

OREGON COUNTRY FAIR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

March 3, 2003

PRESENT: Brad Lerch, Charlie Zennache, Bear Wilner, David Helton, David Liberty, Charles Drew, Lawrence Taylor (aka LT), Diane Albino, Jack Makarchek (left after the NAACP Donation decision), and Jim Newhall (aka Dr Jim), and Marlene Monette & Jim Sahr (alternates). Jim Sahr felt ill and left after the committee reports.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CALENDAR

- Sat. 3/15 A special training for Crisis Intervention Trainers will be held at Alice's from 9am-4pm. Contact Zak Schwartz if you plan to attend.
- Sat. 4/12 The Spring Highway Pick Up will be held. Meet at the Warehouse at 10am.
- Sat. 5/10 The Spring Fling will be held at the WOW Hall.

Contact the Fair office if you are interested in peacekeeping training for future rallies and demonstrations. This training is open to folks who are already familiar with non-violence crisis intervention.

Fastixx has a new name, TicketsWest. It is still the same regional company operating in the same venues. TicketsWest will continue to hold the service fee to \$1 for the Oregon Country Fair, for which we are very grateful.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Bear moved, and LT seconded, the minutes of the 1/27/03 BoD meeting be approved.

Charles noted that he is not an alternate as listed.

The motion passed as corrected, 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Bear moved, and Dr Jim seconded, the minutes of the 2/3/03 BoD meeting be approved.

Steve W denied, and Dr Jim assumed credit for the statement, "We're going to assign one elder and one teen to swat mosquitoes off of each Fair goer!"

The motion passed as corrected: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

MEMBER INPUT

Howard Leighty demonstrated the Goblin Mosquito Eater which, according to the sales brochure, is a "portable, affordable, safe, totally effective death trap for mosquitoes & flying biting insects."

STAFF & OFFICERS REPORT

General Manager Leslie Scott -- It's good, yet sad, to see Mick Westrick here tonight because it means that he's resigning as Vaudeville Co-Coordinator.

Thanks to the Budget Committee (BC) and the Treasurers for their hard work and dedication. They fit a meeting in between the work session and the coordinators' potluck on Saturday to discuss the capital projects budget. The BC continues to work on ongoing crew budgets and Leslie was just informed that the comprehensive liability insurance would increase at least 25 percent this year.

Thanks to the LUMP Committee (Land Use Management Planning), the management team, and Bear Wilner and Carl Taylor (Main Camp Co-Coord) for the concise and comprehensive information on land use issues, campground hosts, tent tags, and vehicle stickers. Thank you, also, to all of the participants; it was a fantastic turnout, 75 in total. It was a very informative and productive meeting. Have faith that questions will continue to be resolved.

Thanks to Hilary Anthony (Co-Treasurer) for organizing the work session on Investing with the Oregon Community Foundation. David Westcott gave a wonderful presentation about their services. Although the evening was poorly attended, with only two Board members, Hilary and Leslie would like to pursue some form of partnership with the other OCF.

Leslie also had an informative meeting with Midge Campbell (4A Co-Coord) who presented a report by Dan Grover, an accessibility consultant, regarding the OCF's response to the American with Disabilities Act. He outlined several areas of improvement and summarized, "the Oregon Country Fair is a rugged place for people with disabilities; however, the 4A crew makes the fair as smooth as possible for these people."

Site Manager Steve Wisnovsky noted that something new happened on site today. We were visited by members of the Jehovah's Witnesses. After each party introduced themselves to each other, they all wished each other a good day and continued on about their business! We've had yet another month of less than average precipitation and higher than average temperatures, and much of the flora seems three to four weeks ahead of schedule. This serves to increase the worry level that we're always behind on the "to-do list".

Thanks to Rebecca Bradvica (Sign Painter) who donated an Apple printer to the site, just when his current donated printer was having problems. Great manifesting! Sauna folks have been on site purging painted wood from their woodpiles. Thanks to the Green Thumb and Garden crews who are already hard at work.

Steve also thanked the participants at the work session last weekend, especially members of the LUMP Committee: Dennis Todd, facilitation, DJ Rogers, scribe, Anna Scott, and others presentations. He anxiously eyed the weather upon realizing that 75 people would not fit inside the house. Thankfully, it didn't rain, and the fire pit outside made a wonderful gathering spot. He noted two new terms coined by our creative Fair wordsmiths. Aleta Miller (Peach Pages) described our wonderful synergies of chaos and organization as "chaotic", and "campcierge" is the new name for campground hosts coined by Oso (Internal Security Co-Coord)! The spring highway pick up is scheduled for Saturday, April 12. We're hoping for a good turnout; if we get enough willing volunteers, we'll also do a "good neighbor" cleanup of Suttle Road.

