

OREGON COUNTRY FAIR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

June 5, 2006

Present: Diane Albino, Katie Cousins, Paxton Hoag, Brad Lerch, Jack Makarchek, Marlene Monette, Deane Morrow (alternate), Joseph Newton (alternate), Greg Rikhoff, Anna Scott, Lawrence Taylor, Bear Wilner-Nugent.

(During Agenda Review Jack moved and Deane seconded to move 'Appoint Internal Security Co-Coordinator' from new business to old business so it could be voted on tonight. The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.)

Announcements

- Bear said camp host training sessions will be held at Main Stage Meadow at three different times: Sat. July 1 at 2pm; Sun. July 2 at 10am; and Wed. July 5 at 2pm. If you have attended a session in the past, you're welcome but not required to attend. Training sessions will last 90 minutes, and booth camp hosts are especially encouraged to attend.
- Hilary congratulated Lara Howe (Recycling Crew Co-Coordinator) on her 'op ed' piece in the Register-Guard about a racist clause she noticed in a title report when buying a house. Lara is working with her state senator to remove that language from the document. Hilary said she is "proud that Lara is part of our Family."
- Greg said the Fair will have a booth at the fourth annual Multi-Cultural Festival in Eugene on August 11 and Norma said the Teddy Bears' Picnic will be held on August 19.
- Brad said today is the 25th anniversary of the discovery of the first HIV case.
- Leslie brought small OCF posters and encouraged folks to take some to post.

Approval of Minutes

Katie moved and Joseph seconded that the minutes of the May Board meeting be approved. The motion passed: 9 in favor and 1 abstention (Bear).

Member Input

Virgil Courtright (Archaeology Crew Co-Coordinator) talked about the Archaeology Walk held on May 28, said it went well and people enjoyed it. They scheduled another one for June 10 and will try to schedule one more before the Fair. He stressed, "The time has passed for getting a permit to dig for any reason other than postholes for this year's Fair. In most cases posts can be replaced in existing holes only, not many new holes can be dug. Please, always check with Archaeology before digging."

Kay Kintzley (Booth L86) and Jen-lin Hodgden (Feedback Coordinator) brought cookies to sell for \$1 each to raise money for Culture Jam scholarships.

Greg encouraged people who have openings on their crews or in their booths to consider hiring graduates of the Teen Crew program, stressing that "we want to make room for our young people."

Deane attended the Archaeology Walk and talked about how cool it was to see an oven from 5,000 years ago and to think about people camping and cooking on our land so long ago. He also mentioned a six-foot-tall fence that had been knocked down and is being rebuilt, and said fewer post-holes would need to be dug if tie-dye sheets were used for screening rather than fences.

Staff and Officer Reports

General Manager: Leslie said Culture Jam sign-ups were full 2 weeks ago and that 52 young people will be attending this year (45 last year). There are already 8 names on the waiting list. She said interest in and commitment to Culture Jam is growing and thanked folks for buying cookies. It costs \$350 per person to attend the camp and there are more requests for scholarships each year. She appreciates Jen-lin's and Kay's "creativity and tenacity in raising money." She said the Fair had "an amazing and marvelous Spring Fling" and gave a big thank you to norma. She also said it was "a pleasure to have Beth at the helm of WOW Hall that evening." The Alberta Art Hop in Portland (this year's City Fling event) went well; the Fair led the parade and had a booth. She thanked TicketsWest for selling tickets there without the service fee. She "loves being able to do something in Portland" and thanked Sallie Edmunds, Jenny Newton, Geoffrey Silver and all involved for "helping pull that off." She talked about the work session with the Board on Vision Quest and said they "are coming to a place with clear direction on the future of the Fair, and have some exciting stuff lined up during the event. Big thanks to the VQ team for keeping it moving forward." The entertainment schedule is out and she thanked the coordinators for "a fabulous line-up." She is still talking with the State Fair and should have a signed contract soon, but said they have finally acquired both a written and verbal commitment on budget and activity areas. She would love for more people to volunteer to help with that. She said, "We have the same great team of BUMs (Back-Up Managers) this year and congratulations to Charlie Zennache for graduating from swimmer to BUM. And a huge thanks to Lucy K., Leslie C., Eric N., Indigo, new coordinators Amanda and Matt, Grumpy, Charlie R., and all the team working so hard on the Inventory changes this year."

