

**A Meeting of the Oregon Country Fair Board of Directors
August 1, 2011, 7:15pm at EWEB, 500 E 4th, Eugene OR**

Board members present: Diane Albino, John "Chewie" Burgess, Katie Cousins, Paxton Hoag, Lara Howe, Jack Makarchek, Deane Morrow, Jon Pincus (alternate), Indigo Ronlov (facilitator), Anna Scott (alternate), Jon Silvermoon, Lawrence "LT" Taylor. Seventeen members, guests, staff and officers were present.

Agenda review

Old business: Donations Consent Calendar (Sexual Assault Support Services); Budget report; Office Assistant sabbatical (Diane)

New business: Health Booth for staff and volunteers (Chewie); Policy on manufactured music (LT); Form a task force to review current practices and develop recommendations concerning accommodating the needs of public and Fair Family alter-abled individuals (Jon S); Donation Request for Helios Resource Network's Action Plan Eugene (Diane)

Announcements

The annual Evaluation Meeting will be held on August 21st, 1-4pm at the warebarn (the day after the Teddy Bear Picnic). -norma sax

Get Out the Vote (GOTV) registered 679 voters for state and national elections and 473 members for the OCF Board election. -K8 Newhall

GOTV will hold a Board election candidate forum on September 14th, 6-8:30pm at the Vets Club in Eugene. The forum video can be viewed after the event at the "oregoncountryfairforum.org" website. -K8

An OCF table will be staffed at the August 13th Gay Pride event in Alton Baker Park. -Jain Elliott
The Whiteaker Block Party is this Saturday. -Joseph Newton

The next highway pick-up date is August 14th; meet at the warebarn. -Steve Wisnovsky

The OCF will be in the Eugene Celebration parade on August 27th. Contact norma to participate. There will be specific roles and we need commitments. -Charlie Ruff

The Board of Directors candidate statement deadline is August 21st. -Jen-Lin Hodgden

The recent Junction City / Harrisburg Habitat for Humanity fundraiser raised over \$5000. OCF provided security radios for the event. -Jon Silvermoon

Thanks to every single person who participated, the Fair was excellent! -Chewie Burgess

Staff Reports

Operations Manager's Report (Charlie Ruff): Many expressions of thanks need to be said- for being US and for this year's fantastic Fair. Paid attendance was about 45,879 and comments from many people on the path indicate this was one of the smoothest and sweetest Fairs ever. We must thank the planet for the excellent weather. The site enjoyed three beautiful days. Main camp got off to a slow start due to a lingering rain season but we had an incredible preparation effort during the last two weeks. Thank you Board members, staff, all our coordinators, every single volunteer and all of our guests, and all those out in the world who touched a heart or who were touched by a heart at the event.

The Fair will participate in the Eugene Celebration parade this year and will be showing off some new artwork (the dazzling new purple F.A.R.T. shuttle) from this year's Fair. We intend to participate annually and plan to debut our latest new art works as a feature of our parade entry. We're told our presence in the parade has been missed the past couple of years.

Culture Jam is coming up and will be a special activity again this year thanks to Robin and everyone else involved. The Beaver folks came and helped out with preparations.

Our financial review and 990 filing (a 35 page document) is ahead of schedule thanks to Hilary. The picnic and Evaluation Meeting is coming up in a few weeks and it should be noted our 2012 pre-Fair efforts are now considered started. The dust from this year is getting tidied up as we prepare for next year and everyone has my gratitude, from the deepest recesses of my heart. Thanks, Family.

Administrative Assistant's Report (norma sax): Thank you, thank you everybody; so let's do it again! The picnic is on August 20th, come join in and participate. Help is needed for the potluck tables, grilling and greeting. A lot of financial work has been underway- this little shindig takes a lot of money - and we are paying bills, updating reports, making adjustments and checking statements. The overall picture will be more complete next month. With Robin working at Culture Jam and with the financial workload, norma

will be working upstairs in the mornings so the office hours are being cut back to just afternoons on Monday, Wednesday and Friday as well as all day on Tuesday and Thursday. It's always best to call ahead.

Site Manager's report (Steve Wisnovsky): Yes, yes, yes! Ditto to all the thanks and appreciations expressed by my colleagues. I started my list of 2012 preparations on July 11th. We had 3 beautiful days for the Fair, then a nice, welcome rain on Tuesday to refresh the site and then some more rain the following weekend. The paths have been core-plugged and, with the moisture, the grass and foliage is greening up and the dust is down. The site is still very accessible for getting out any remaining stuff and there are lots of folks, booths and crews who have left things behind. Remember, please, if you packed it in, you get to pack it out.

