

**Oregon Country Fair Board of Directors**  
**Monday August 6, 2007, 7pm, EWEB Community Room**

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

**Not:** Greg Rikhoff (Deane voted in his place.)

*(During Agenda Review, Bear moved and Lawrence seconded that "Open OCCU Account" be moved from new to old business. The motion passed: 10 in favor, 0 opposed.)*

**Announcements**

Barbara will take a one-month leave of absence from her duties as recording secretary. Jeya Aerenson (Inventory Crew) will take minutes at the September 2007 Board meeting.

Barbara said that Alegria (formerly of Communications Crew and this year of the Politics Booth in Community Village) is having surgery on August 8 and welcomes healing energy and support. She can be reached at alegria@willamette.net or at 541-606-3919. She will be recuperating at home for about 3-4 weeks following the surgery.

Bear said letters of interest from those wanting to serve on the Path Planning Committee should be sent to the Board through the office.

Lara said the meeting she referred to in last month's minutes (*"the meeting of the minds to discuss the kitchen/flood plain issue"*) is scheduled for Tuesday, October 30 at 6pm at the town office. This will be to discuss moving Main Camp kitchen to higher ground.

Jen-lin Hodgden (Feedback Coordinator) said surveys of food vendors could be delivered when they are waiting in line to redeem food vouchers.

norma said the Teddy Bear Picnic will be Saturday, August 18; the annual evaluation meeting will be the following day from 1-5 at the Entertainment Camp fire pit. Snacks will be provided.

Bear said a VQ training session will be held the morning of Sunday, August 19 from 10am to noon at the yurt behind The Hub. This meeting will teach people how to fill out the VQ project reports.

Leslie said Judy Scott (Water Crew Co-Coordinator) is also going in for surgery soon and that "we wish her well." She said Judy's crew still did a fantastic job without her this year but that they really missed her. She also reported the sad news that Tom Keller of Pre-Post Security passed away of a heart attack on August 2. He had a wife and baby son. Contributions to the family can be made to the Keller Family Fund at Washington Mutual Bank.

Anna thanked many people who helped make the Peach Power Project come to life including "my family who allowed me to dedicate a whole lot of time," Construction Crew, Energy Park electric company, "the marvelous staff," and all the Board and financial planners and Peach Power Committee members. She said, "We're now producing electricity and that makes me tingle."

**Approval of Minutes**

Lawrence moved and Lara seconded to approve the minutes of the July 2007 Board meeting. The motion passed: 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention (Bear).

**Member Input**

Steve W. said he was "taking my staff hat off" to talk about "lots of folks at Fair time who stepped up and took care of some of the small but meaningful things that Beth used to do." He talked

about when Jeff Johnson aka Animal developed vision problems and Beth took charge, got him to an eye doctor (*diagnosis was cataracts*), helped him through the medical maze and then started a fundraising effort. They raised enough money to get one eye corrected. Steve said, "Well, now it's time to do the other eye." Steve has stepped into Beth's role and has opened a joint account with Animal to accept funds. They have already raised a third of the necessary \$3,000. Family can mail checks payable to Steve Wisnovsky or Jeff Johnson at the site address: 24550 Chickadee Lane, Veneta OR 97487. They are looking into the idea of also opening a pay pal account for this purpose so people can donate online.

Joseph Newton thanked the "vast majority of Family who cooperate in recycling. Your cooperation makes our Monday much easier."

Lara spoke eloquently for several minutes about why this was such an exceptional Fair for her and how many people she has to thank for that. (*Sorry, but her skillful use of words and the feeling it generated in the room cannot be translated to this printed format.*) She thanked the Board, Budget Committee, management, Steve and Tommy "for our new recycling truck which we named Susie", the Food Committee and vendors for the cutlery project, Willie and Sherri from Recycling Crew who did so many extra things and put in an amazing amount of time, Andy and Animal for "their knowledge, strength, and hard work no matter what the situation," Steve W. for "his ability to stay calm in uncalm moments." She talked about the incident following this year's Fair when a recycler drove a forklift over Jill's Crossing and did significant damage to the bridge. Instead of freaking out, Steve said, "Shit happens. Let's go eat lunch." She also thanked Rainbow for laying straw in Main Camp on Monday morning and Paxton for putting up two tarps over the dining tables so everyone could have a dry place to eat breakfast after the night's rains. She thanked her crew who "worked through two days of slip and slide conditions." She thanked Andy for laying sand and straw so they could continue their work. She said she is "so proud and honored to be a Co-Coordinator and to be able to serve my amazing Crew." She started to well up when she thanked her husband Kenny Howe in the Peach Gallery for all his support.

