

**Oregon Country Fair Board of Directors
Monday April 7, 2008, 7pm, EWEB Community Room**

Present: Diane Albino, Danya Ariel, Katie Cousins, Paxton Hoag, Jack Makarchek, Deane Morrow, Joseph Newton and Palmer Parker (alternates), Carl Taylor, Lawrence Taylor.

Not: Lara Howe, Bear Wilner-Nugent. *(Both Joseph and Palmer voted all evening; and Bear usually facilitates the meeting, but tonight Lawrence did.)*

Agenda Review

During agenda review, Jack moved and Katie seconded that the Board move two items from new to old business so they could be discussed tonight: the Groundskeeper Job Description and Green Tickets. The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Announcements

Jen-lin Hodgden (Feedback Coordinator) passed around cookies to raise money for Culture Jam scholarships. At the end of the evening she had \$68.

Barbara urged people to think about applying for the job of Recording Secretary; it's a wonderful opportunity for the right person. Is that you? *(Send a letter of interest to the Board; Barbara retires in July.)*

Katie said the Personnel Committee incorrectly announced at the March 30 meeting that they were soliciting letters of interest from people interested in being on the GM hiring committee. But the PC must first develop a job description and publish ads for the position before it solicits such letters. She apologized on behalf of the PC for this error and explained that those people who have already submitted a letter of interest will *not* have to re-submit it when the time comes to ask for more letters and form a hiring committee.

norma said the Spring Fling is May 3 at 7pm at Wow Hall. She also announced the retirement of Energy Park Coordinator, Nancy BeBout, and thanked her for "her many years of dedicated service."

Percy Hilo (Entertainer) was down from Seattle and asked the Board members to introduce themselves so he could put faces to the names he reads/hears about.

Jeff Harrison (Craft Inventory) pointed out the table in the middle of the room with 26 items submitted for approval by the Board, who later rated the items and approved 24 of them. Jeff said regular craft jurying (*not with logos*) is scheduled for April 12 with results known by the end of the month.

Palmer commented that it was nice to see so many faces in the Peach Gallery.

Steve W. announced a tour of the (*almost*) new property acquisition (the OutaSite Lot, plus more acreage). Meet between 4-5pm on Sunday May 4 (the day after the Spring Fling), at the Highway 126 Maple Gate ramp. There are cows in the field so it's not appropriate to bring dogs.

Joseph said people can have a full day at the Fair on April 20. There's a Highway Pick-Up at 10am, a Path Planning meeting at noon at the Yurt, and a Wildflower Walk at 2pm.

Etienne Smith aka Auntie Em (Security Crew) announced she plans to run for the Board in October.

Joseph planned on making a motion but decided to make an announcement instead congratulating "the parents, students and communities of the Eugene District 4J schools on their advocacy for their respective schools, and in particular the demonstration of deep community involvement by the people of Coburg in advocating for Coburg Elementary School."

Approval of Minutes

Jack moved and Carl seconded to approve the minutes of the March 2008 Board meeting. Steve got a laugh when he made a correction to the March Site Manager's report; it was 6-8 *inches* of snow onsite rather than 6-8 feet! (*silly oops, my fault not his*) The motion passed: 10 in favor, 0 opposed.

Member Input

Jen-lin said the Park Street Café is the new Village restaurant. She thanked the Food Committee "for helping us with this process."

Staff and Officer Reports

General Manager: Tickets go on sale May 1. Leslie just returned from speaking in Portland (at the Governor's Conference on Tourism) about sustainable practices at events. She talked about the Green ticket option as "one way we can educate and inform people" about how the Fair is working to become more climate neutral. The Fair will again advertise on LTD's biodiesel buses with wonderful artwork by Dan Hitchcock. She renewed all the Fair's insurance policies which renew this month; met with Entertainment Coordinators and the Fair's attorney about contract language; and continued to negotiate with LTD but also expanded her talks to private carriers as mandated by recent federal legislation. She encouraged Coordinators to come to the monthly potlucks. She explained that the Mauldin property sale has not yet been finalized. It is "successfully in escrow but the deal may not close until August or September" because the owner needs to file some paperwork with the county to secure the partition. She thanked everyone who came to the last Coordinators' potluck, and reminded people that the potlucks are a primary means for communicating and sharing information. And one last thing, a German journalist who visited the Fair last year and was very impressed wrote an article about the Fair. She asked if there's anyone out there who reads German who would translate the article for her.

