

**Oregon Country Fair Board of Directors' Meeting  
July 01, 2012, 4:00pm in the Hub Yurt on the Fair property**

**Directors present:** Diane Albino, John 'Chewie' Burgess, Saman Harnsongkram, Paxton Hoag, Jack Makarchek (president), Deane Morrow, Indigo Ronlov (vice-president & facilitator), Anna Scott (alternate), Jon Silvermoon, Lawrence 'LT' Taylor. **not present:** Bear Wilner-Nugent; Lucy Kingsley. **Peach Gallery present:** members, staff (Tony, Steve, Robin, Charlie), and officers (Hilary, Grumpy).

**Preface**

On June 23, at 3:15pm, a small plane with four OCF volunteers crashed near the Fair site killing all aboard. The victims were Jerome Roch Delbosc D'Auson, Christopher Robin Kent, Erin Thomas Frank Noble and Robyn Leigh Weir. Many comments that follow were made in regard to this unexpected and sad incident.

**Agenda review**

**Old business:** Secretary's report; Treasurer's report and budget business; Appoint Whitney Bonnett co-coordinator for Ambience (Deane).

**New business:** Radio loan for the Musicians Emergency Medical Association (MEMA) benefit on July 22; Use of the OCF logo for the Fair Family Photo Project; Eugene Celebration support

**Tabled business:** Meeting facilitation protocols (Jon); Member and Volunteer Relations staff person (Jon)

**Chewie moved, LT seconded, to move "Radio loan for the Musicians Emergency Medical Association benefit on July 22" from new to old business. The motion passed 9-0-1 (Jon abstained).**

**Chewie moved, Paxton seconded, to move "Use of the OCF logo for the Fair Family Photo project" from new to old business. The motion passed 10-0.** (Both of these business items were advanced for immediate action in order to meet event schedules.)

**Announcements**

The June Occupy newsletter was passed around; the July Occupy newsletter will be on the newsstands before the Fair. (Spirit)

"Sing to Live" is at the Oregon coast this year during the last week of August and the first week of September; it's a great conference if you like to sing and get together with people. (Joseph)

Gather in Chela Mela on Friday of the Fair at 11:20am to play music and speak about the Fair Family we've lost this year. (Hilary)

Junction City Harrisburg/Monroe Habitat for Humanity is holding a Blues Build Benefit fundraiser at Pfeiffer Winery on Sunday, July 22; I'd like to thank the Fair for the use of Fair radios for that event. (Jon)

I took Zak's training as requested by the Elders; I learned how to ground myself seated down. (Paxton) I took Zak's training too. (Deane)

Ronnie Simon is trained in grievance and is volunteering her help if requested. (Deane) I monitor the radio and can help with referral for grievance assistance. (Brad)

On the Saturday after the Fair, I will conduct a training to be an armed security officer for the Department of Public Safety. You can contact me for information. (Chewie)

At the Front of the Fair, only pre-fair vehicles and pre-fair crew camps are permitted in Craft's Lot or the Barter Fair lot before 9am on Wednesday morning. The Wednesday morning line of traffic will come into the area from Trotters, passing through the Aurora Corridora and Snooze Pass. Vehicles going to Craft's Lot will drive along the outside of the Barter Fair fence and go in through Wind Gate. Vehicles going into the Barter Fair area will enter through Island Gate. There will be a map at registration and signs and a spread sheet that shows people when and where to park. (Grumpy)

We will not use Outtasite parking stickers this year, only the Onsite parking sticker and the Far Side sticker. This year there will be a restricted "in and out" vehicle access to the Far Side on Sunday from 8-10 pm for campers moving out. (Grumpy)

We will be putting on a licensed firework show on the 4th to show our appreciation to our Fair Family volunteers. Prior to the show there will be a temple of intention and remembrance that will be burned to help us deal with our loss. The site gates will be closed at 4pm to all traffic and a wristband will be required for the people on the site. (Charlie)

### Staff Reports

**General Manager (Charlie R):** I'm going to start with a couple of words about last week. "We have been and will continue to be transformed by the enormous loss of Roch, Christopher, Erin, and Robyn Bluesky. I know they are here with us now in a different form, and I can feel their love and light in every step I take out here. The sadness, sorrow, grief and loss of this past week has been equaled by the amazing and seemingly endless capacity of our organism, our community, our family, to expand our spirit and love. Let us help each other on the path forward in psycho-spiritual rejuvenation." I'm not going to go on at great lengths; this is a whole huge process of its own and we have other things to attend to tonight, but I need to acknowledge and thank everyone for their love and support through this last week. I am endlessly amazed at this community. I've been blown away this past week by what I keep finding every time I open my eyes and look. So, thank you all.

