

OREGON COUNTRY FAIR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES, JUNE 29, 2003

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

NOT: Charles Drew

Note: the meeting was held at the fire pit at Alice's Wonderland!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Fair's attorney noted that the Fair and Fair family must be aware of the potential impact of Congress' passage last April of the "Illicit Drug Anti-Proliferation Act of 2003", commonly known as the "Rave Act" last April. It is a bill "To prohibit an individual from knowingly opening, maintaining, managing, controlling, renting, leasing, making available for use, or profiting from any place for the purpose of manufacturing, distributing, or using any controlled substance, and for other purposes." This is a federal law with heavy fines and criminal penalties. It is being used particularly against activist events and other entities who publicly oppose the policies of the current administration.. The Fair's attorney wants to emphasize that that the Oregon Country Fair's Drug and Alcohol Free Event policy adopted by the 1997 Board of Directors is still in effect and is actively enforced. There is no alcohol consumption in any public area during public hours and drugs are not allowed on site at any time.

David Liberty – Oregon Public Broadcast televised a wonderful piece about the OCF Vaudeville on Oregon Art Beat last week!

Leslie – The Oregon Country Fair is not promoting or associated with the Fringe Festival.

The OCF won the "Recycler of the Year Award for an organization!"

Etienne Smith, a.k.a. Auntie Em (Security) announced her decision to run for the Board.

Brad announced the sad news that Mike Percilek (Crew Services – Showers) had a bad motorcycle accident last week. He is out of intensive care and healing.

MINUTES APPROVAL

David L moved, and Jim seconded, that the June 2, 2003, Board minutes be approved.

Peach Gallery: norma corrected that Lucy Kingsley, not Lucy Lynch, is the check signer for the Key checking account. Charlie noted that the minutes did not reflect that Connie Freeman raised a concern about a current Board member, Charles Drew. David L did not accept the latter amendment.

Charlie moved, and Jim seconded, that the minutes include the Member Input that Connie Freeman appeared before the Board to register a complaint, with an accompanying letter, against Charles Drew.

Peach Gallery & BoD: A fairly lengthy discussion ensued debating what type of content should be included in the minutes and whether all input should be recorded. Several members stated that the Board meetings are held to conduct the business of the Fair and it is not an appropriate forum to raise personal issues. Jack – The minutes aren't a total reflection of what happened. It is the Secretary's responsibility to record the minutes discerningly. Charlie disagreed; it is the "province of the Board to approve the minutes." The minutes don't have to include the details of Connie's comments, but it should reflect that she addressed the Board. Etienne agreed that the record should be consistent. The Fair's attorney noted that the OCF has a long-time practice of lengthy, expressive minutes, but the only legal requirement is to record the votes on a motion. He is concerned that the Fair could be "held liable as a publisher of

defamatory comment” if it reprinted the allegations. However, a general statement would not pose a risk. Brad appreciates the care that the Secretary uses in making the hard decisions.

The motion to approve the minutes as amended by Charlie failed: 5 in favor, 4 opposed (LT, Jim, Jack, and David L), and 1 abstention (Brad).

The motion to approve the minutes including the corrected name, Lucy Kingsley, passed: 8 in favor, 0 opposed, and 2 abstentions (Brad & LT who were absent from the 6/2 meeting).

MEMBER INPUT

J.A.R. (Deconstruction Coord) streaked through the meeting, and circled around the fire pit, with the words “Celibate for a Peace” painted across his back!

STAFF & OFFICER REPORTS

General Manager Leslie – Main Camp has a lot of huge projects happening. It is all proceeding very well and beautifully. There is never enough time to appreciate everyone as ceremonially as she would like. She thanks the Board for bringing us to this point again. She appreciates their willingness to work with all of the juicy complexities and trust that management will deliver the Board’s policies. She thanked the officers for all of their love and support and hard work. Thank you, Jack, for all of your work and caring support. The management team, including the B.U.M.s, Swimmers, co-workers and attorneys are the best crew. You are all on track and so present with your whole being. Thank you for this, her twelfth Fair as GM.

The new bridge was installed today; Construction is absolutely awesome! The level of volunteer activity and creative art is amazing. As always, this is going to be the best Fair ever!

Administrative Assistant norma echoed Leslie’s appreciations and thanked Leslie for her incredible energy and support. She added that one of her goals this year was to improve information communication. She thanked everyone involved with the *Peach Pit*, the *Peach Pages*, *Fair Family News*, and the new website.