Administrative Assistant: norma thanked Leslie for doing "the fabulous job she does." She said, "I have tons of people to thank who helped with the Spring Fling including Andy and Dick who helped with banners; Jen-lin, Jeya, Robin and others who helped with the raffle table; and Denny Guehler who is the voice of the Fair." The raffle made almost \$700. She said Anne Morris retired as 'Vanna' and that Annie Rose Schwartz, one of the Fair's teens, will take over. She thanked Bob Nisbet for showing the DVD "Party with a Purpose" and said it was very well-received. She thanked Brad and Indigo for hosting the June Coordinator Potluck and also thanked Sheila Landry who is retiring to Elder status after 12 years of work on the Fair Family News. She said the town office has moved out to the site and "if you need anything, come on out there."

Site Manager: Steve W. thanked Andy, Charlie, Jeff, Tommy and Big Mike for all their work. He said Main Camp opened last weekend and is "running along nicely, all the infrastructure is in place and the kitchen is operating." He said 3 rainy weekends "doesn't make the job easier but people persevere." He thanked Construction Crew for all their work and for feeding their own crew as well as others before the kitchen was ready. He said, "Remember how there were no mosquitoes last year? Cherish that memory. This year there are enough of them to carry people away. Come prepared." He said if it's raining or soggy they will limit access to the 8 if necessary. They will work with people to get loads in on carts so as not to create mud bogs. The site's capacity for vehicles at Fairtime is "bumping up to the limit" and everyone needs to "be vigilant to keep fire lanes and emergency access open, and keep vehicles out of the Warehouse area, the Hub and Dahinda Acres." In the past, vehicles would be towed to the dead lot where folks could recover them at no charge. That is no longer the case. This year the Fair will tow and they will charge. There are "upland camp areas with significant amounts of poison oak so beware of plants that are tagged with pink and black flagging tape." He would love to have people who are immune to poison oak come out to help remove those plants. He said, "There's plenty of work to do, come on out and help. The Fair's coming and we'll have a great one." He added, "The Fair can only achieve site sustainability if everyone with camping privileges walks the talk in the Code of Conduct and Guidelines. Please tread lightly, minimize your impact and clean up after yourself. Thanks."

Assistant Manager: Charlie thanked Brad and Indigo for opening up their home, and "thanks also to all the Coordinators who really participated in the new paperwork process." He said, "So far, so good" and to come to him or Lucy Kingsley with problems or questions. He thanked Jeya Aeronson for "directing

traffic” at the potluck. He hopes everyone will come to the Fair prepared for mosquitoes and ready to have a great time. “Bring your friends, bring your families.”

Office Assistant: Robin mentioned the waiting list for Culture Jam and said, “It’s exciting to see the event growing, but also hard to turn kids away.”

Treasurers: Hilary said it’s a tight budget year and reminded Coordinators to watch their budgets carefully. “Monitor as you spend; if you feel you need to go over-budget, talk to your budget liaison or a BUM.” She said she is “amazed at the job Lucy is doing to provide documentation to our systems.” Grumpy added, “Lucy and her team are centered in the yurt and doing a great job. Any help anybody can give them is important. We want to accomplish so much; and we do this with sweat equity from all the volunteers who put their time in. Our efforts further the goals of the Fair. Coordinators, if there are changes in your budget that don’t involve an increase you can talk to the yurt team but if the change requires an increase you must go to a BUM or budget liaison.”

President: Jack got a laugh when he said, “There is an atmospheric difference here; I’ve been relocated.” (Traditionally, he sits at the other end of the table!) He acknowledged the staff and coordinators for their “hard and diligent work to make sure that actions prescribed by the Board are followed.” He said he is “personally proud of what they do and we would be in dire straits without them. They are so important to the success and integrity of this event.”