Administrative Assistant: norma brought copies of the new Guidelines, thanked Craft Inventory and Entertainment Crews for "a smooth application process," and asked for donations of crafts and services to the Spring Fling. Some new Coordinators are being appointed tonight and she asked them to give her their contact information.

Site Manager: Steve W. said spring is here but some March days have still felt like winter. The trilliums are out but some "got a little frosted by a couple of 25 degree F mornings." Even though the process on the new property acquisition isn't yet final, he has permission to do walkabouts on the Mauldin's property. He thanked VegManEcs and Site staff who helped get "lots of trees planted" for erosion control and shade. He thanked "the fine folks at Balance Restoration Nursery in Lorane for another large donation of native plant material." The Fair "got a deal that was too good to turn down" on a one-ton, 4-wheel drive fire truck that "is very well suited to our needs," and added, a "big thank you to Chief Marty Nelson of Lane Fire District #1 for thinking of the Fair." He said the OCF Wildflower Walk (April 20) and the Wings and Wine Festival (May 10) "are both coming up so come on out to the Fair and enjoy but please tread lightly, the Fair site is green, wet and soft. Please keep the vehicles on gravel roads and parking areas, no bikes or vehicles on the paths and meadows." (*More info at www.wingsandwinefestival.com*)

Assistant Manager: Charlie asked Coordinators to make an appointment to learn the new computer system and to get a password for their Crew, and also asked Fair Family to "help your Coordinators get their registration information as quickly as possible."

Office Assistant: Robin said applications are open for Culture Jam, the one-week summer youth camp which is going into its seventh year and which Robin described as providing “positive, dynamic, life-changing experiences.”

President: Jack said both the workshop on April 30 and the executive session before tonight’s meeting resulted in good discussions about the transition strategy for the GM position. There will be a series of executive sessions to further develop the job description. He thanked Leslie not only for her long and dedicated service but also “for giving us this time to transition.” He also started promoting the Fair and urging us to tell our friends to buy a ticket and come to the Fair. He also suggested we all make a commitment this year to “buy less, use less.” He said we all buy stuff we think we need for the Fair but he asked us to consciously reduce our consumption and “buy a little less, use a little less.”

Committee Reports

Elders Committee: Chris Browne read the report from their March 27 meeting where they approved 14 new applications for Elder status bringing the total to 318. They heard a report from the subcommittee on ‘transition jobs’. They are compiling “a detailed package that outlines jobs identified and requirements for said jobs” which they will present to the Board upon completion. Upcoming events include the Old Timers Picnic on Saturday June 28 from 4-8 at Main Camp Kitchen; the Elders Meet and Greet on Thursday July 10 from 7-9pm at Alice’s firepit; the Elders Bell Ringing Ceremony on Friday July 11 at 8:30pm at Shady Grove; and of course the next Elders Committee meeting at the town office at 6:30 on April 24. Chris also reported on the Elders Retreat which was held April 5-6 at Alice’s and attended by 26 people who discussed several topics: they met with people from Crafts Committee to learn their function and work together to develop transition possibilities; worked out some operational kinks and confusion between the Elders Council and Elders Committee; set work parties for April 26, May 18 and June 8 (all at 11am) to clean up the camping area, remove poison oak, and level tent sites by adding fill dirt. They also enjoyed wonderful meals and live entertainment and thanked “the onsite team for providing a very neat, clean and comfortable location for the Elders to hold this retreat.”

Path Planning Committee: Chris Browne read the report from the March 16 meeting where Site staff gave an update on path planning website lists which can be accessed at ocfsite.org/list and presented information and a map of the (*almost*) newly-acquired property that includes the OutaSite lot. They discussed ways to keep the Fair Family better informed as to what is happening within Path Planning and asked for feedback concerning future development of the Fair site. To study the existing paths, they divided the layout into six segments: Entrances, East 13th, Main Stage, Sesame Street, The River Side and The Left Bank. They plan to analyze possibilities and problems one segment at a time and, weather permitting, will do a walkabout at their next meeting April 20 at noon at the Yurt.

Endowment Committee: Troy Broadnax said four organizations received an endowment grant of \$2500 each: Applegate Art Guild and Gallery; Veneta Elementary; Elmira Elementary; and Culture Jam scholarships for Fern Ridge youth.

Old Business

Craft Logo Jurying

Palmer moved and Joseph seconded that the Board approve selected items to use the OCF logo as determined by the Craft Inventory tally.