Administrative Assistant norma echoed Leslie and Steve's thoughts about the work session; it was cooperative and informative with a good spirit. Thank you to Robin Bernardi who is a big help in the office. They are finishing the web site re-design. However, the installation may be a bit delayed as the web designer is due to give birth very soon! Teen Crew applications are available. We must be getting ready to host a Fair as many applications for booths and entertainment are being mailed out and many are returning. The Guidelines will go to the printer this week. There will be an icon next to the new material in the Guidelines to make it easier to find! Copies will be available by March 22, in time for the Registration packet mailing party. norma thanked Mary Shuler who is resigning as Coordinator of the Fair Family News. Mary has been with the paper since it first began. norma also had the pleasure of seeing Maya Angelou speak last week. She spoke of being "the rainbow in our clouds." norma often thinks of the Fair family as being a really big rainbow in our clouds.

President Jack also appreciated the great attendance at the work session. He was impressed how many areas already use their own tent tags and is glad that some are already taking care of themselves. We cannot lose sight of what this process is all about. It is especially not the result or the implementation of the mistrust that we see out in the real world. We must also be vigilant and conscious about the language we choose. As we continue to discuss and resolve the questions of nighttime population we will eliminate a big part of the perceived problem. Jack thanked the management team for making the work session work so well.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Craft David H noted that the Craft Committee meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm at the Fair office. They have recently discussed the issues of nighttime sales. One problem is that some vendors put out imported items before the Sweep has passed by. The problem seems to be getting out of control with reports of some vendors renting out their booth space to nighttime sellers. The Craft Committee has not determined a solution to these issues yet.

LUMP will host two meetings to develop an upland forest management plan to handle the latest property acquisitions that are above the flood plain. They will meet on March 8 and 22, at Alice's from 1-4pm. LUMP welcomes comments and input about what concerns the Fair's forestry management plan should address. They will begin to draft the plan in April.

Personnel is rewriting parts of the Personnel Policies & Procedures Manual and some of the job descriptions. These will be up for Board review soon.

OLD BUSINESS

APPOINTMENT -- DOG CONTROL CO-COORDINATOR

Charlie moved, and David H seconded, that the Board appoints Barbara Bartel as Dog Control Co-Coordinator.

Peach Gallery: norma said that both current Dog Control Co-coordinators, Brice McMorris and Jon Silvermoon, support Barbara Bartel.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

APPOINTMENT -- VAUDEVILLE CO-COORDINATOR

Bear moved, and David L seconded, that the Board appoint Ben Farrell and Michelle Fitz as Vaudeville Co-Coordinators.

Peach Gallery: Marge Wise (ex-Vaudeville Co-Coord) gave Mick a beautiful bouquet of flowers and thanked him for all of his wonderful work. She thinks Ben Farrell and Michelle Fitz are both qualified to be great coordinators and she will continue to be involved and supportive. Marge also honors Michael Mielnik's (aka Reverend Chumleigh) e-mail comments that performers need input, however, from a practical point, now is the time that coordinators must sign contracts with performers. The decision cannot be put off for another month. Marge said that the coordinators must be the conduits between the performers and the Fair. They need the performers' input so they can represent them well. Anne Morris (VegManECs) spoke in support of Michelle; she is an intelligent, high energy, open person.

BoD: Bear and LT agreed with Michael's ideas, yet agreed more that the Fair must go on. Bear said that he would like to see coordinator and committee appointments made as open as possible. Charlie disagreed, saying coordinator appointments are often handpicked by the out-going coordinator or by the crew they represent. Charlie and David H said they also understand Michael's

concerns. David H trusts that the dialogue will be passed on from the old to the new coordinators. Jack said he does not want to change the process.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

CAPITAL PROJECTS BUDGET

Bear moved, and LT seconded, that the Board approves the Capital Projects budget for \$40,405 as submitted by the Budget Committee.

Background: The Budget Committee received requests totaling over \$85,000. They chose health and safety as a primary measure and tried to balance areas that received funding last year with those that did not. Some requests have been left temporarily unresolved such as WC Fields rigging part two, gray water disposal (folks are still researching if we can create our own drain field), and the cost of utensils and plates to implement the Waste Free Fair. A few of the bigger ticket projects include \$5900 to replace Jill's Crossing, \$4000 for a new water pump at Alice's, and \$5815 for vault toilet restoration. This includes one six-pack at Politics Park and one at Shady Grove.