I'll try to work through the business part of this pretty quickly. This Friday night we're sponsoring the July First Friday Art Walk with the Lane Arts Council. We're going to have a big presence there; we're on all of their materials, and they are talking about us. Robin will distribute our mini-posters. I think this is a really cool partnership with another non-profit at a really good time. I encourage anybody that is actually able to drag themselves away from this place to go to town and check out some art.

We have partnered with the Fiesta Latino folks who have helped us distribute our Spanish language posters in a much wider range and in better locations than our traditional poster distribution mechanisms. We've printed 500 of those and they are out there in the world and we'll see what that means to us.

In terms of attendance, I'll tell you that our ticket sales are over \$200,000 at this point which is actually ahead of where we've been historically. We are about \$23,000 ahead of last year with this many days left to go. With the good weather forecast, it is my belief that we are going to see the bell curve, that meteoric rise that we get the last 10 days every year, right on time. I try not to pay close attention to it because it is nerve racking as you get closer, but I expect that we are going to have, truly, just a wonderful turnout for the fair. The weather forecast looks just stunning.

One of the things we are going to talk about tonight is a special item I'm asking to move forward - the Fair Family Photo project which is a kickoff event to raise awareness about the Archives. It is a one year thing that will be happening in the New Kids Way (our current name for one year until we decide a process to give this new loop a name). New Kids Way is the home of New Kid's Childcare and the Fair Family Photo project is next door. They will be open Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday of the Fair. Thursday is for wrist banded Fair Family. During the Fair it is open to everyone that wants to participate. The project will take as many pictures as they can and folks will be encouraged to opt in to be part of the projects that will come out of this. We see a couple of distinctly different things that will happen - one that will be geared towards Fair Family and one that will encompass that broader community, sort of concentric rings, one that will be more internally directed and one will be more externally directed.

Some of you might have seen a relatively sizable installation across from the Sauna, where we had a bunch of tree fall. We are working on a three year project with the folks from the Sauna. I will tell you that Erin Noble's parents, Pete and Debra Noble, worked with the Sauna to help bring the sacred log across the border and into our hands for this project. We expect to take about three years to carve a totem pole from the log. You'll all be involved in the process to decide where it's going to live out here. I'm sure it will incorporate the spirits of our dear lost Fair Family. We had a really lively discussion about the work site and there is more gravel there than I'd like to see. For this year, we put down geo-tech, and the gravel is not intended to stay. For the Fair, we need to have firm footing and we need to be able to give AAAA access so people can come up and interact with it. There will be some gravelling a few years from now when the pole comes out, to allow access into that park. But once the totem pole project is done and it gets permanently sited, we'll have another process to determine what the long term landscaping and vision for that park looks like. Fret not, we did not gravel pave the space for perpetuity; we thoughtfully laid it down and we are going to take it back up when the time is appropriate. Come down and check out that Alaskan cedar log. It is amazing. It is Alaskan yellow cedar. It's sacred. It was harvested in a specific spot and has meaning for the tribal people and I know it will have great meaning to us.

We finally got a contract with the Sheriff's office and they are going to try to do whole expanded service. The mid case scenario that I reported to last time did come to pass. We do not have a worst case scenario in terms of sheriff's coverage out in the community. Hopefully, we don't need a whole lot of sheriff's response out here. Maybe we've done enough of that for the year.