Background: Each year crafters submit sample items and the Board votes for which ones to approve for using the OCF logo. This year they approved 26 craft items.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Consider Donation to Earth Day

Diane moved and Jack seconded that the Board donate \$500 from the Board donation budget to the 2008 Earth Day Committee.

Background: Steve Remington spoke on behalf of the steering committee and said this would be the tenth anniversary of OCF's support for Earth Day, scheduled this year for April 19.

Peach Gallery: Bill Ganser said KRVM has been a long-time supporter of Earth Day. Leslie said it's a great community partnership. She said Steve does a great job of connecting people all through the community and the Fair should "help launch sustainability for Eugene '08 at Earth Day."

Board: Joseph said supporting Earth Day is a good tradition.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Consider Donation to Emerald Valley Earth Seekers Spiral Scouts

Joseph moved and Palmer seconded that the Board donate \$500 from the Board donation budget to the Emerald Valley Earth Seekers Spiral Scouts.

Board: Paxton supports this as an alternative to regular scouting and Lawrence said the organization "reflects our Earth-based and non-militaristic values."

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

Consider Donation to Edison Elementary School Garden

Joseph moved and Palmer seconded that the Board donate \$500 from the Board donation budget to the Edison Elementary School Garden.

Background: Susan Daniell, a parent volunteer on the school's garden committee, spoke on behalf of the donation request which would be used to buy some very necessary garden tools.

Peach Gallery: Barbara said she "hates to see anyone turned away with nothing" and suggested donating \$100 to Edison and saving the larger amount of \$500 for a donation request on next month's agenda for the School Garden Project, which includes not only Edison but many other school gardens as well.

Board: Someone said it takes extra money to set up a garden. Jack likes the parent contact and involvement. Lawrence said having their own tools onsite makes sense. Danya liked the garden at his old school.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Consider Donation to Tariro

Joseph moved and Palmer seconded that the Board donate \$500 from the Board donation budget to Tariro.

Background: Maggie Donahue, local director, spoke for Tariro, a non-profit organization founded in 2003 by Eugene's Jennifer Kyker to prevent the spread of HIV by educating young women in Zimbabwe. They currently assist 50 girls to stay in school by paying for school fees, uniforms and textbooks. The money will be used to print and mount photographs, artwork, and poetry by the girls for an exhibit which "will be a powerful accessory to presentations we make to schools and community groups in an effort to bring awareness and community support to this project." The organization grew out of Jennifer's involvement with part of the Fair's Zimbabwe

drumming community. Maggie sent a message from the girls who said, “Tell our donors we are so grateful and we won’t let them down.” Visit www.tariro.org for more information.

Peach Gallery: Barbara said this is an example of her “favorite kind of donation, the kind where a local person takes the Fair’s values and does something to help people in another part of the world.” Leslie said organizations such as this one “know how to make a dollar go a long way and the Fair’s money could not be better spent.”

Board: Joseph said music is not just entertainment, but also elicits a deep connection between people. He is “honored we have an opportunity to help.” Jack asked the meaning of the word ‘tariro’ and Maggie said ‘hope’. Danya suggested pen pal exchanges between Tariro youth and Culture Jam youth.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Appoint Co-Coordiators to Registration, Construction, Peach Pit, and Child Care Crews

Deane moved and Carl seconded that Justin Honea be appointed Registration Crew Co-Coordinator. Jack moved and Katie seconded that Joe Newhall be appointed Construction Crew Co-Coordinator. Carl moved and Danya seconded that Anne Nelson be appointed Peach Pit Coordinator. Palmer moved and Paxton seconded that John Aarons be appointed Child Care Co-Coordinator.

Peach Gallery and Board: Many nice things were said about these people and thanks were given to the retiring Coordinators. JuneBug and several others from Registration all stood up together to introduce and support Justin Honea and to honor retiring David Helton. Lawrence said Joe Newhall is “an outstanding second generation Fair Family” and Leslie said the appointment “would mean so much to our Beth.” Current Peach Pit Coordinator Amy Wolfsen stated in a letter to the Board that Anne Nelson “has been my right-hand help on our crew for over 5 years and has unlimited talents and energy.” Current Child Care Coordinator Jill Liberty thanked retiring coordinator JC Chalupa for all her years of service and introduced John Aarons who she described in her letter as having “impeccable credentials and has been working with troubled youth for years, works closely with OCF BUMS, and has conducted crisis intervention workshops with Teens and Child Care”.