Committee Reports

Elders Committee

Chris Browne said they hosted a table at the Spring Fling and got a lot of interest and questions from both young and old. They had a work party at Elders camp where they cleared paths, tagged poison oak for later removal, and put brush and downed tree limbs into a central pile “that has already been removed by a very helpful Site Crew.” They have approved 120 Elder camping passes for this year’s Fair. The Old Timers Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, June 24 at 5pm at Main Camp. Their next committee meeting will be on June 22 at 7pm at the town office.

Vision Quest Task Force

Bear said, “We’re about two-thirds of the way through a multi-year long-term planning process for the Fair. Last year we crafted the statement of intent and held two summits to ask ourselves what we want to be like when we turn 50 in 13 years. We are in the process of going from a massive amount of data collected to implementation. We will develop a written strategic plan; it won’t have the force of a motion by itself and any recommendations the Fair wishes to pursue will need to be adopted by the Board. The task force is now involved with two consultants – one is a specialist on surveying and public opinion methodology, and the other on organizational rejuvenation and development. The Board also examined itself and a number of Board members surveyed believe that it has gotten complacent about how business is done, how we get information from all stakeholders, how we carry out decisions and communicate our goals. Another issue we’re looking at is whether to commit to fundraising outside the main event.” He talked about specific goal recommendations within the survey areas that drew the most consensus including: addressing internal population growth; intergenerational events; buying and preserving more wetlands; increasing diversity of the Fair; and better support for artists and entertainers. He said, “We feel the Board and Staff need better communication; people who contact the Board need to feel they are being heard. We will conduct a briefer, more targeted survey at this year’s Fair. After the Fair, we’ll determine what resources we have and what resources we lack to accomplish our goals.”

Peach Power Task Force

Anna said, “Moving forward on our cradle-to-cradle system of sustainability, we will be meeting at Energy Park on either July 5 or 6 to discuss on-the-ground renewable systems. I’ll let you know the final date later.”

Old Business

Budget Issues – Increase Toilets and Showers Line Item

Lawrence moved and Greg seconded to increase the ‘showers and toilets’ line item by \$1,000.

Peach Gallery: Leslie said they are hauling away “more and more gray water both before the Fair and during the Fair and are able to discharge through the City of Veneta system, thereby lowering fuel costs to Eugene. But the per gallon cost of running the gray water through the system has increased. There will also be 2 more showerheads at Far Side, therefore more gray water to run through the meter.” She said Honey Buckets will have portable urinals called “Standing Room Only” that will help with long lines. Peter Reckendorf (4A Crew) asked if those units are ADA approved. Leslie said no, but that other units will be. Chewie Burgess (VegManEc) said he supports more toilets and asked if this contract is better than the one the Fair had previously with Best Pots. Leslie answered that Best Pots is a smaller, family business and it was a challenge for them to keep up with the increasing volume of work involved with the Fair. The decision was made to use a company with more capacity. Honey Buckets has 100% handwashing stations with footpumps and this will better reduce the spread of norovirus. She negotiated a contract that she said will save thousands of dollars for the Fair.

Board: Lawrence, Joseph, and Bear all voiced support for the motion and stressed the need for people to be diligent about washing their hands.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Consider Donation to Eugene Peace Choir

Brad moved and Joseph seconded that the Board donate \$100 to the Eugene Peace Choir.

Background: Barbara Lowry and Michi Okuda from the Choir spoke about their activities. The choir currently consists of about 40 members (they are open to new members) who “sing songs of peace, environmental and social justice” at various events such as peace rallies, MLK Day and Hiroshima Day. They work with such groups as CALC, Interfaith Ministries, and the Middle East Peace Group. They said their “level of musicianship has improved over the years” (they’ve been around for 20 years) and they are working on a CD. They have a website at www.epc.org.

Peach Gallery: norma said she had the “great fortune of accidentally marching with them at the peace rally commemorating the third anniversary of this illegal war.”

Board: Paxton and Diane both heard them perform at Community Village and voiced support for the motion.

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

Consider Donation to Center for Community Counseling

Marlene moved and Greg seconded that the Board donate \$500 to the Center for Community Counseling.

Background: John Okerson, the fund development coordinator for the CCC, said it is a non-profit organization serving people 18 and over who have no insurance. They have 74 professionals who donate their time. Last year they provided over 3600 hours of free counseling. They also offer classes in Nurturing Parenting, Anger Management, and Children Dealing with Divorce. They have been operating for 24 years.

