from the craftsperson who made it. LT -- "significantly altered" refers to the craft and not to the craftsperson, right! Dr Jim -- Craft Committee thinks it is important to state this in the Guidelines. Jim -- Craft Committee spent six months drafting this language.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

The portion of Section 62 referring to Strolling Vendors was deemed to be operational and did not require a vote of the Board.

The following proposed changes come from the Food Committee and Waste Warriors. As the Board adopted a Waste Free Fair policy they thought these changes were operational and did not submit them last month for

Board approval.

Bear moved, and David H seconded, that the Board approved the following changes to Section 71, Sanitation and Section 72, Food Booth Recycling which will read as follows:

Section 71, Sanitation. Provide adequate, cleanable, non-absorbent, fly-tight garbage and refuse containers for use inside each booth. Garbage containers outside the booth must comply with the recycling guidelines outlined in Section 72.

Section 72. Food Booth Recycling. All food vendors are required to use biodegradable paper food service containers (i.e., plates, bowls, cups, etc.). Plastic utensils are permitted but must be disposed of separately. Coffee lids, plastic straws and stirrers, and the like, should be offered only "upon request."

Recyclables will be picked up in front of the food booths each morning. These recyclables must be sorted into the following categories and left for the Recycling Crew in separate containers or manageable piles: A. Food Scraps (including biodegradable paper food service containers) B. Recyclable paper board and cardboard (including waxed cardboard) C. Glass (rinsed) and cans (rinsed and flattened) D. Rigid plastic containers (tubs, bottles) E. Plastic bags (use 1 to contain the rest) F. Waste (none of the above)

Food booths should not provide "stand alone" garbage cans in front of their booths. Food booths that do so must sort non-biodegradable items from the waste. Food Booths with contained dining areas should provide separate containers for (1) biodegradable items (food waste and food service containers) and for (2) plastic waste (straws, utensils, etc.)

Peach Gallery: Leslie -- Food Committee is totally supportive and committed to implementing the Waste Free Fair goals. All food booths must attend a meeting prior to the Fair each year. Recycling crew has been talking to them during the past years. The food booths have been aware that changes like this are necessary to implement the Waste Free Fair.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Bear moved, and David H seconded, that the meeting be extended by 30 minutes.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

## **CONCERT PROPOSAL**

Jim moved, and Dr Jim seconded, that the Board accept the concert proposal submitted by Carl Taylor (Main Camp Co-Coord) and Caleb Costello (Main Camp) including the "Points of Interest" amendment submitted by them, and also including any amendments or deletions required by the Fair.

Peach Gallery: Leslie -- Carl and Caleb have a proposal with a lot of good heart and intention, and she would like to see something happen; however, she has concerns about some of the assumptions in their proposal. 1) The combination event of camping and day use over 3,000 people will require at least a temporary use permit according to our land use attorney. 2) We have a contract with Fastixx through 2003 that they will sell tickets for any event held on Fair property. They do not release money until after the event. It is very risky for the Fair to assume all the costs before the event occurs. 3) It seems unrealistic that the Fair would net \$100,000. 4) The proposal requires the revenue to be dedicated to specific projects. This point should require lots more discussion by the Board. Hilary -- the Board failed to put out a real RFP with set parameters. This is too open-ended. We are now beginning to learn to manage our own concert and should start much smaller with the goal of working toward something larger. Caleb agrees with Leslie and Hilary that a lot is at stake on many levels. The Fair is in a position to do new things. We can do it successfully as a team.

BoD: Basically, everyone would like to have a concert on site but they seem split as to whether the OCF can afford to carry the financial risk for this proposal. Charlie thanked Caleb & Carl for drafting a proposal; it means a lot that it came from Fair family. However, he would prefer to hone some of the details this year and pursue it for next summer. The Fair has a lot on its plate this year, i.e., job restructuring, youth camp, and the window is narrowing. LT said that he would prefer to do this venture than some of the other planned events.

The motion failed: 5 in favor (David H, Dr Jim, Bear, LT, Diane), 4 opposed (Marlene, Jim, Charlie & Jack), and 1 abstention (Brad).

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 4, at EWEB, 7pm. The agenda, subject to change, will include: Ken Kesey Memorial Sculpture (Jim), Bylaws Change re Elections (Jim), Budget Issues, Capital

Projects Budget, Grievance Appeal, Appointments: Teen Crew and Fire Crew Co-Coordiators, Caretaker Job Description, Donations: School Garden Project, Early Education Program, Earth Day, and Center for Community Counseling.

Minutes by Jen-lin