### **Staff and Officer Reports**

**General Manager:** Leslie said it's hard to express gratitude adequately. She suggested we repeat an exercise we did in the past. Everybody in the room turned to someone next to them and told about one of their favorite moments at this year's Fair. For several minutes the room buzzed and hummed with animated conversation and laughter. She then thanked Kay Kintzley for making a "beautiful banner that says 'moments that take your breath away' that was up at Elders Camp this year." She said, for herself, the 2007 Fair stood out as being "particularly generous and kind and loving and beautiful." She recalled talking to some people who attended the Fair for the first time. They thought it would be in a big field or parking lot and were instead stunned by the beauty of it all. She said "love and awareness of Beth was woven through everything" and it made her realize how "precious and rare this is; I know that now more than ever." She said post-Fair was "tough and wet, but everyone pitched in and did something to make it work." She thanked Robin and said Culture Jam really wouldn't be happening without her efforts. She said "50 amazing youth and 22 incredible staff" are looking forward to Culture Jam from August 10-17. She thanked Norma who has been working on Picnic details and encouraged attendance at the Evaluation Meeting on August 19. She said, "Thank you for the chance to do this amazing thing. I'm so proud of us." Lara asked about attendance numbers and Leslie said there were 14,126 tickets sold for Friday; 17,361 for Saturday; and 13,330 for Sunday. Usually advance sales account for only 50% of the sales but this year they were 80%. More than 3,000 3-day tickets were sold.

**Administrative Assistant:** norma said her favorite moments at the Fair were when the Fighting Instruments of Karma Marching Band/Chamber Orchestra sang “When I’m 64” to her husband Dick on Friday (*his 64th birthday*) and when the Beatles Tribute Band sang “All You Need is Love.” She said there are several bands lined up for the August 18 picnic including The Raventones. She asked people to please volunteer to help grill or help Wally at the front tables. She is committed to using durables instead of plastic utensils at the picnic and would like help washing the utensils afterward. She paid tribute to the late Marshall Landman who would have had a birthday today and talked about all he did to bring about Community Village and crew services.

**Site Manager:** Steve W. said there are “free gifts” ready for the taking. Anyone who can use some bales of hay for mulch, compost, or goat feed, please pick them up from the parking lot. (*But don’t get it confused with the stacked straw bales in front of Main Camp; Site Crew and VegManEcs still needs those.*) He also said there is free waste cooking oil at the recycling dock and suggested someone could use it to make biodiesel fuel. He had a lot of folks to thank. He said the pre-Fair energy was great and “the human energy everywhere on the site before the Fair hums.” He expressed gratitude for all the work of the volunteers, and particularly thanked the Site Crew and Shane Harvey (Site Crew Co-Coordinator) and said they “have a helluva lot of fun doing a helluva lot of hard work.” He said sure the rain made it harder to work but he was grateful for “the visual changes...the trees get washed off...the air is clean, and after our huge impact, the land can sure use a refresher.” He thanked the people involved with the Beaver Open who are getting more involved and integrated into the Fair. They volunteered for a work weekend so the site staff put them to work helping with preparations for Culture Jam. He said there were also some down sides this year. He talked about “those people who just don’t get it” like whoever left a queen size mattress and box springs in Crafts Lot to get wet and be hauled off by Recycling Crew; like the people who dumped so much fast food garbage and bottle empties in the Outta Site Lot, where only Fair Family park, that it took two 50-gallon drums to hold it all. He got a round of applause when he said, “If that’s your understanding of the Code of Conduct and the Guidelines, of ‘reverence for the land’ and ‘pack it in, pack it out’, then we don’t need you.” He said those people who don’t ‘get it’ may never read the minutes, “but those of you who do ‘get it’ need to speak up when we see things like that happening and let the culprits know their conduct is unacceptable.”