Peach Gallery: Palmer Parker (Fair Central) said he personally benefited from their services and has a friend “whose life is being saved by them.” Grumpy asked if the group was church-based. (No.)

Board: Bear said his job as a criminal defense attorney has taught him that many people who end up in the criminal system could have benefited from counseling. Marlene said she has also benefited from their services and got a laugh when she added, “Well, I guess maybe I should let all of you decide whether I’ve benefited.” She added, “I am begging you to vote for this because it is near and dear to my heart.” Katie supports the organization but not the motion, saying “it doesn’t conform to the purpose of our organization as I understand it.” Diane said she heard the organization doesn’t treat anyone who has a medical marijuana card and asked if that was true. John answered they don’t treat anyone who is on drugs or alcohol. Lawrence asked if they treat clients who are on other types of psychotropic medications such as Prozac. John’s response was, “I am the fund development coordinator for the CCC. We provide over 3600 hours per year of free counseling services. I want to answer your question correctly but am unable to because I am the fund development coordinator.” Joseph said even if there was disagreement about this one area, they “still provide a great service.”

The motion failed: 5 in favor and 5 opposed (Anna, Diane, Katie, Lawrence, Paxton).

Consider Donation to Whiteaker Thanksgiving

Joseph moved and Jack seconded that the Board donate \$1,000 to the Whiteaker Thanksgiving event.

Peach Gallery: Chewie said he volunteered there and that it is “an amazing activity and really important.” Barbara said the event deserves Board support but felt \$1,000 was too high an amount “for a one-day event, when there are other organizations that need money and who do important work all year round.” Jon Pincus (Elder) said the Fair “has been involved since it’s conception and that it is more than just a one-day event. It helps people with medical and social services and gives them a sense of community.” Board: Joseph said he would amend the motion to \$600 and Jack agreed. Bear said he will vote for this motion but encouraged organizations seeking larger amounts to go through other channels. Brad said the Board runs out of donation money earlier each year. Anna said she would like “to reiterate my mantra that the donation process needs to be revised.” Lawrence gave “enthusiastic support for this event and activity that does not discriminate against a portion of our community.”

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

Confirm Main Camp and Kitchen Check Signers

Bear moved and Greg seconded that the Board approve Jamie O’Brien as a check signer on the Key Bank Kitchen Account from June ’06 to June ’07.

Bear moved and Lawrence seconded that the Board approve Carolyn Sykora as a check signer with a \$500 limit on the Pacific Continental Quartermaster Account.

Bear moved and Brad seconded that the Board approve Mick Westrick as a check signer on the Key Bank Checking Account (for Food Voucher redemptions).

Background: Katie asked for an explanation so the membership would understand the need for different check signers. Hilary said there are three different accounts and people need to be listed on different accounts for control purposes. Check signers are approved on a yearly basis. The kitchen account has a very high volume of purchasing. Jamie is the kitchen coordinator who does all their purchasing, and was named their signer last year. Leslie added that Mick is taking Lucy Kingsley’s place doing food voucher redemption at the Fair. She said booths don’t like to keep large volumes of vouchers on hand so they have a process of going to food booths and collecting them. The vouchers expire July 31 so the process lasts through the month. She said she and Norma will put together a system to handle the post-Fair work because Mick lives in Seattle. She said Carolyn has been writing S&S (supplies and services) and

coordinator reimbursement checks for a maximum of \$500 for at least the last 6 years.

Board: Greg said “we’re lucky to have these people.” Brad reminded folks that food vouchers can’t be traded and must be redeemed by a food booth representative.

All three motions passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Appoint New Craft Committee Member

Joseph moved and Lawrence seconded that the Board appoint Lara Howe as a new member of the Craft Committee.

Peach Gallery: David Helton (Registration Crew Co-Coordinator) said Lara has been regularly attending the committee meetings and they all endorse her appointment. He said she has been juried in and will be selling her hair wraps at the Fair. Palmer asked, “Is there anything she can’t do?”