A special thank-you goes to the people who created the new artful purple shuttle van and did the wood work, the metal work and the decoration - Little Michael, Welder Mike, Abe, Chris, Randy and construction crew for the woodcraft, site crew, and Andyman are some of those who helped. My transcendent post-Fair moment occurred just last night after a long busy day. Near the WareHouse, about 9pm there was a deer grazing on the foliage above the garbage dumpster and then I knew all the species were returning to enjoy our wildlife refuge.

Available free, on the Fair site: waste cooking oil in front of the recycling dock and hay, loose and baled out in the parking lots.

Office Assistant's Report (Robin): A special thanks goes to the crews and coordinators that rely on pre-fair office support for how well organized and smoothly things went this year - Registration (Justin), Elders, Lost and Found (Jesse and Jared) and others. Also, thanks to Andyman, Charlie, Jeff and Tony for the work they are doing to get things ready for Culture Jam, and to John Duran for his work with kitchen preparation. Culture Jam starts this Saturday, there are many details and the roster is full. Board members are invited to attend the Thursday evening open mic night.

Assistant Manager's Report (Tony): Thanks and WOW! My first year on staff was amazing. Thanks to all for the survival rules and the help and advice - I was nervous about how to fit in but it just comes together and happens. I'm really glad there have been 42 years before I came on staff to kind of get all that together, it really takes the load off! This re-defines, for me, our "intentional community" on a stellar level. Now, it's back to the office and doing that piece, debriefing, assessments, the budget cycle and the web project.

Staff Reports double-dips: Thanks for hiring Tony for us, it's wonderful to have his support, and thanks, Tony, for stepping up. - Charlie

The new shuttle license plate, FEY, means "supernatural"- "unreal"- "enchanted". It's excellent. -LT
Thanks again to Michael Bishop for donating the van. - Steve

Committee Reports

Peach Power Committee (Anna): The committee will meet on August 29th, 6pm, at the town office, 442 Lawrence Street. Thanks to Sara Haimowitz for her work and support. A lot of exciting projects are ahead. The committee is now a funding mechanism for projects. On-line meeting attendance will be available using "Go to Meeting" so people can participate without the transportation impact.

Vision Action Committee (Paxton): This committee uses "Go to Meeting" to enable out-of-town participation. The committee is preparing a report for the membership that will be delivered at the annual meeting. Send e-mail to vac@oregoncountryfair.org if you have suggestions.

Election Committee (Jen-Lin): The Annual meeting and election is on October 15th at the Knights of Pythias Hall, 420 West 12th Avenue, in Eugene. Voter registration deadline is September 15th. Candidate statement deadline is August 21st as stated in the guidelines. The website calendar will be updated. An age limit on voting was discussed and it was noted that volunteering and membership is required.

Evolution Task Force (Kate): Video work from pre-Fair and the Fair has been compiled for the long-term oral history archive. Meetings are resuming and are scheduled for the 3rd Sunday of each month in Portland.

Vision Fund Committee (norma): The next meeting is August 24th.

Craft Committee (Lara): The next meeting is August 10th at 6pm at the town office.

Community Center Committee (Lara): The next meeting is August 15th, 6pm at the town office.

Hilary mentioned the committee is working on the siting issue, a site survey, funding, project modeling, and financial planning. "It's a big hard project."

Land Use Management Planning Committee (Steve): The committee did not meet in June or July, will not meet in August and will try to get a meeting together in September.

Business

Donation Requests (Bill): One request, from Sexual Assault Support Services, is on tonight's calendar. One request from Helios Resource Network for their Action Plan Eugene will be on next month's calendar.

Consent Calendar: Support for the SASS request is important for our community. The Vagina Monologues project is their main fundraiser and is an amazing event (Chewie). SASS has been doing their work for a long time but the University of Oregon support was dropped last year (Joseph). This program is an important resource for people, including members of our Fair Family (norma). This kind of victimization is hard to think about but goes on all the time. Support is very important because help from governing bodies is probably very diminished (LT). Their work to counter the trauma of sexual assault is important. Our Board donation will help and individuals can help too (Indigo). Will there be any recognition of the Fair for its donation (Jon S)? We are not sure (Chewie). The donation request form suggests that donors may be verbally recognized at the event (Katie). The loss of UofO funding is a concern and since we don't know how much; we should check and consider what more we might do to help (Jon P). The Consent Calendar was approved by a vote of 10-0.

Budget Report (Hilary): In the tradition of "thank you", many people are involved in the financial work of the Fair and they are an amazing and responsible group. The results of this year are not settled yet but there should be a report ready by the end of September and presented at the annual meeting.

Fair management is in a good position to consider plans for upcoming big changes such as opening up Crafts Lot, managing a larger event, building an upland kitchen, and planning for the Community Center. Some discussion should be held about our endowment distribution in CD's and the Oregon Community Foundation as well as how much funding to keep available for use on the bigger projects.

