

OREGON COUNTRY FAIR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

June 25, 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.)

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.

Announcements

- Anna said the Peach Power Committee will meet at Energy Park on Thursday July 6 at 6pm. She invited those interested in energy conservation and renewable energy to come to the meeting.
- norma said the Teddy Bears' Picnic is Saturday, August 19 and Leslie said the open space evaluation meeting is Sunday, August 6.
Virgil Courtright (Archaeology Crew Co-Coordinator) introduced his daughter-in-law Wiebke from Germany who is writing her thesis about the Fair.
- Greg said the Fair will have a booth at the Multi-Cultural Festival on August 11 and at Pride Day on August 12.
- Beth Grafe (Construction Crew Co-Coordinator) said WOW Hall met their immediate funding needs to purchase the back lot. She thanked the Fair for being willing to supply a loan to WOW Hall had it been needed, but said "thankfully, it won't be needed."
- Jen-lin Hodgden (Feedback Coordinator) wasn't at the meeting but she sent a basket of cookies for sale and sent her thanks to Dena Stewart of Le Petit Gourmet and New Day Charter School and Bill Mahoney of New Day Bakery/World Café for allowing her son Danya Ariel to mix 60 pounds of cookie dough for the Culture Jam Scholarship fundraiser. She also sent her thanks to Main Camp Kitchen for allowing folks to bake cookies there. Cookie sales at the onsite intervention trainings raised \$236.
- Barbara said anyone interested in running for the Board should submit a candidate statement by August 21.

Approval of Minutes

Bear moved and Joseph seconded that the minutes of the June 5, 2006 Board meeting be approved. The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Member Input

- Roger Wilner (Main Camp Kitchen) said he attended an intervention training session and "was surprised to learn the site was left in a messy condition last year." He asked what the Board would do to try to prevent that from happening again this year.
- Lawrence reminded people to wash their hands to prevent spread of norwalk virus, and suggested

reminding others as well.

- Jon Pincus (Elder) said he attended the Elders picnic and thanked everyone for a great time.
- Deane said he heard from Dena and she appreciates the fact that folks are still looking for a spot for the pony rides.
- Steve W. talked about lyme disease which has now appeared in Lane County and said ticks are probably onsite. Symptoms include a rash, and anyone who thinks they may have it should seek medical care.

Staff and Officer Reports

General Manager: Leslie said she “had a wonderful time last night” at the Old Timers gathering and she thanked the Elders Committee and the kitchen staff for “really a wonderful scene.” She said she is “honored and privileged and excited” to be part of the Fair and acknowledged that “it takes all of us to make this happen – volunteers, board, officers – it takes 4,000 of us working together to pull this off. The Fair’s a phenomenon that more and more people in the world are saying ‘wow’ about. There’s a world out there that yearns for the kind of community we have. Let’s have the best Fair ever – as we always do!” She gave special appreciation to her “amazing co-workers, each of whom gives the Fair everything they’ve got, as do the fabulous BUMs.” She said the “medical scene is well-covered” and said Dr. Liz will be onsite from Saturday July 1 until White Bird starts. She said, “There’s an EMT onsite now and we also have the services of Dr. Julie, a naturopath, and Jeya Aeronson who is a doctor of Oriental medicine.” She said, “There have been bugs, rain, and heat but still an incredibly productive Main Camp.” She said KEZI filmed an intervention training this morning and that June 29 will be ‘media preview day’ at the Fair. She said the Peach Pit is “gorgeous” and she thanked Jarod and Amy for their work on that. She said there is a new ticket outlet this year, a new health food store in Veneta. She received the draft contract from the State Fair, and LiveArt! is happening at the OSF from August 25 to Sept. 4. She said the OSF is “changing a lot” and added, “Please tell everybody to come.”

Administrative Assistant: norma said it’s been “a great Main Camp. Thanks to everybody, thanks to my colleagues who are so amazing and make this job so wonderful.” She also thanked the FFN crew for putting out a 20-page June issue. The site office is open during the Fair from 11-3 “for your office needs.” She asked people to volunteer to help grill at the picnic on August 19.

Site Manager: Steve W. expressed his “appreciation for everyone working incredibly hard, and with such positive energy, at the task of building community. As for getting the site ready for the Event, we’re in good shape. Construction Crew started weeks ago, they’re here day in and day out.” He gave a big “thank you to the whole crew and to Beth, Heather, Jar, Kirk and Jack.” He said, “Shane, the Site Crew, QM and VegManEc Crews are dealing with all sorts of things, and they’re doing great. I’m so grateful to be part of this incredible process.”

Treasurers: Grumpy thanked “the yurt people” (aka the site office) for working “in this grueling heat” and said everybody “tries to be very precise in our accounting.” He said, “We need everybody’s cooperation to account for all our expenditures.” Hilary added, “We need to get the public in the gate – tell everybody to come to the Fair.”

President: Jack said, “It’s so hot today, and last night was a lot of fun. The thank you list gets sooo long... so just thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you.”

Committee Reports

Elders Committee

Chris Browne talked about the picnic held last night at Main Camp. He said 38 attendees enjoyed great food and entertainment by ‘The Drag Queens’. He said the Elders Committee will assist at registration to

process other Elders as they arrive at the Fair. The Elders Camp will have a camp host and a banner will be placed at the entrance to help people find it. He said, “The poison oak has been removed, but stay alert just the same.” Elders plan to gather on August 19 at 1pm at Shady Grove, “prior to the picnic, just for fun and conversation.” The next Elders meeting will be August 24 at the town office. Past meetings have discussed the possibility of hosting an Elders retreat “to go over future plans and review this year’s Fair happenings.”