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Appoint Main Camp Co-Coordinator

Bear moved and Marlene seconded that the Board appoint Barney Beguhl as Main Camp Co-Coordinator.

Peach Gallery: Leslie said he has worked as a QM for “lots of years and is one of the nicest, kindest volunteers I’ve had the pleasure of working with.” She said Barney has been learning all aspects of Main Camp issues and was sorry he couldn’t be at the meeting tonight. Steve W. added, “He’s a great guy and a great worker.”

Board: Bear said Barney “takes care of business with a smile.” Brad said Barney is a long-time friend of his and he was “honored to be able to vote for him. His understated, cool-headed attitude is something to be emulated.” Paxton said Barney is “the one responsible for the E.L. (electroluminescent) wire dragonflies, flowers, and birds you see roaming around the paths at night.”

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Appoint Internal Security Co-Coordinator

Jack moved and Lawrence and Bear simultaneously seconded that the Board appoint Aleta Miller as Internal Security Co-Coordinator.

Peach Gallery: Thumbs up. Leslie said it’s “a real family moment to have brother (Oso Harper) and sister as Co-Coordiators. Norma drew cheers from the crowd when she said Oso is in China adopting a new daughter.

Board: Brad mockingly said, “Why I had no idea you two were brother and sister.” (I didn’t get the joke because I don’t know them, but it sure got a huge laugh.)

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Revise Assistant Manager Job Description

Brad moved and Marlene seconded that the Board revise the A.M. job description as presented to them by the Personnel Committee.

Background: This will change the position from three-quarter time to full-time.

Peach Gallery: Cheers and thumbs up. Leslie said she waited to take this opportunity to thank Steve and Andy and Charlie for “their diligence and devotion to their work on behalf of the site and the organization. Charlie has made a tremendous difference not only to staff and volunteers but I truly believe to the whole

organization in ways we couldn't imagine. He really stepped up on the 'town' side of things in helping us develop a more comprehensive and functional system of communication and information exchange, as well as all of his IT work." (In previous minutes I said IT stands for Internet Technology, but I goofed; it's Information Technology.) She continued, "He also spent time on contract development with Zimfest, sustainable transportation options, and community relations and strategic planning. He is an extraordinary pleasure to work with, and I so appreciate his work and integrity." Steve W. thanked the Personnel Committee, the Interview Committee, and the Board for the process. He said, "Charlie works for two different bosses in two different locations with two different job assignments. He became the IT guy and he knows farming. The serendipitous nature of how we found him is pure Fair magic. He sure won Andy's approval when he helped Andy pull up and dig out two septic lines, not a fun job, and that was in his first month." Robin said when Charlie applied she "knew he'd be perfect. His heart is so into the Fair and it's a big heart." Grumpy dittoed everyone's comments and also commended the organization for filling this position "that has been needed for such a long time." Beth Grafe (Construction Crew Co-Coordinator) said the job should have been full-time from the beginning but "is glad we're there now."

Board: Brad said he felt like a fly on the wall when he overheard a conversation in a grocery store last fall. Two people were talking about the Fair and one guy said, "I'm working with this new guy Charlie and he's really great!" Joseph said he "is overjoyed to have him full-time" and that Charlie has "molded his efforts to this organization with incredible dedication". Anna said she envisioned the job as full-time since the beginning and is looking forward to "seeing how Charlie meets challenges in his second year." Lawrence said, "All of us who know or work with Charlie see that his gratitude for the Fair is equal to the gratitude we feel for him." Diane said, "And he can cook!" Jack thanked Charlie for "jumping right in" and Bear said the Board first discussed the need for this position in 2001 and is glad it has "moved forward even if at the glacial speed of the OCF." Brad said glaciers are moving faster and faster all the time. Marlene drew an x-rated giggle from the crowd when she said, "You've been great and fulfilled all my dreams!" Leslie will provide a budget adjustment at next month's meeting to cover the salary line item increase.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Policy on Literature Distribution

Joseph moved and Deane seconded that items sold by non-profit booths whose value derives strictly from their verbal content and not from any object or art value shall be exempt from the craft jurying process.