**Assistant Manager:** Charlie said, “This was like no other Fair I can remember...the energy pre-Fair was so intense.” In a conversation after the Fair, he started thinking about all the energy it takes *after* the event. “It struck me there’s all that energy before the event, and then the Fair happens, and then so much work still needs to be done post-Fair.” He said Lara thanked a lot of people earlier but that she deserves a lot of thanks too, as do Deconstruction Crew, post-Fair kitchen, staff, Paxton and Rainbow, and many others. “The way that everyone’s spirits stayed up post-Fair in a challenging environment was really inspiring.” He said there is still lots of work left to do. He wants to have a weekend work party the same weekend as the Annual Meeting on Oct. 13. He plans to have folks quit work early on Saturday so they can drive to town for the meeting. He said, “Maybe we’ll have a better turnout at the meeting if folks drive to town for the whole weekend.” He said last year’s Fall work weekend had a wonderful sense of community and he wants to build on that for this Fall. He’ll send e-mails to Coordinators and others with information about the work party as the weekend approaches. He said, “Lately there has been a flurry of e-mail on the ocf discuss list about website design” and he thanked norma, Robert Albano, and Shirley Walker-Coombs who have been working on a redesign. He gave an update on the Fair’s neighbors, the Walstroms, who were very appreciative of Fair folks who helped out when a disturbed woman from a neighboring campground let their horses out during the Fair. Sadly, their daughter’s mare was “irreparably harmed” but they

were very grateful for all the help from folks at the Fair who came to their aid. Charlie also reported that Laura Burns, the health inspector who inspects the food booths, said that this was her “best Fair ever” and that she is “really impressed with how we’re doing things.”

**Office Assistant:** Robin said, “The love is continuing onsite” as preparations are made for 50 young people to attend Culture Jam. *(They had 20 more who applied but had to be turned away.)* She talked about how Fair folk “get to engage in loving community...that same energy is what they get at Culture Jam. It impacts their lives and is well worth it.” She said these kids make changes that impact others and act like “ripples in a pond.”

**Treasurers:** Hilary said, “Right now it looks like we have a fat income, but remember it has to get us through the year.” She said the rain on Monday made her very grateful for advance ticket sales because if it had rained on Saturday the Fair would still have income. Grumpy said this is the second year in a row that the Fair has surpassed projected attendance all three days. Event income from the Fair this year was almost 1.4 million dollars.

**President:** Jack said, “The thank-yous are probably the most rewarding part. We are very fortunate. We are extremely fortunate... the people who originally had this idea and instilled such faith to us.. how important it is that stays with us.. and how we benefit from all their spirits that have past and how much stronger that makes us.. and how formidable a model that we are able to project and for people to see. The thanks part of this is actually to all; it’s most the thanks for being able to; for me, that’s the important thank you: that I am able to and we are fortunate enough to...so thank you.”

## **Committee Reports**

### **Election Committee**

Barbara said the Annual Meeting and election for Board of Directors will be held the evening of Saturday, October 13 at Knights of Pythias Hall. Candidate statements are due August 31. The last day to register as a member in order to vote in the 2007 election is September 13. The committee is looking for more people to help with this year’s election preparations. Reach the committee through the office. Election Committee member Jen-lin Hodgden announced a one-year leave of absence from the committee because her son plans to run for the Board. Jen-lin felt this could be perceived as a conflict of interest if she continued to serve on the committee.

### **Internet Committee**

Alan Cohn said the committee has “come out of hibernation.” They set up a wiki that you can view at <http://wholecountryfair.pbwiki.com>. There is also a wiki set up that is specific to technology topics and the Fair. See it at: [http://www.ulul8.net/mediawiki/index.php?title=OCF\\_Internet\\_What\\_Is\\_All\\_This\\_Technology](http://www.ulul8.net/mediawiki/index.php?title=OCF_Internet_What_Is_All_This_Technology). They plan to do an experiment at the September Board meeting to see if they can successfully provide an audio feed of the meeting to other members of the Internet Committee. Folks interested in joining the Committee can reach them through the office. *(For those of you with my limited level of computer literacy, I talked to Alan and found out a wiki is basically an informational website that anyone with the password can log onto for the purpose of making changes to it.)*

### **Personnel Committee**

Palmer asked the Board to set a date for the annual Board/PC workshop to discuss employee evaluations. The date was set for Monday, September 17 at 7pm at the Central Presbyterian Church at 15th and Ferry.