I want to remind folks that Veneta will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> birthday, one week after the Fair, over in East Broadway Park near the community pool that the Fair helped rebuild. We are going to be a big part of that celebration and I encourage everybody to come out and show your Fair spirit and costumes starting at 4:00pm. We'll have entertainment to kick it off featuring Samba Jah, Risk of Change, Radar Angels and Peachy the Dragon. They are going to do a Fair inspired procession and the Fair is partnering with them to bring the Sugar Beets as the closing act from about 8:00 to 9:30pm. We are a big part of this community and want to support them and we hope you will all come out and enjoy the party. We may be able to do some ice cream for their cake – we're talking to the Creamery. The date is Saturday July 21<sup>st</sup>.

Jon: I have a question and a comment. I really think that the gravel that was brought in is a violation of Fair policy. I think if Operations needs to make an exception to a Fair policy, the board should be consulted prior to the decision. That's my opinion as an individual Board member and I don't know what other folk's opinions are. And I hope in the future that we get notified if these kinds of decisions as it makes it quite difficult to respond to Fair members that come up to me, as a Board member, and say "oh did you see what they did up at the Sauna" and to not know any of the background information other than knowing we were talking about putting a totem pole there. Much more than just putting in a totem pole has occurred and I would have appreciated some advance notice.

Charlie: I would have gladly given you advance notice but it was a decision we made about 2 and a half weeks ago and I don't know how we would have processed the advanced notice. Once again, if it were a permanent installation I would have felt like dragging the process out, but we had an opportunity and I felt we needed to seize the opportunity. Frankly, there's more gravel than I expected but at this point we can peel it back. Right now I don't know how much we can add to our plate and the Sauna's plate in the current moment. Shortly after the Fair we can shrink it down. I hear where you are coming from but I don't see there was a whole lot of time to add that to the larger process.

Jon: An email to the board saying we're making this decision would have helped with awareness and context. That would have been appreciated, an advance notice of when it is happening, rather than discovering it later when people come up to me.

Jon: Last year there were several folks coming up to us with questions about parking for Alter Abled. Are there any changes for this year? (Charlie directed the question to Grumpy.)

Grumpy: In the north Miss Piggy lot, the first two and one-half rows are the medallion rows for food booths; the rest, except some space near Maui, is for the public AAAA parking with a DMV sticker; there are some exceptions where a paper sticker is used for public vehicles and the sticker is different each day. There are some Lot Crew cars parked near Maui each year.

SCOF Lot is for Staff and Craft Over Flow; the first rows are for entertainment in/out and the next three or four rows are for Fair Family AAAA with DMV stickers.

Jon: These accommodations sound like the same as last year.

Grumpy: Yes, they are the same.

Charlie: If a Fair Family Alter Abled person asks for assistance they will get a cart to the very front of the fair; but they will need to ask us for it.

Grumpy: We are also working on a FART shuttle route to help pick up folks at front of SCOF Lot.

**Administrative Assistant (norma):** (norma was absent from the meeting while representing the OCF at the Erin Noble memorial.) She would like to thank the amazing community for coming together to face our grief together this past week. She also wants to thank everyone who's been here at the coldest, rainiest, muddiest, most difficult main camp she can remember. This is a community of rock stars working incredibly hard through so many challenges; kudos to all.

**Office Assistant (Robin B):** I have been in the office in town, and the past week has been incredible as people bring in their blessings and bring in flowers; the place is filled with flowers; Charlie was our representative on Monday for the press conference and we thank him for doing that so well and with such heart. Culture jam is coming together beautifully with 54 kids signed up and ready to go.

**Site Manager (Steve W):** This past week has been a huge challenge, on top of the challenges we were already facing. I remember that Saturday afternoon, being at a LUMP meeting in main camp, seeing them all together before they left for the air strip. The site conditions are tough as we dry out after one of the wettest Junes in our pre-Fair memories. We will finish up the haying and prepare the parking lots. Tree Crew continues to work, on the ground and overhead, and they are adjusting to conditions and expectations. I am so very appreciative for this management team and the Main Camp operational crews and the bounty of positive energy they have given to the grand collective effort. It all derives from the

Kitchen Crew and the sustenance they provide. I have faith and confidence we will be ready. It's a blessing to be here.

Saman: How much bark and mulch is being placed on the paths. Steve: They are working where we are ready. The path near Café Lafayette is a problem area and we are scooping up goop and laying bark down. Archaeology is on hand and checking. Landscaping and grass is planned for long term. As paths dry out, we continue to drag and smooth them out. We want them to be barefoot friendly and safe.