Anna suggested the Board consider two financial planning meetings this year with the extra meeting focusing on long-term plans. Jon S asked that the final 2010 budget be made available in the same format that is presented each month of the year to the Board. Hilary and norma indicated they would follow through. Chewie asked about interest in forming a land trust and the potential benefits. Hilary agreed to some discussion about the possibility. Joseph asked about the earnings rate from Oregon Community Foundation. This current year's rate is not known yet but the rates are usually higher than a CD rate.

Indigo moved, Chewie seconded, to approve the June 26, 2011 Board meeting minutes. The motion passed 10-0.

Diane moved, LT seconded, to support the request for an Office Assistant sabbatical as submitted by Robin. The motion is for a full 3 months as defined by our sabbatical program (Diane). After discussion, the motion passed 10-0.

Peach Gallery: The Fair is flexible and it honors and cherishes those we work with and that open mindedness is really appreciated; the Board supports our amazing staff (Sara R). Robin's proposal is good, she is an incredible asset, and honoring her request is important (Merrill). Robin does a superlative job as the point person for Culture Jam, and the program is now in its 11th year (Andyman). We are totally lucky to have Robin and her request shows the proration that supports her request (Hilary). I support this for Robin, the proration fits within the PPPM language, and I encourage you to pass this motion (Charlie). I'll miss her but encourage support for this request, it's well earned (norma). Robin has my support, she is present, cheerful and she nurtures Culture Jam each year (Lucy). The winter absence should not be a problem; she is experienced and trustworthy (Joseph). When we all transitioned out to the site this year, Robin became the OCF in town, a single point of contact, and she held the fort down and was amazing (Tony). She will be able to do some awesome things in those three months (Kate). Thank you for thinking outside the box with me; this sabbatical will help me step back and gain perspective; I plan to build capacity within the staff for fund raising skills and to define a detailed approach for fund raisings; Linda Rymers, with the Endowment Committee, has offered her time and will be a resource as I work toward a February presentation on this subject; the time is good, opportunities will be available, and I want to try and build my skills (Robin). Board: We need to keep Robin bubbly and give her this opportunity (LT). She is awesome and I totally support this proposal and know this will help her

become an even more integral part of our staff (Chewie). How can this help evolve your Culture Jam vision and role and how many hours do you plan to devote to the learning part of your goal. (Anna)? I have had an increasingly important role with Culture Jam these recent years and these skills will help across the board with fund raising for Culture Jam and the Fair. I plan to use a good month of this time toward the project and the remainder of the time for some rest and travel. I'll be bringing helpful things back (Robin). The notion of a sabbatical is not a 3 month vacation but is to be a time out of the usual role to develop and to bring something back of value to the organization; this proposal is very impressive regarding the benefits for the Country Fair and your self-improvement plans (Katie). This proposal is a great opportunity to develop support for projects like the kitchen and the community center in addition to Culture Jam (Paxton). Thinking of the Fair, we realize how successful it is and how each of us give to that success and each of us get from that success and how the intricacies of success are beyond any one of us; how we treat our employees and our trust relationship with them is important to our success and our relevance year after year. Sabbaticals have been a positive tool for us, along with many other things in the social arena and the spiritual arena and are an important piece. These points are not lost on the community and our support for this motion and our relationship with our employees is very important (Jack). We'll miss you when you are away (Deane). I know you have had some trepidation over this and I want you to know you are a shining star and your work for the Fair and with Culture Jam is so very important (Indigo). I'm glad you persevered in this proposal (Diane). You are the perfect person to go get and bring back the information. We are looking forward to the results and this is very well deserved (Jon P). Thanks for all the time you give to our Fair (Lara). Not to be left out here, I'll just say "have fun" (Jon S)!

Member Input

Our acceptance of amplified music was about amplifiers and instruments and was not about brick-house. Manufactured music has no place at the Fair just like manufactured goods have no place at the Fair. It's an invasion. We got a right to our territory, we liberated it, let's keep it free. -LT

On Saturday night, strolling on 13th around and then back in, I fell in step with Charlie and Two-tone. In all the 38 years I've been playing the game, on this night our leadership was there, and they were right in step, and they were in the right place! -LT

Ditto on all the big thanks going out tonight for the beautiful, sweet and well-played game. Thanks to the tight and beautiful Recycling Crew for the extra afternoon shift- out there decked out to the nines, some in wedding dresses, and for playing to the public with "flash freezes" and guiding the recycling choices at the kiosks. My cup was full, we were excellent, and people brand-new to the Fair were all excited and loving what we do; they were awed and many told me they are going to come back. However, regarding our equipment, we really need to fix up our trucks and they need low-speed alternators. -Lara