**Old Business**  
**Budget Issues**

**Consider Donation to Multi-Cultural Storytelling Festival**

**Lara moved and Palmer seconded that the Board donate \$500 from the Board donation budget to the Multi-Cultural Storytelling Festival.**

*Background:* Robert Rubinstein, director, spoke about the organization that qualifies as a 501(c)3 under the umbrella of Lane Arts Council. The event will be held April 22-27, 2008. The donation request letter to the Board states that the Festival is a “positive way to bring cultural awareness and appreciation of other peoples to our communities, especially to our children.” During the 2007 festival “nationally-known storytellers from different cultures visited 7,000 students in 27 school performances” as well as held workshops and an evening concert for the community.

*Board:* Katie asked if they had ever asked the Board for a donation before. Robert said they had not; every year they struggle to scrape together enough money. Their budget is about \$10,000 and they give away a lot of tickets. Lara said the festival is a good way to celebrate diversity as well as to educate our youth. Jack said carrying on the tradition of storytelling is great all by itself, but “having it be multicultural is a bonus.”

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

**Consider Donation to Breaking Free**

**Deane moved and Palmer seconded that the Board donate \$1000 from the Board donation budget to Breaking Free.**

*Background:* Nadia Telsey, director, spoke about the 501(c)3 organization that provides training in sexual assault prevention. They work with the state sexual assault task force, provide a DVD to help young people become assertive, and provide help for people with developmental disabilities “who are targeted as victims at much higher rates than the general population.” The goal of Breaking Free is “to empower and educate our community to prevent and heal from sexual violence.”

*Peach Gallery:* norma said the organization “is new to me, but Nadia is not. I’ve known her since working together at a rape crisis center in 1979. She is totally dedicated” to teaching women skills to stay safe. Jen-lin said her daughter took some defense skills classes and “it gave her confidence. Let’s support it.” Joseph Newton (Recycling Crew) recommended passage because the program helps to make “better citizens, better people.”

*Board:* Bear said as an attorney he has represented sex offenders. He said they would “rather encounter someone who knew how to hit back rather than be facing years in prison like they are now.” Lawrence said not only as another defense attorney but also as a father of a daughter, like Bear, he is “so glad you’re doing this work.” Lara said a high percentage of young women are assaulted and she plans to support this motion but she wondered how much money was left in the Board donation budget. (\$4400) Deane appreciates the fact that the program helps young boys as well as girls. Palmer asked what the money would be used for. Nadia said it would be used to support the teacher training program. Jack said this is an interesting issue and discussion that revolves around the self defense of one’s personal sovereignty. He is bothered by the notion of protection by a use other than reason. He can’t support the motion, saying it’s “too deep a philosophical cord for me to deal with in this setting. I think there are enough people who support this motion, but I just want people to understand that, other than reason, I have a difficult time.” Bear yielded time to Grumpy who said, “As a non-violent individual, self defense does bother me, but self

empowerment doesn't. I think your work in self-empowerment is vitally important." Jack yielded time to Nadia who said the class "focuses on warning signs, how assailants work; we try to prevent acts from ever occurring" so self defense becomes the last resort. Bear regretted Greg's absence as the original sponsor of the motion and said he "would have spoken eloquently for it." Even though she "enthusiastically supports" the work of Nadia's project, Katie will vote no because it "doesn't conform to the purposes of our organization as I understand them."

**The motion passed: 7 in favor and 3 opposed (Anna, Katie, Jack).**

### **Open OCCU Account**

**Bear moved and Lara seconded that the OCF open a bank account at OCCU with Leslie Scott, Hilary Anthony, and norma sax as authorized names on the account.**

*Background:* When other accounts reach their limits it becomes necessary for the Fair to open new accounts. At this point they will open a 6-month CD but they watch for best interest rates and change the type of account when beneficial.