Background: After a series of questions and explanations, the intent of the motion emerged as allowing non-profit advocacy booths to sell certain types of items. Joseph offered as examples that buttons and bumper stickers would likely be allowed under this policy, while T-shirts and posters would not be likely to pass this standard.

Peach Gallery: Hilary said some food and craft booths are non-profit and asked if this motion meant they would be able to sell bumper stickers. She said the motion needs work. Chewie said, "This is the vaguest thing I've ever heard in an organization that is sometimes pretty vague." Leslie asked Joseph to consider tabling the motion to allow a more detailed conversation, so she can understand if Operations needs to implement or monitor anything. Joseph responded that this "would remove one layer of the issue" and that he consulted with Craft Committee, Craft Inventory, and Community Village and has their approval. "This will allow them to sell things to get a point across; it won't be confused with a craft." David Helton said, "They don't allow sales in CV. There are a handful of non-profits outside the village such as The Willamettans, the midwifery booth, and KLCC. If this means they can sell bumper stickers, it's not a big deal."

Board: Joseph moved to table the motion. Lawrence seconded.

The motion to table passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed. (Deane voted for Katie.)

Pony Rides Booth

Deane moved and Diane seconded that the Board direct management to work with Craft Committee,

Booth Registration Coordinators, and LUMP Coordinators to find a resolution to the ongoing issue of the location of pony rides.

Peach Gallery: Chewie Burgess said, “This is probably one of the largest dysfunctionalities I’ve seen at the Fair.” He said it was probably not handled correctly in the beginning and that even though a resolution has been hard to find, he is sure one exists. He said he knows there is “no ill will from Operations, Staff, or Volunteers” and is “not sure why LUMP is even mentioned in the motion.” He urged a civil conversation and said, “Let’s get over the blame game and get this resolved.” David Helton said he has been unable to honor Dena’s claim for her pony space for the past two years “because the GM won’t let me do it.” He said Board action is called for and suggested letting Dena reclaim her old space this year because “her space is largely still unused.” He recounted “the history of what happened” on this issue in 2004 and 2005, including details of several conversations he had with Kirk Schultz, (who was not at the meeting). He said, “We usually find a new location first, and help people move. But with Dena we hadn’t bothered to look to see if the new space (adjacent to Chela Mela) would work,” and then said a last minute excuse was given that a tree had fallen in what was to be the pony path. He said the next suggestion of the dog pound location “was not acceptable” for several reasons including being too far away from the rest of the Fair. He said she is being evicted without cause after 20 years at the Fair. He said, “Dena may not be easy to deal with and she didn’t want to move; and relocation happens, but without an alternative it is eviction.” He said he is “not implying motives” but that it “was a bumbling mix of circumstance and ego and bias.” He asked, “Is this what we’ve come to, that if someone doesn’t like you or your craft that you can be evicted? I’m asking for leadership from you tonight.” Bill Wright (Crafter) said Dena was “expelled from her booth without cause or visible process. When we can’t see process, we can’t understand, we speculate.” He believes Guidelines were not followed and that “this is a gross injustice.” Cathy Coulson-Keegan (Crafter) talked about her grandchild’s experience of “seeing lots of really funny stuffed animals in the trees” during a pony ride. She said, “Disagreement is not disrespect” and urged people to “listen with an open heart.” She said, “No crafter owns their booth” and relocation is “normal with passage of time” but she said there “needs to be a policy that addresses relocation.” Chewie responded to David’s assertion about the trees and said, “Those trees did fall at the last minute; I was in there the week before.” He said the particular issue of the pony rides “should start a conversation, but should not be the conversation.” Charlie said he “landed right in the middle of this last year.” He said, “This booth is very exceptional; it is not a regular craft booth because it has a different land use impact.” He said Dena was offered alternatives “but didn’t seem willing to compromise.” He “hopes we can find a way to make this work.” Beth said, “You know I love you, David, but you made assertions about my crew that are not true. We were really ready to bend over backwards to make a new location work for Dena.” She believes the matter is not an appropriate issue for the Board and also said, “One of your members in the discussion of this issue has used very abusive language. That kind of thing results in the loss of lots of good volunteers.” Grumpy said, “When someone says ‘these are the facts’ you need to understand these aren’t the facts. I don’t know if anyone knows what ‘the facts’ are.” He said there are people “who want to convince the Board of certain things. There has been a collaborative process. Look in your hearts. It takes two sides. When one side says ‘I will only accept x’ it ends negotiations.” He said he “doesn’t really mind” Deane’s motion because it “basically says to keep working on it, and I think everyone will.” Steve W. said there is no time stipulation on the motion but that to expect it to be solved for this year’s Fair is unreasonable. He said to Deane, “The people who told you it is feasible for this year are not people in Path Planning, Construction, or Operations.” Deane said, “True.” Steve W. continued by saying, “Dena was not kicked out; it’s just that a solution has not yet been found. With the Chela Mela location, there was no time to get big equipment in there without doing damage to the habitat. The people who say the dog pound location won’t work never saw all the plans we made for public access from Dragon Meadow, corrals, shade, and paths as well as a space for her trailer to be located right next to her booth space.” He said he felt Dena was “close to accepting that new location when someone interfered and said her old spot would work.” He said after that, Dena “grabbed onto that idea and wouldn’t let go.” Palmer said he “knows and loves and trusts people on all sides of this issue” and believes this is an issue for Operations, not a policy matter for the Board. Jon Pincus (Elder) said, “Staff and all involved acted in good faith, there were no ill intentions.” He said this is an area of “specialized use” and needs “special criteria to make it work.” He

