

**Oregon Country Fair Board of Directors**  
**Sunday July 1, 2007, 4pm, onsite at the yurt behind The Hub**

**Present:** Diane Albino, Katie Cousins, Paxton Hoag, Lara Howe, Jack Makarchek, Deane Morrow (alternate), Palmer Parker (alternate), Greg Rikhoff, Anna Scott, Carl Taylor, Lawrence Taylor.

**Not:** Bear Wilner-Nugent. *(Palmer voted in Bear's absence.)*

*(During Agenda Review, Palmer moved and Anna seconded that "Radio Use Donation Request" be moved from new to old business because of an event happening July 22. The motion passed: 10 in favor, 0 opposed.)*

**Announcements**

Lara said that the cutlery cleaning project is "going really well" and the dishwashers at Elmira High School washed 100,000 pieces of cutlery in three days.

norma said her hubbie Dick Stewart will turn 64 on Friday of the Fair "so when you see him tell him you still need him and you'll still feed him." She also said the Teddy Bear Picnic will be held Saturday, August 18.

Leslie said the Evaluation Meeting will be held August 19 from 1-5pm at the Entertainment Camp fire pit.

Deane said anyone interested in serving on the Path Planning Committee should submit letters of interest to the Board through the Fair office.

Leslie said Ice Coordinator Louise and her husband Lance are "the proud parents of a baby girl named Laila Tai, born June 29. A big welcome to this newest little peach."

**Approval of Minutes**

Deane moved and Katie seconded to approve the minutes of the June 2007 Board meeting. The motion passed: 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstentions (Lara and Lawrence).

**Member Input**

Randy Nowell (VegManEc Crew) asked everyone to be polite and save the alter-abled showers for those who really need them.

Paxton said this is the 15-year anniversary of wristbands/photo ID.

Rainbow (Construction Crew) asked the Board to consider moving Main Camp Kitchen out of the flood plain for sanitation reasons.

John Stamp (Site Crew) said he was disappointed to read in previous minutes that the Board approved \$2500 for tree work. He said he felt "unappreciated and insulted" that the Site Crew was not asked to do the work.

Jane Clugston (Crafter) repeated her request from last month that the Board consider her proposal to adopt new policy regarding crafters with no booth space. She said it is "an unfair way to treat serious working craftspeople" to keep them in limbo about booth space, and that her membership in Fair family "shouldn't be in question year after year." She asked to have her entire one-page proposal included in the minutes and asked what else she could do to move this idea along.

Jack suggested she work with an individual Board member. Lara, as liaison to the Craft Committee, offered to work with Jane. Diane suggested Jane send the proposal to the FFN as a letter to the editor since it might not get included in the minutes.

Joseph Newton (Recycling Crew) said, “We’re here. It’s green and clean and beautiful. Let’s keep it that way.”

norma said, “Speaking of anniversaries, this is the 25-year anniversary of buying the land.”

Lara said there will be “a meeting of the minds” sometime in October to discuss the kitchen/floodplain issue. She will announce the date at the August meeting. She got a laugh when she added, “And since these minutes won’t be printed until after the Fair, I want to thank everybody for the best Fair ever!”

Doug (aka Dug) Green (BUM) said, “Gratitude, gratitude, gratitude. It’s so nice to be here. Such magic.” *(This became a recurring theme for the meeting with laughter increasing as more and more people incorporated “gratitude, gratitude, gratitude” into their statements.)*

### **Staff and Officer Reports**

**General Manager:** Leslie was the first to repeat the gratitude mantra and thanked everyone for “the gift of getting to be part of this community for another year.” She said the Fair won the “Destination and Tourism Award” from the Lane County Convention and Visitors Association. She said it was “so fabulous to see such deep appreciation” for the Fair at the award ceremony focusing on “our philanthropy and green practices.” She attended the annual Food Vendors meeting on June 20, talked about “the wonderful food” at the Fair and, acknowledging Sue Kesey’s presence, said she was “glad to see Sue at a Board meeting.” She said there was a “marvelous Elders/Old Timers Picnic” on July 1, that “everybody stayed a long time and the kitchen made a great dinner for it.” She said it’s been a great Main Camp. She said to “look for the biodiesel buses out on the streets with our ads on them.” She heard the first Fair ad on the radio and it made her feel honored to be part of “this happy and incredibly fortunate community of people who get to do this.”