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

### **Path Planning Process**

**Paxton moved and Lawrence seconded that the Board set a September date for a Board workshop on path planning to reconcile the competing proposals and that the Board table both path planning motions until after the meeting.** *(Bear ruled the tabling part of the motion out of order, explaining that the Board can't vote to table motions that aren't currently being debated.)*

*Background:* Both Paxton and Bear have tabled motions before the Board dealing with path planning process. Paxton wants a workshop to discuss the issue and proposed tabling both motions until after the workshop. After a bunch of discussion (*below*) the end result is that Paxton kept his motion on the September 10 meeting agenda, Bear withdrew his motion, Jack added his own path planning motion to the September Board agenda, and the Board agreed to a September 24 date for a workshop on path planning.

*Peach Gallery:* Paxton said he hasn't been able to meet with others on this topic partly because they are so busy and partly because he lives so far away; he said the original idea for a workshop came from Kirk and he agreed that it was a good idea. Steve W. thanked Paxton for the time he has spent on this idea and said they all have "a lot on our minds in July other than long-range planning but I would welcome the opportunity to sit down with this in September." Jen-lin would like to see a break-down of the different proposals available at the workshop. Jon Pincus said the workshop idea is "the way to go because this topic needs a round table format." Joseph Newton said both of the competing proposals are "too structured" and hoped the workshop would help people agree on a simpler process. Kenny Howe (Recycling Crew) got a laugh when he said he "supports this motion unless Bear's next motion is even better, then I'll change my mind real quick!"

*Board:* Deane hopes "to simplify this; we're all on the same side, we all love the Fair. If we sit together we can do it." Anna asked, "Since when do we need a motion to set a Board workshop?" Bear said it doesn't take a motion but there's "one on the table and nothing wrong with doing it that way either." Bear said he'll vote no on this motion because "we've spent too long on this already." He talked about how wikis could be used for something like this – viewing a document, changing it, discussing it, changing it back, etc – and said "if the Supreme Court can do business that way certainly us hippies can figure it out." **Jack moved to table the current motion to set a workshop date. Anna seconded the motion.**

*Peach Gallery:* Jon Pincus and Joseph Newton both said it shouldn't be tabled. Hilary said, "Don't table it and don't make us stay here until 10pm." Grumpy suggested the Board "stop goofing on each other."

*Board:* Lara said she's in favor of the workshop and doesn't want to table the motion.

**The motion to table failed: 2 in favor and 8 opposed (Bear, Katie, Lara, Diane, Deane, Lawrence, Carl, and Paxton)**

*Board:* Anna asked that they please set a date. Paxton suggested Monday September 24 at 7pm at Central Presbyterian Church. That date was accepted by all. Lawrence got a laugh when he referred to Bear's earlier comment, "Maybe we could get a more elegant drafting process if we had an army of clerks like the Supreme Court; but it's a good idea for us to get together to work this out because it will be pre-Fair again before we know it."

**The amended motion (to set a date for a Board workshop on path planning) passed: 9 in favor and 1 opposed (Bear).**

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm. The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, September 10, 2007 at 7pm onsite at the yurt behind The Hub. The agenda, subject to change, will include the following tabled items: Budget Issues; Donation to Eugene Peace Choir (Deane); Path Planning Process (Paxton); Consider Membership in Non-Profit Association of Oregon (*this failed to generate a sponsor but they decided to table it and think about it for a month*); as well as the following new business: Consider Appointments to Path Planning Committee (Bear); Consider Appointments of Admissions Crew Co-Coordination; Consider Appointments of Youth Stage Co-Coordination; Consider Appointments to Internet Committee; Endowment Contribution (Bear); Path Planning Proposal (Jack); Capital Projects Requests. Bear withdrew his motion to Approve Path Planning Process as Proposed by Leslie, Steve, Kirk, and Sallie from the agenda.

Minutes by Barbara Edmonds who thanks David James Duncan ("The River Why") for the following quote: "The thing I found offensive, the thing I hated about Mohican-mountain-makers, gill-netters, poachers, whalehunters, strip-miners, herbicide-spewers, dam-erectors, nuclear-reactor-builders, or anyone who lusted after flesh, meat, mineral, tree, pelt, and dollar – including, first and foremost, myself – was the smug ingratitude, the attitude that assumed the world and its creatures owed us everything we could catch, shoot, tear out, alter, plunder, devour..... and we owed the world nothing in return."