Site Manager Steve Wisnovsky thanked all of the volunteers on site that are re-building our small city. Main Camp has changed in that fewer people are on site during the week and many more are working on the weekends. We have a great work force! Thank you, Construction. The new Jill’s Crossing bridge will be completed by Friday morning. He added that they were able to find enough material in the logs on site for the bridge! Thus, they only used \$750 of the amount approved at the 6/2 meeting. (Leslie added that the monks will hold a bridge blessing ceremony on Friday morning at 10:30am and then proceed up to Altared Space where they will create a sand mandala for world peace.)

Steve added that the fire danger is exceptionally high. The trees felled by the windstorm two years ago left a huge fuel load on the ground. We need rain before the Fair. He removed “The Sequoia Exception” from the Board’s agenda after talking with Sue & Chuck Kesey. They would gladly appreciate one of the oaks or ash from our nursery to replace the ash trees that were removed from the Dragon entrance.

Remember, it’s a trip, not just an adventure!

Treasurers The bottom line is extremely close this year. We must rely on all coordinators to stay within their budgets or we risk using our savings.

President Jack – Board meetings are always an appropriate forum for expressing thanks.

He feels very humbled in light of the times in which we live. Thirty plus years ago, before 1969, the counter-culture scared those just emerging from the McCarthy era and true power shook at our feet. The powers are not shaking anymore. He expressed a deep appreciation for the Board members, Officers, Staff and management for their courage to be different, celebrate difference and thus affect a radical

change in the world at a time when so many turn their heads and just keep going along, going along, and going along.

The Oregon Country Fair is an arts organization created by many different people with many different beliefs. He appreciates our courage to gather and co-create this wonderful event. The powers are making it more and more difficult to gather peacefully in celebration of our diversity. “The forces are still mustered; we are still closely watched. I, as a Board member, more than you can imagine, am truly responsible for your behavior. I am asking you, as a person, to be on your best behavior. Your behavior can personally affect the people who do the most to continue this event. Let’s just shine and reflect our light.”

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Tent Tags Bear Wilner, who has been facilitating the transition to Fair-wide use of tent tags and neighborhood development, thanked the Board for all of their support. He stressed again that this is not intended as an increase in bureaucracy, but rather, a pro-active step to camping consciously on our land. Bear hopes to produce a camping density map by October to facilitate improved planning for services in the short and long term. He is also excited that the tent tag distribution by campcieres will facilitate greater communication within and among neighborhoods. Two more Campcierge trainings will be held at Main Stage on Sunday, 7/6, and Wednesday, 7/9. Feedback on this new system is welcome, directly with Bear, via the feedback forms, or at the Evaluation Meeting on 8/3.

OLD BUSINESS

BUDGET – CHILLIN’

Brad moved, and David L seconded, that Board allocate \$1000 to chill out a week early.

Background: Due to the timing of Friday, July 4, the generators for the Refer trucks had to be rented a week early. In past years when we rented refer trucks, they would arrive chilled. Now, we own our own trucks and only rent the generator. This motion will insure that the food is stored at the right temperature and everyone will remain healthy.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

COMPOSTABLES AT THE FAIR

David H moved, and Brad seconded, that the OCF require all food vendors use compostable plates, cups, and serviceware to the extent they are available and functional for the food they serve.

Peach Gallery: David L suggested that the word, “require” be changed to “request”. He is concerned that some food vendors may not have budgeted for the extra cost at this late point. David H did not accept this change. David H added that the Food Committee has been preparing food vendors to expect this change for several years. They did not ask to include it in the Guidelines earlier this spring because they could not guarantee an adequate supply. Both Down to Earth and United Grocers stock these items now. The motion leaves enough wiggle room by the language, “the extent they are available and functional.” At present, some of the utensils tend to become limp when they are hot. Leslie added that this motion is an integral part of the Waste Free in 2003 plan. The Food Committee has been on board since the beginning.

The motion passed: 10 in favor.

APPOINTMENT – ELECTION COMMITTEE

David Liberty moved, and David H seconded, that the Board reappoint Merrill Levine (Wristband Co-Coordinator) to the Election Committee.

Background: Jen-Lin apologized to the Board and to Merrill for not including her in last month’s motion due to a lack of communication..

BoD: Bear took the opportunity to encourage new recruits for the Board. Now is a great time to network!

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

DONATION – WHITEAKER THANKSGIVING

Bear moved, and Dr Jim seconded, that the Board donate \$500 to the Whiteaker Thanksgiving Dinner.

BoD: Jack also encouraged Fair members to donate any warm items such as socks, sweaters, coats, blankets etc. for distribution at the Whiteaker Thanksgiving Dinner.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 4, at EWEB, **OR WILL IT BE AT ALICE'S AGAIN???** at 7pm. The agenda, subject to change, may include Appointments – Kitchen Co-Coordinator and Sponsorship for Chili Herders.

Minutes by Jen-Lin

See you at the Fair!