**Assistant Manager (Tony C):** I am amazed at this Family and am hard pressed to see anything like this anywhere in the world, the love and the folks coming together; the weather was awful and it matched the mood; the crews that have been here; the Site crew, White Bird, Construction, and Quartermaster; show an amazing display of love; some folks have been out for 5 weeks already and are putting in long days; I work with the best team on the face of the earth; it is so amazing; we're blessed; I love everybody here and am excited to see what comes out the other end; with the challenges of the weather, more than ever, it is appropriate we are working on the Community Center plans; it will save resources to be doing this work with a the Community Center.

### **Committee Reports**

**Archaeology** reports their site investigation at a footing installation in Energy Park found two 1200 year old artifacts plus evidence of an oven. (Anne)

**Peach Power** met on June 18th on the site to see the projects in process on the ground. Thanks go to all the people who give time and funds for these projects that show how we walk our talk, and thanks go to Paxton, George and Andyman who are coordinating the projects. Lantern Crew was on hand to collaborate about their lighting equipment. The next meeting will be Tuesday, Aug 28 at 6pm. (Anna)

**Community Center Committee** has been meeting frequently and the communication and collaboration efforts are helping the committee work out some tough stuff. Three design finalists made presentations and a scope of work and contract is being finalized with Pivot / Solarc who was selected as the Architect and Engineering contractor. They will be at the Fair this year. (Anna, Charlie)

**The Elders Committee** held the old-timers picnic last night and the weather cooperated. The kitchen provided great food and some of the members provided entertainment. It was a very nice event. (Chris)

**The LUMP Committee** met Saturday afternoon with the new Cartography co-coordinator (Gene) and discussed plans for a unified digital mapping system. (Steve)

### **Board Donations**

**Secretary's report:** The donation request report was reviewed. There is no board sponsorship for one existing request so it will be dropped. There is one new request but no contact information. The next meeting to consider donation requests is August.

### **Approve Minutes**

**Indigo moved, Anna seconded, to approve the minutes from the June 4, 2012 Board meeting. The minutes were approved 10-0.**

### **Old Business**

**Treasurer's report:** Hilary, responding to Saman's request for a 2-year side-by-side report, said a report is in the packet for 2010 and 2011; a new QuickBooks file was started in 2012 and it is not easily set-up for a 2011 and 2012 comparison. The financial review with Jones and Roth is about finalized. Right now a lot of money is coming in and going out. Bills are getting paid and we are counting on our coordinators to keep us under our budgets.

Charlie said the transaction reports are lagging and, with the site issues, the contingencies and budgets are pressed. All necessary money will be spent to put on the event and adjustments may be required but they are not expected to be large. Jack said we all realize that we won't know the actual costs until August.

**Deane moved, Indigo seconded, to appoint Whitney Bonnett as co-coordinator of Ambiance Crew. Peach Gallery:** Whitney has done a great job of the administrative part of the crew (Charlie). **Board:** Paxton asked for the history of Ambiance coordinators. There were three coordinators in 2007; now there are two with separate areas and this will make a third (Jay). The two areas will probably be split into two crews and there will be a change in the budget (Grumpy). **The motion passed 10-0.**

**Jack moved, Anna seconded, to loan six Fair radios for the MEMA event on July 22. Peach Gallery:** This supports a non-profit function and operationally, the radios are available (Tony). **Board:** I have helped at this event in the past and it is a worthy event (Anna). I will abstain from this vote; this event is the same day as the Habitat for Humanity event and the total number of radios required that day is ten (Jon). **The motion passed 9-0-1 (Jon abstains).**