**Administrative Assistant:** norma said it’s been a fabulous Main Camp and “everything’s great except for missing Beth but there was a wonderful honoring of her last weekend” and “just thanks to everybody for everything.”

**Site Manager:** Steve W. wondered who wrote the piece about Beth in the Peach Pit and said thanks to whoever wrote that, saying “it was moving poetry and perfect for Beth.” He said the “human collective energy level on the Fair site just hums right along and it’s great to be part of it.” He said the one down side to mention is the dryness and high fire danger. He said there are “lots more wonderful new things you’ll see this year.” He said he’s filled with gratitude for all the work that has been done “and for all the work still to be done.” He also wanted to respond to John’s comment about the Board expenditure for tree work. He said the request for the tree work came from the sauna in the late spring of 2006, and he and Leslie found enough money in existing budgets to authorize the work last year. The first surprise was that the work wasn’t done last year so this year they asked the Board and received additional capital project funding for it. The tree work has now been done. He was surprised by John’s comment because he remembered talking to John about the work request last year before he and Leslie proceeded, and that John said then that he had no problem with it. Leslie added a comment about the “extreme nature and danger” of the tree work that was hired out to be done “in very high, high trees. Sometimes there are things we just don’t want to ask volunteers to do, no matter how competent they are.”

**Assistant Manager:** Charlie said Main Camp has been “so inspiring” and that all the people there “set the stage for the larger group who will be with us soon.” He was appreciative of the beautiful space we were in and said he “hopes for lots more meetings in this yurt.” He mentioned the campground meeting and said it was well-attended by the neighboring campground proprietors who “amaze me with their level of organization and commitment.” He’s participating with Leslie on a

nominating committee for a Ford Family Foundation leadership training and talked about “building deeper roots here in Veneta.” He said the “green ticket page is up and working” and gave a big thank you to Robert Albano of TicketsWest. He also thanked Cliff for his work for all the “techno junkies” who like to be hooked up at the Fair. He looked around the yurt and said, “It’s nice to see all these shining faces out here. To the best Fair ever!”

**Office Assistant:** Robin has been working mostly at the town office but also comes onsite for meetings and said she “gets sucked into the love energy.” Culture Jam is full and it’s “hard to turn people away” but wonderful to “hear from parents whose kids have had their lives changed by Culture Jam.” She praised artist Dan Hitchcock who did the artwork for the Fair on the LTD buses and said the ads are “fun, fabulous, and festive, goofy and silly.”

**Treasurers:** Hilary said she’s “amazed at how the Fair is getting more and more sophisticated with our money. We’re tracking it better, and we’re reaping the benefits.” She praised Coordinators for “making great choices.” She also mentioned more anniversaries: the 10-year anniversary of Chela Mela, the Far Side, and the drug and alcohol policy; it’s her 15-year anniversary as Co-Treasurer; and it’s been 25 years “since my first Fair when Sue Kesey gently busted me for blanket vending.” *(That got a big laugh because Sue was sitting right next to Hilary.)*

**President:** Jack talked about gratitude, and thank you, and please, and you’re welcome and how wonderful those words are and how really glad he is to be here.

### **Committee Reports Elders Committee**

Chris Browne read the minutes from their June 28 meeting and said 205 Elders have requested camping passes this year through the Elders process. He said their camping area is “developing nicely” and there are more than a dozen requests by Elders to camp there this year. Progress is being made toward developing a small refreshment area and more poison oak has been removed “thanks to some persistent volunteers.” Almost 50 people attended the Old Timer’s Picnic. A Wine & Cheese/Meet & Greet gathering for Elders will be held at Alice’s on July 11 from 7-9 pm. The Elders Camp will have a transport vehicle to “get them around to The Ritz, Main Camp, parking and where ever.” The committee had a naming contest for the vehicle and the two winning names, “Elders Chariot” and “Geezer Pleaser,” will be displayed on the front and back of the vehicle. The next Elders Committee meeting will be held at the town office at 7pm on August 23.

### **Vision Quest Task Force**

Greg talked about the VQ/Board workshop on June 3. He said the Task Force is moving from “visioning to actualizing” and he encouraged everyone “with a great idea” to pick up a form at Quartermaster’s (or through the office after the Fair) and “get your project ideas to us for consideration.” Diane said some parts of the form asked questions that were too technical and “that may discourage some people” so Greg said to just “fill out what you can.” Leslie said there will be “one last round of surveying at this year’s Fair” and that the central Vision Station area on Strawberry Lane will be set up to look like a Haight-Ashbury living room.