said many people didn't know the pony rides existed because they were so well hidden in the woods, and that's what made them "unique and magical" because most others "are little circles in a parking lot." He said people are emotional about this issue because their kids or grandkids enjoyed these rides. He believes the issue is an appropriate matter for Board discussion and referred to "decisions made by the Board in 1996 regarding land use in this and other areas." He said, "We don't have a comprehensive land use process in place that is participatory where people can resolve these issues. A community our size needs to have one. The fact that we don't have it is no one's fault; it's just where we are now." Mike James (Elder) agreed with Jon that it is a matter for the Board. Steve W. said when he spoke earlier he forgot to address the mention of LUMP in the motion and said the LUMP committee will not be meeting again until September. He said, "We do have a LUMP plan and a Path Planning process. We have worked through a number of large issues and negotiated them all successfully. This is the first time that anything has gone as haywire as this one has. There has been no bias and no eviction, just lots of hard work by lots of people." Mambo (Security) said, "I respect these people. For these people to hit a brick wall, it must have been a hell of a wall." He also said he was displaced once and depending on who he talked to, he got different answers and said, "The policy does need to be transparent." Leslie said she waited to speak because she wanted to hear what everyone else had to say. She said this has been "an endless process" and that Path Planning is known for "countless meetings, designs, and re-designs. It's extremely difficult to make land use decisions like this because no one wants to move. The process with Dena began in 1996; that was the first time we discussed moving her. The idea was to move her to an area of interactive participation near the kids' area. She didn't want to move." Leslie talked about other areas that had to be relocated, such as Strawberry Lane when the river took their area. She said, "Things happen at the Fair. There are Board motions to abide by like operating under brush-cutting moratoriums, the decision to develop a body/mind/spirit presence that became Spoken Word, and keeping a minimum inventory of one-year-only booths that sometimes conflict. A collaborative land use decision was made to move Dena to the kids' area around Chela Mela. Dena agreed to move and was excited about it. A tree came down. Steve made a call based on safety." Leslie continued, "David said he was not implying motive, but saying decisions were made from ego and bias is implying motive, and I resent it." She said Path Planning has an "endless, open transparent process. The redevelopment of the Front Porch area, including moving Dena, was discussed with Dena and by the Board during the capital projects process. We have not evicted her. Using inflammatory language helps nothing and no one. We're looking for a new home for the pony rides and will continue to do so."