BoD & Peach Gallery: Charlie supports increasing line 49, Site Utility Carts, by \$1400 for a total of \$4000 so that we can buy the higher quality carts and put them to a real test. In this way, the Board and the Fair can begin to test the implementation of a Vehicle Free Eight. He doesn't want the vision to fail because we didn't implement it adequately. Leslie said the BC had a similar discussion, but decided that a number of different alternatives will be necessary. The BC would like to know if we could build them ourselves for less money. Anne -- Philip Guyette is researching several distributors for the best deal possible. However, she agrees the cart kits will meet the needs of Main Camp, Construction, Recycling, etc. Joseph Newton (Recycling) Four carts is a small part of the need. He trusts that plans will continue to develop. Jack does not want to change the bottom line of the budget. What projects will be cut if we increase this item?

Tim Mueller (Community Village (CV) Council) advocated restoring the budget for rebuilding the stage and surrounding booths. Last year, Kirk and Beth (Construction Co-Coords) discussed with Tim the need to develop a five-year plan to replace all the booths in the CV, which are aging. The BC, however, determined that since CV received money last year to rebuild the Info Booth/Come Unity House, the budget request should be put off a year out of fairness to other areas. Palmer questioned \$2200 to Expand the Cow Palace (the last barn at Alice's) which is primarily used by Culture Jam.

BoD: Charlie moved, and LT seconded, that the Board amends the motion to increase line 49 to \$4000 for Site Utility Carts. The discussion then followed two tracks (pun intended): one to adequately fund this pilot project for success and the other to maintain the bottom line.

The motion to amend the motion to approve the Capital Projects budget passed: 8 in favor and 2 opposed (Jack & Charles).

Discussion continued in search of projects that could be cut or funded at a smaller amount, but no agreement could be found.

The motion to approve the Capital Projects budget passed at the new total of \$41,805 passed: 8 in favor and 2 opposed (Jack & Charles).

DONATION -- NAACP

Charles moved, and Jack seconded, that the BoD donates \$500 (later amended to \$300) to the NAACP Conference, which will be held on March 7, in Eugene.

BoD: Bear -- While this is a good cause and a good organization, he didn't believe that the request met the goals of the Fair's mission. Charlie and Marlene agreed and wondered whether a donation at this late hour would be of service. LT disagreed. The conference will address the educational achievement gap and may help to improve our own racial diversity. He also said that money always makes a difference and it says more about who we are. Jack -- we must confront this; how could we not benefit. Charles this is our chance to walk our talk. Charles' first introduction to the Fair was working at a NAACP food booth that sold chicken across from Main Stage. Bear agreed that the Fair needs more racial diversity, but he is concerned that this money will be used to host a meeting. Charlie agreed with Bear that this is a regional (Oregon, Washington and Idaho) strategic planning meeting. Jack ceded time to Leslie who suggested amending the donation amount. She added that it would be sad if the OCF missed an opportunity to be present at the NAACP. This meeting is about community building and networking with other activists. The Eugene NAACP chapter fought hard to host the meeting. Charles offered a friendly amendment to reduce the amount to \$300 and Jack, as second, reluctantly accepted.

The motion passed as amended: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

SEPTEMBER BOD MEETING DATE

David H moved, and Charlie seconded, that the September Board meeting be held on the second Monday, September 8, 2003 on site at Alice's at 7pm.

The motion passed: 9 in favor and 0 opposed.

Appoint David H withdrew Office Crew Coordinator from the agenda. The Ken Kesey Memorial Sculpture and Donation to Center for Community Counseling were tabled until next month.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 7, 7pm at EWEB. The agenda, subject to change, will include the items tabled above, ongoing budget issues, and the following new business: Appointments: Culture Jam Committee and Security/Sweep Crew Coordinator; Donations: Fiesta Latina, Elmira High School Graduation Night Drug & Alcohol Free Party, Earth Day, Consider Investing a Portion of Endowment Principle with the Oregon Community Foundation, OCF History Book Project, Consider Assistance to a Member, New Year's Eve Proposal, Clarification/Discussion of Elders Policy vs Elders Pass (Charlie), Changes to the Personnel Policy & Procedures Manual and Job Descriptions, Revisit 5% SOP Increase, and Mosquito Control, and Logo Items Jury Selection.

Minutes by Jen-Lin