### **Peach Power Committee**

Anna said a donation box will be set up in Energy Park for people who want to contribute money to the Peach Power Fund. The Committee plans to meet in Energy Park before 11am each day of the Fair. norma added that Anna’s 3-year old daughter Josie had been in the office drawing a picture. When norma asked her what she was drawing, Josie replied, “solar panels.”

## Old Business

### One-Year-Only Food Booth and Strolling Vendor Permits

**Lara moved and Deane seconded that the Board approve the proposed guideline for new strolling vendors/food booths to take effect in 2007.**

*Background:* Sue Kesey (Springfield Creamery booth) said the Food Committee came up with this proposal because “we all like to have new food, but none of us want to leave. Space is not increasing, so we wanted to put into place a rotating structure for new strolling vendors.” She said perhaps new path space someday might also allow them to have a new food booth that would also operate on a rotating basis. They would like to have three new strolling food vendors this year: organic kettle corn, vegan cupcakes, and herbal spiced tea. She said the reason for the proposed new policy is “to keep stirring things up.” The new guideline reads: “Starting with the 2007 Fair, there will be two or more temporary strolling and/or non-strolling food vendors. A temporary food vendor who is awarded a one-year only booth for two consecutive years will not be eligible for a one-year only booth in the third year, but would be eligible again the following year.” Leslie said she worked with the Food Committee to make the wording of the proposed guideline “mimic the one-year-only policy used by Registration for the Crafters.” She said the language of the proposal includes both strolling vendors *and* booths because “someday we’ll have room for more booths.”

*Peach Gallery:* Thumbs up.

*Board:* Ditto.

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

### Radio Use Donation Request

**Palmer moved and Lawrence seconded that the Board donate the use of radios for an event on July 22, 2007 (provided Palmer works security for that event).**

*Background:* Palmer talked about a request from the Musicians Emergency Medical Association (MEMA), a non-profit organization founded last year to help musicians with uninsured medical emergencies. They have asked Palmer to head up security at their upcoming event and they would like to borrow the Fair’s radios (walkie-talkies) for their fundraiser at Sweet Cheeks Winery on July 22. (*more info at [www.memafund.org](http://www.memafund.org)*) Palmer was pretty sure but not positive that he would agree to work security for the event. He referenced precedent when he worked security for Project Homeless Connect and the Fair loaned walkie-talkies for that event.

*Peach Gallery:* Joseph Newton said support for artists and entertainers ranked high on the member survey and this motion is “right up that alley.” Jon Pincus (Elder) said it’s a good cause and Norma said the proposal has Ichabod’s approval.

*Board:* Lawrence said it’s “a good thing with positive general benefit” but that procedurally it points out the need “for us to address the general concept of an organized donation process.” Jack thought the motion should be structured differently and he proposed the following friendly amendment that was accepted by Palmer and Lawrence: **move that the Board grant Palmer the authority to negotiate the donated use of the Fair’s radios.** Leslie said there’s already a contract in place to deal with potential loss or damage to Fair equipment.

**The amended motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.** (*Deane voted for Diane who had stepped out.*)

### **Set Date for September Board Meeting**

**Greg moved and Katie seconded that the Board set the September meeting for Monday, September 10 2007 at 7pm onsite at the yurt behind The Hub.**

*Background:* The first Monday in September is Labor Day so the Board traditionally picks the second Monday for their meeting.

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

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm. The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, August 6, 2007 at 7pm at the EWEB Community Room. The agenda, subject to change, will include the following tabled items: Budget Issues; Donation to Eugene Peace Choir (Deane); Path Planning Process (Paxton); Approve Path Planning Process as Proposed by Leslie, Steve, Kirk, and Sallie (Bear); as well as the following new business: Consider Donation to Breaking Free (Greg); Consider Donation to Multi-Cultural Storytelling Festival (Lara); and Consider Membership in Non-Profit Association of Oregon. The following item was dropped from the agenda because they decided it didn't need to be a motion, just an announcement: Request Letters of Interest for Path Planning Committee.

Minutes by Barbara Edmonds who thanks Mary Chase ("Harvey") for the following quote: "In this world, Harvey, you must be oh so smart or oh so pleasant. For years I was smart. I recommend pleasant."