Thanks for the water ceremony; the closing part was sweet and lovely with the Fairness of it all reflected in the faces and sweep and finish. -Jen-Lin

As I transitioned from VegManEc's and into the new Camping Crew, I stepped into a cool new adventure; we are excellent to each other 90% of the time but sometimes we forget; we need to keep thinking of each other as family and hold the love even when bothered by things. I did things this year I have not done before at the Fair, like seeing the circus with five 10-year-olds; this Fair is in my top five and maybe the top one ever! There was not one part of this Fair we can't carry forward; number 42 is the answer, once we figure out the question. -Chewie

If you saw the little "jumping beans" at the site this year, I found out they are really wasp larvae and they will last all winter and need to get back outside next summer. They are amazing. -Chewie

Thanks to all our public guests and especially those riding with me on the buses on Friday and Sunday; and thanks to my family who took up on my challenge to attend this year without a car. We did it; we learned to minimize and we figured it out. One less car was a pinnacle for me. Thanks for the buses. -Anna

My Dad and his wife attended for the first time this year. When we entered the eight in front of Odyssey, Dad said "Why haven't we come here before?" They plan to come again next year. I am grateful they got to meet my other family after 20 years.

The water ceremony was absolutely amazing due to everyone who joined in and added their magic to the whole. Many thanks to Brian Keogh at Main Stage; construction's work on the alter installation; the Art Barn for creating the centerpiece for the ceremony; Ambience's Risk of Change and Diva Galactica;

Community Village; Nicky Scully, Joan Borysenko, and Grandma Aggie for their prayers; the musicians, the water bearers, the bell ringers and to everyone else who participated and offered their love and gratitude to this sacred element through the weekend. The water was prayed over, blessed, and offered back into the world where it may bring a bit of healing that our world waters so need.

Next year will be an earth ceremony. Stay tuned! -Indigo

Pre-, post- and the Fair, the whole sequence was just beautiful this year so thanks to all the Family. Working with the new people at post-fair QM was awesome in the way they got into the role, right away, and rocked like true pros! -Jon P

I loved the kitchen, both pre- and post; the lines were quick and the food was great. -Lara

At the Elder Still Living Room, a constant stream of people were looking at and reading the three murals of the first three decades, identifying themselves and their friends. It was very gratifying to see. - Chris

The new bathrooms by Daredevil Palace and the Library are great (Robin). Thanks to Joe Newhall for his work on the bathroom project (LT). And thanks to Anderson Roofing for the materials (Lara).

Thanks to all who contributed to the low stress level of the Fair this year. -Paxton

About two weeks before the Fair I received an e-mail from a woman about bringing a 98 year old gentleman who wanted to see the Fair before he died. At the event I got to meet them at Chela Mela and he was just wonderful. We were in contact again later after the event. He had such a great time he said he is coming back again next year! -norma

President's Peace

I think we all experience a particular time and place at the Fair, a uniqueness, where we become one with it. For me it's at Watergate of all places. We have this discussion going about our future and how the generations exist within each other. I went to the Youth Stage and bumped into Jeff. His son is on a pre- post- crew at Watergate at midnight. We went up to Watergate to visit his son and there, Jeff asked each person who passed by with an acoustic guitar if he could play their guitar. He would play a couple of licks and it was amazing. Then, to cap it off, these two boys, maybe 10-12 years old, came by with an old guitar, and Jeff picked it up and played it, without any tuning, and then others joined in and it was a very serendipitous moments and it started the Fair for me- the young and the old playing together.

And then to close the Fair about 5pm on Sunday, at Watergate, there is the little wooden placard that says "The Fair Ends Here" and my moment came with Benny, who is a young man on the construction crew. His parents are old friends, archaeologists at the Fair, and I just found out he is their son and that he tap dances. He ends my Fair by tap dancing on that small wooden placard, at Watergate, and it was a terrific ending. It was a spectacular performance and it happened with people I've experienced the Fair with since they were young, and with people who are young now. It was a very fulfilling experience for me and I know there are moments like that for us all.

I want everyone to know how profoundly I appreciate being afforded this awareness of our intergenerational relationship with all its richness and with the depth it brings, and with the confidence it gives to move forward knowing our relevance is absolute and is completely secure. It's not just our youth and not just our elders and not just us but it is the real connection and intimacy we develop over the years. It is so clear to me that 50 years or 100 years from now this will still go on; it brings a tear to my eye and takes my breath away; it's something that is uniquely ours.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm. The next meeting is Sept 12th at 7pm on the Fair site.

Tentative agenda: Consent Calendar - Helios Resource Network's Action Plan Eugene (Diane); Health Booth for staff and volunteers (Chewie); Policy on manufactured music (LT); Form a task force to review current practices and develop recommendations concerning accommodating the needs of public and Fair Family alter-abled individuals (Jon S)