Board: Bear said this is not a Board issue. He said it is appropriate for the Board to make policies around these issues but not to step in for a specific booth. He said, "hard cases make bad law" and urged the Board "not to set precedent for people to come to the Board with their individual problems." Lawrence said that every party "has a stake in the miscommunication" and that to put Dena back in her old spot now is not practical. He said the motion is superfluous because it just asks management to do what they are already doing. He said the difference between operations and policy is "a paradigm we need to talk about" and is a much bigger discussion than the pony rides issue. Paxton said he believes "the path planning process broke, and in a public way. It was working to shift to Chela Mela, but the dog pound location was not appropriate. You don't move a booth and build an area out to it; you build the area first and then relocate a booth. Dena has been a good steward of the land and we need to start the whole process over." Katie said what she likes about the motion is that it includes many groups in the search for a resolution; what she doesn't like is that it deals with a specific booth. She pointed out that Path Planning is not a Board-created Committee but "perhaps our organization has evolved to the point that it should be. The Board could even design the Committee to include members of LUMP, Crafts, Food and Entertainers, as well as Operations areas such as Construction and Site Crew." She said perhaps the Board needs a work session or some time at the yearly retreat to "redefine our role, but the whole issue of how to deal with Path Planning is beyond the scope of our meeting tonight." Diane feels a new spot should be ready before asking anyone to move. She said her grandson rode the ponies when he was 3 but not when he was 4 or 5. Her other grandson is now 3 years old and has never ridden them. She said, "Time marches on, especially for the little ones." Joseph likes the original location for the rides, saying it was "a compatible land use"

and that Dena did “a good job of preserving the green space.” Brad said he’s bummed that it’s June and this issue is on the agenda again. He agrees with Grumpy that there are lots of different perspectives and no one single truth. He said there is no way to interfere for this year. He trusts that people will continue to work on this and urged people to realize no one has “eminent domain” with their location. He “holds to our collective right to choose what is the proper land use for all areas of the Fair.” He said, “I believe a proper solution will be worked out.” Marlene agreed with Brad. She said, “Operations can’t be asked to do something this year. I care about our employees and would never ask that. It looks green in there partly from three years of no use. Whoever told Deane the understory wouldn’t grow at the dog pound doesn’t know what they’re talking about. Trust me...you water it, it will grow.” Greg said it is not appropriate for this to be a June issue. He said, “I love the Fair Family. It’s really hard to see polarization and the toxic nature of so much of this conversation. It is rarely productive to attribute motives to others. Resolving this tonight would be a really large mistake and I don’t want to see the Board become an appeals court. It is important that decisions be made in a timely fashion but that is extremely difficult in a volunteer-based organization. What we’ve assigned Path Planning to do is a hellacious issue.” Deane said it was not his idea to make this motion but that he wanted the issue discussed. He said, “What I hear is that Dena is not being evicted and a solution will be found.” Jack said it’s “not like a broken process, but like we’ve lost our way. When you allow a bit of mistrust into an intimate relationship, you ask yourself ‘does somebody know something I don’t know? What’s the ghost in the shadow?’ If you want to devise a strategy to weaken, that’s how to do it. It’s really important to understand this. He said...she said. This spells partisanship. When we start saying there is some shade of illegitimacy...think about the Staff we’ve gone through...the Coordinators we’ve lost. The children...when they see this type of behavior, they don’t want to run for the Board. A motion to direct Operations to do what they’re doing...hmmm...interesting. We’re going to have a Fair this year. What we’re doing tonight hurts that.”

An hour and a half after the pony rides discussion started, Deane said, “I’d like to make a motion to withdraw my motion.” Paxton said, “You can just withdraw it.” Deane said, “I withdraw the motion.” Marlene said, “Meeting adjourned.”

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 pm. The next Board meeting will be held on Sunday, June 25, 2006 at 4:00 pm onsite at either Alice’s or The Hub. The agenda, subject to change, will include the following tabled items: Budget Issues; Policy on Literature Distribution; as well as the following new business: Appoint Banners and Signs Crew Co-Coordinator; Appoint Buses Co-Coordinator; Personnel Committee Appointment; WOW Hall (Jack). The agenda item titled “Adopt Statement of Priorities for VQ Survey” was dropped from the agenda.

Minutes by Barbara Edmonds who thanks Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (“Beyond Vietnam” April 4, 1967) for the following quote: “These are the times for real choices and not false ones. We are at the moment when our lives must be placed on the line if our nation is to survive its own folly. Every man of humane convictions must decide on the protest that best suits his convictions, but we must all protest.”