Charlie reported that the Fair Family photo project is taking place this year and there will be two parts, one is internal for Fair Family, and will be used for a beginning of the Fair Family archives project and for a poster. Expanding the circle, the photographer wants to take photos for a book project and we want permission to use the logo on both the poster and book. **Paxton moved, LT seconded, to approve use of the OCF logo for these projects. After discussion, the motion passed 10-0. Peach Gallery:** It is great marketing to use our logo this way (Tony). Is there a digital access (Hilary)? Yes, these photos will be available to the Fair and the individuals; the photos will be co-owned (Charlie). Releases will be used for the levels of permitted use of the photos (Charlie). The artist is talented and sensitive and this will be a great gift to the Fair (Robin). **Board:** Do we have a written agreement concerning ownership of the photos (Jon)? It is in process with our attorney now, and this question of logo use needs to be answered by the Board (Charlie). Can the photos be used for purposes beyond the book and the Fair (Jon)? There are no other plans and anything beyond will require further discussion (Charlie). While it is not anticipated, the book might make a substantial profit; the distribution of any profits should be in the agreement (Jon). Other Fair Family photographers have asked for space for a project like this in the past and this could be a starting place for the future (Paxton). This project was approved by the Board last month; the Board should set a policy about use of the logo such as use with publications about the Fair, the Community Center, the Archives project, fundraising, and web presence; the staff should have guidance; we are getting these requests more often; without a policy, I am hesitant to give permission (Anna). Using a case by case determination by the Board will not bind the hands of future Boards and this is an example that makes it clear (LT). Should there be a contingency added to the agreement in case the project becomes profitable (Jon)? We are in the last days before the project so that would be difficult; it is not likely that this book will even cover its costs; we could include a clause indicating that in the event the book goes to commercial publication we could revisit the terms (Charlie). Will the book be available for sale next year at the Fair (Indigo)? That is likely (Charlie). It is interesting that we are giving permission to use our photos and logo for a book but, while the artist is a known and trusted person, it seems odd how this project has come forward (Chewie). Each person will have the option to include their photo in either the archive or the book (Charlie). It is very valid that the Board authorizes or not (Paxton). The Fair is very diligent in protecting our logo; it is not used often; this request has at least as much merit as use of the logo on the game; these decision protects our logo; if we find logo use without permission then there will be a problem (Jack). The motion passed.

### Member Input

Chewie: I feel personally affected by the overall 'clear cutting' of the New Kids Way and, as a VegManEC of over 20 years and someone who has advocated for the vegetation and stewardship of the land, I was and still am upset over the way the the New Kids Way was developed. There was little or no consultation with the VegManEC crew. The process was not 'ok' and needs to be fixed.

Anne: Here is a deck of Oregon Heritage cards and one has a photo of an Archaeology crew member; I agree with the concerns about site stewardship with kid's path and about the gravel by the Sauna which is compacted right up against the bark of the trees.

DUG: I missed the beginning of the meeting and the silent reflection; it is very hard not to be here with the Family for this emotional chaos. I introduced Roch to Fair and we spent many wonderful times together. I have thought of the I-Ching and how it teaches that chaos is an opportunity for all of us to remember our temporality and love for each other; we can conduct the Fair in their honor; don't forget to say how much you love each other; I love you.

Steve: For those of you with smart phones download "Maprika"; you can enable the phone to our location, use the downloaded OCF maps, and can engage friends or kids in a group to see their location.

Steve: To add to DUG's comments, there have been a lot of heart-felt hugs and that's the spirit of hope. This pre-Fair has been both heart-breaking and heart-building. Take deep breaths and exalt in the coming generation.

Diane: Regarding the New Kids Way; even though we voted to have paths through woods, it has been clear cut of the entire understory and that violates one of our goals. Even if none of the plants were

native they still held the soil and provide habitat and now there are none. Kids loop seems sterile. I am appalled that the area is looking like Chela Mela. About the gravel, it would have been good to have a heads up. Most know that you need to leave space around trees. I don't understand how these projects got out of control and I am not a happy camper.

LT: There are things we can't control and inevitably we cannot control our own deaths. Sooner or later, we're all going down. There are things we can control. The path in New Kids Way is twice as wide as we thought it should be. There is an astonishing piece of wood next to sauna. I honor that and assume it will all come together and in future years we will still appreciate it. It helps to know it was a consciously constructed work area. It's a tough place to have work zone by the Sauna. Acknowledge it is a mess and recognize the esthetics and that there are things we can control.

Je-Lin: White Bird has been here 24/7 since the start of Main Camp; this has been advocated for many years so thanks to the Board and Budget Committee for making it happen.