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

Appoint Members to Budget and Personnel Committees

Deane moved and Katie seconded that the Board appoint Chris Browne to the Budget Committee. Katie moved and Paxton seconded that the Board appoint Jen-lin Hodgden to the Personnel Committee.

Peach Gallery and Board: Hilary said Chris Browne has been coming to the Budget meetings for over a year and has been very helpful. Danya wondered if it would be a conflict of interest for him to vote for his mom, Jen-lin, but Lawrence said not, since there was no money involved. Daniel River Pagliaro and Lucy Kingsley submitted letters to the Board expressing interest in joining the Personnel Committee when there are more openings.

Both motions passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Budget Issues - Fire Dancers

Joseph moved and Palmer seconded to approve \$1020 for the fire dancing budget as proposed by the Treasurers and Budget Committee.

Background: Hilary said the fire dancing expense used to be covered in the Chela Mela budget but in moving to the Ambiance budget it got inadvertently omitted this year. The fire safety passes got moved to the Fire Crew. She said most of the dancers get their passes in other ways but the budget includes 3 crew passes for organizers and 12 trade passes for dancers as well as some food vouchers.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Set Dates for November Board Meeting and Vision Implementation Summit

They decided to leave the November 2008 meeting date stand as usual on the first Monday (*there had originally been some concern about that date in relation to the Board retreat*). They set a date for the Vision Implementation Summit: Sunday May 18 at the Eugene Garden Club, 1645 High Street, from 11 am to 4 pm.

Direct LUMP to Develop a Land Use Management Plan for the Mauldin Property

Jack moved and Lawrence seconded that the Board direct LUMP to develop a land use management plan for the Mauldin property and include the property plan in the next edition of the LUMP manual (contingent on the sale).

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Adopt Vision Quest Report

In Bear's absence, Joseph moved and Jack seconded that the Board of Directors adopt the resolution of the VQ statement of goals read by Bear at the March 2008 meeting (*see last month's minutes or online*) as revised with Steve G aka Grumpy's editing changes.

Background: The editing changes amounted to things like dropping all the "whereas's" and "now therefore's" and a bit of tinkering with word structure and spelling, but no changes of substantive value. Six amendments were proposed to the original motion that did address more substantive changes and they were voted on separately before a vote was taken on the above motion to adopt the report.

Peach Gallery: Leslie called it an "extraordinary document" and she and Grumpy felt lots of diverse groups were responsible for the document and they thanked all the people who worked on it.

Board: Here are the six amendments that were proposed to the above motion (*see below for the specific passages*). 1) Joseph moved and someone seconded to omit section 1D. I think it was Leslie and Grumpy who voiced the consensus that the Fair wants to increase diversity in many areas but didn't want to single out just two groups of people. The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed. 2) Joseph moved and Paxton seconded to amend the statement by adding a preamble. The motion failed: 3 in favor and 7 opposed (Carl, Danya, Diane, Jack, Katie, Lawrence, Palmer). 3) Katie moved and Palmer seconded to delete the fourth paragraph. Jack said it wasn't appropriate to single out individuals in this type of document and Katie said she didn't think Beth would want to be singled out. The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed. 4) Joseph moved and Jack seconded to add section 5E. Leslie said the omission of Culture Jam was an oversight which should be corrected. The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed. 5) Joseph moved and someone seconded to add sections 9F and 9G but pretty quickly Palmer called the question and the discussion turned to ending debate. There was a vote about calling the question but I got lost in the discussion which basically got resolved when Joseph tabled amendments 9F and 9G until the May meeting. 6) Paxton moved and Deane seconded that the word 'potential' be added to each subheading on the document, changing each subheading from "ways to reach this goal" to "potential ways to reach this goal".

norma said 'potential' "takes the strength away" and Jack said, "You commit or you don't." Hilary said these are goals but they won't be set with strategy until the Summit where even more ideas will be proposed. She also said the document calls for a yearly review by the Board. Paxton thinks it sounds limiting this way and feels the word 'potential' makes it clear the 'ways' are not limited to those proposed in the document. Lawrence disagreed saying there was nothing limiting in the current wording. Paxton said he will vote against the final document if the word 'potential' isn't included because he feels it will require the Fair to do too many projects. Deane said, "Me too." The motion failed: 2 in favor and 8 opposed (Carl, Joseph, Katie, Diane, Jack, Danya, Lawrence, Palmer)

The amended motion passed: 8 in favor and 2 opposed (Deane, Paxton).