Archaeology Crew

Virgil Courtright talked about a meeting he attended with Fair Operations and state archaeologist Dennis Griffin. He reminded folks that the only digging that can occur is in existing postholes and even that has to be done with an archaeologist from Archaeology Crew present. He showed a photo poster that will be on display at the Fair. The photo is of a camus oven that is in the riverbank about four feet underneath where the photo will be placed.

Vision Quest Task Force

Beth Grafe said the task force will conduct another survey during the Fair “with help from the Front Porch people” and also that leaders of the GLBT community will spend a day as guests of the Fair to give feedback on how the Fair can “deepen and richen” ties with their community. She invited everyone to attend “facilitated conversations” concerning Vision Quest at 9pm on Sunday night of the Fair.

Old Business

Budget Issues

Revise Budget for AM Job

Brad moved and Greg seconded that the Board allocate \$7,000 to the appropriate GM budgets (salary, benefits, and payroll tax) to cover increasing the AM position from three-quarter to full-time.

Background: (At the last meeting the Board approved increasing the hours for the job; see June 5 minutes for details.)

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Policy on Literature Distribution

Joseph moved and Deane seconded that items sold by non-profit advocacy groups 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: (Again, see minutes from last meeting for details. This was discussed and tabled at the June 5 meeting.)

Peach Gallery: Hilary said in order to understand the intent, the motion “still needs wordsmithing.” (The motion was changed slightly from last month: ‘non-profit booths’ was changed to ‘non-profit advocacy groups’.) She questioned, “Does this mean any non-profit booth? What can they sell?” Floyd Prozanski (BUM) said there should be clarification as to what items may be sold. Dave Strahan (Lot Crew) asked, “What’s to stop blanket vendors from saying ‘I can sell this because I’m a 501(c)3’? Who is going to check?” Leslie is concerned about the “cultural impact” on the Fair as well as enforcement. She said, “It’s my understanding they can accept donations now, I don’t see why we need to change that. Instead of displaying their message I’m worried they’d be hawking their goods.” She said lots of these kinds of products are not fair trade and “as an organization we have to consider that.” She said organizations don’t just need someone to buy a bumper sticker; they need members. She suggested that non-profit organizations sell memberships and that they “recruit members at the Fair and give them a free bumper

sticker if they want to” because membership “builds participation and community for the long haul.” norma recalled when Community Village voted to stop all sales in the Village because they felt “there needed to be part of the Fair that should be without sales.”

Board: Bear said this would “create a mis-match” with other parts of the Fair where there are no mass-produced items and he would “prefer a consistent aesthetic message because we are an arts organization.” Diane said there is not consensus in CV on whether to allow sales and that even if this motion passed “they would have their own process of approval which is even longer than ours.” Marlene said she’d hate to circumvent CV. Brad asked Joseph to confirm the history of this motion – that David Zupan of CV asked the Board to allow such sales. Joseph said yes. Brad said he could support the motion if it stipulated “just literature, stickers, and buttons” but can’t support the open-ended nature of the motion. Jack said, “The world is full of merchants of opinions, important opinions which are near and dear.” He said having a can for money next to the stickers would allow CV organizations to get the resources to get out their message. He said, “I think we can do this. If CV can agree on this...I have faith in their consensus process.” Greg and Paxton both liked the idea of participation through membership. Paxton added, “It’s not so much how we interface with them but how they interface with the public. I want to support them in some way and I like the membership concept because it’s a creative way of dealing with this.” Anna said she will ask non-profit groups in Energy Park what they think of the idea.

The motion failed: 0 in favor and 10 opposed.

Appoint New Banners and Signs Crew Co-Coordinator

Bear moved and Lawrence seconded that the Board appoint Ben Bochner in place of Jud Landis who is resigning as Co-Coordinator of Banners and Signs Crew.

Background: Jud will be joining the crew of the Peach Pit. In his resignation letter to the Board, he stated that Ben “has many years of experience as a tree climber” and his “creative energy was a great addition to the Fair last year as he conceived, produced, and installed a new fabric piece at Main Stage.”

Peach Gallery: Leslie thanked Jud for all his service to the Fair.

Board: Lawrence said Ben is “a cool guy who sang ‘Something to Believe’ at the 1992 midnight show.”

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Appoint New Buses Co-Coordinator

Bear moved and Paxton seconded to appoint Mike Sheehan as Co-Coordinator of Buses to serve with Deb Hardwick.

Background: In her letter to the Board, Deb said Mike has been on the crew for about 10 years, and last year served as a shift supervisor. She said, “Someone who can make good decisions as to when to add or drop the number of buses needs to be there at all times. By having Mike as Co-Coordinator I won’t have to be at the bus stop 13 hours a day.”

Peach Gallery: Leslie said this help for Deb “has been a long time coming.”

Board: Brad thanked Deb for “a great job.”

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Set Date for September Board Meeting

Marlene moved and Bear seconded that the September Board meeting be held on the second Monday, September 11 at 7pm onsite at Alice’s Wonderland.

Background: The regular first Monday meeting falls on Labor Day, hence the need for a change. There was no vote on whether to move this from new business to old business so it could be voted on tonight. But it was too hot to notice or to care.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

The meeting adjourned at 5 pm. The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, August 7, 2006 at 7pm at the EWEB Community Room. The agenda, subject to change, will include the following tabled items: Budget Issues; as well as the following new business: Approve Revised PC Job Descriptions; Re-Consider Donation to Center for Community Counseling. (The Board received a letter clarifying the Center's policy on medical marijuana; more on that next month.) Two items were dropped from the agenda: Consider Appointment to Personnel Committee; and WOW Hall.

Minutes by Barbara Edmonds who thanks Calvin Trillin (Obliviously On He Sails) for the following quote: "So what's it called if during war you criticize the President for any reason? Treason. And how long does this war go on? (And this is where this theory's really pretty clever.) Forever."