Proposed amendments: 1) section 1D The Fair will, at a minimum, double the number of African-American and Latino/a participants in the three-day event. 2) (as a preamble) The Oregon Country Fair has roots in many movements that arose during the 1960's including the quest for peace, social justice, civil liberties, environmental responsibility, creative expression, intentional community and diverse lifestyles. Through the evolution of our event in its first 38 years, these quests have matured and evolved while our participants have become a multi-generational community spanning the cycle of life from birth through death. We will continue to evolve in our pursuit of these goals, and this document represents our best effort to project the shape of that evolution in the next decade. 3) 4th paragraph - Many hard-working Fair volunteers and employees, including our beloved friend Beth Grafe, gave generously of their time to think through the realities of long-range planning for the Fair; 4) Continue to support youth initiatives in the arts, cultural literacy and understanding, peace-building, and leadership that spring from our Culture Jam, Teen Crew, and other teen involvement programs. 5) 9F The Oregon Country Fair will develop systems of cross-training, information sharing, and documentation of critical function throughout our organization in order to ensure continuity through personal transitions. 9G The Oregon Country Fair will develop a code of Rights and Responsibilities for all persons who mediate the access of others to our events and programs.

Reactivate Survey Committee

Paxton moved and Katie seconded that the Board reactivate the Survey Committee to provide for oversight and support for the survey efforts of the Oregon Country Fair. The Committee will solicit and develop survey questions, supervise the surveyors and publish the results in a timely manner for use in Fair planning. This does not affect or change the original charge of supporting the membership survey during the general election. Since this Committee has been inactive the Board declares the membership void and calls for new letters of interest in becoming a member of the newly re-formed Survey Committee.

Background: Paxton submitted written information for the Board packet that included previous motions passed by earlier Boards who established a Survey Committee and explained his reasons for wanting to get that Committee active again. He sees this Committee "adding continuity to the successful work and effort by the Vision Quest surveyors the last three years." After a bit of discussion, Paxton decided and Katie agreed to table further discussion until the May meeting.

Groundskeeper

Palmer moved and Katie seconded that the Board adopt the amendments to the Groundskeeper job description as set by the Personnel Committee.

Background: Last month the Board approved the job description but there were a couple details that weren't final at that time. The Committee set the salary at \$10/hour and also included language requiring a background check. The Personnel Committee is still soliciting letters of interest from people who'd like to be on the Groundskeeper hiring committee.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Green Tickets

Lawrence moved and Carl seconded that the Board continue the Green Ticket program as described by Leslie.

Peach Gallery: Leslie said last year's program brought in about \$1000 for sustainability projects such as Peach Power, zero waste, public transportation, and local biofuels. The program allows ticket buyers to voluntarily add \$1 to their ticket price. Leslie said this is "an educational effort by the Fair to let the public know how they can support the Fair's sustainability projects." The option is only available to online ticket buyers but not available through TicketsWest because ticket outlets are not able to collect the money. Bryon Hummel suggested making green tickets available for crews and SOP purchases.

Board: Diane asked if the biofuels are food-based and Leslie said Sequential uses recycled vegetable oil as well as Oregon-grown canola.

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 pm. The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, May 5, 2008 at 7pm at the EWEB Training Room. The agenda, subject to change, will include the following tabled items: Budget Issues; Reactivate Survey Committee (Paxton); Consider Two Amendments to the VQ Goals Document (Joseph); as well as the following new business: Appoint External Security and Ambiance Co-Coordiators; Appoint Check Signers; Consider Donation to the School Garden Project (Lara); PPP Manual; Consider Making Office Assistant Full Time; and Sustainable Commitment (Danya). Three items were removed from the agenda: instead of a motion on Transition Strategy, Jack will give updates on the GM transition process in his President's reports; Joseph's resolution of congratulations became an announcement rather than a motion; Appoint Members to VQ Committee is removed because I think it was only added to the agenda by mistake anyway, as that Committee will sunset soon.

Minutes by Barbara Edmonds who thanks Philip Pullman ("The Golden Compass") for the following quote: "Lyra could tell that the atmosphere had changed. Outside, the children had been energetic and eager for play; then when they had seen Mrs. Coulter they were bubbling with a suppressed hysterical fear; but now there was a control and purpose to their talkativeness. Lyra marveled at the effect hope could have."