Paxton: I want to echo the sentiments on New Kids Way; early on in the process native plants were marked to be kept and it seems they were all stripped and the path made too wide and it is different than the Path Planning agreements; I am very unhappy with this result.

Spirit: I checked in with Wren at White Bird; they just went through through a crisis internally the week prior and they are under a lot of stress; many are coming to them for grief counseling; Wren expressed concern that some folks not who might not have heard about the accident will be arriving and White Bird may be overwhelmed. Those of us available and able to hold space could help; we should also check in with White Bird to be sure that they are ok too.

Jon: I want to echo the comments about New Kids Way; it was done with all the sensitivity of a bulldozer. The board worked with Path Planning to get to an agreement on a proposal and there was frustration over the 2-year long process. The outcome looks like the original starting point and that is a concern. I hope Charlie addresses what happened and how in his post-Fair report to the Board so the process can be reviewed. When the Board approves something, the result should reflect the expectations. In this case, the result missed by millions of miles.

Mark: I understand there is no White Bird for DeCon.

Jon P: I want to mention that Dave Durant's passing is a loss to all of Fair as well as White Bird; he and I coordinated water years ago.

Deane: I am on the Path Planning Committee and in support of New Kids Way; I did not expect it to look like it does. The Loop is a good idea but it was not intended to be a clear-cut. We set up strings several weeks ago and it's wider than planned.

Indigo: In our culture, grieving and sadness and heaviness is not comfortable and we feel vulnerable – I want to honor this family who've come together for grieving and crying; strong people are letting their guard down and letting emotion flow. Our being vulnerable and trusting together makes it ok to grieve; we can open up and maybe make changes; there is a lot on the planet to grieve for. I honor this family and how we've embraced our self in the loss of these four last Saturday.

Paxton: I want to thank Indigo for the ceremony and to thank Charlie for being so proactive and doing a wonderful job of bringing the family together.

Brad: Beyond Charlie's efforts, I want to acknowledge Tony and Robin and Steve and norma and Andy and Animal; I watched the staff roll with incredible grace during this really hard time. It's been very heavy and we need to turn the corner and transform this and put on the amazing event because the magic is high. There has been a lot of very hard work by staff and volunteers. I got forwarded email regarding the stages of grief and it has been helpful for me to put things in their place; like anger that comes out of left field. People's hearts are open and the emotions are real. Let us step up and be there for each other.

Chewie: Like everyone involved in the organization, the staff and volunteers, I have personally cried my eyes out for the past week since I realized one was Erin Noble. I did not even hear about Dave Durant until two days ago. Our losses go way back. The emotions are deep. We have to come to a place with a resolution and how we get better with the things that upset us. For some, it will take months and years. We can help and support each other, including White Bird because they are overwhelmed. None of this is worth hating; there is joy we can bring to this event. I love you all; this is a hug.

Hilary: Years ago I heard that you die like you live, if you live good, you die good; while there is nothing to be happy about from that plane crash; we as a community are expressing our wisdom and our love as we deal with all the aspects; there has been compassion and competence and intention and it

feels healing and soothing and comforting and I think we are all learning from it. Loss is part of the whole thing. This is a huge lesson and I am glad we're doing it together.

Indigo: Yesterday, we gathered at the 3pm service and I want to acknowledge how Andyman prepared the space; it's a mystified space; now we have a sacred sand circle that is dedicated to our ancestors and all who have entered into that realm. There is a place down in the ground that is holding space for all; everyone can honor your own there.

Jen-Lin: In checking in this past week, the guidance I received is to proceed with authentic knowledge from our hearts and create the community, the dreams, the vision that we want together.

#### **President's Peace**

There is going to be much said in memory, and lest we forget that life is for the living, please indulge me in a group hug to end this emotional meeting.

#### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50pm and included the sound of bells and song as people touched and cared. The next regular meeting is August 6 at 7pm at EWEB.

#### **Tentative agenda for August**

Approve minutes from the July 1st Board meeting

Secretary's report and Donation Requests (Stove Team International, Tamarack Wellness Center, Healthy Democracy Fund, Eugene Sunday Streets, Stillpoint Farm Women's Festival, Cheyenne Elders Council, Siuslaw Area Women's Center)

Eugene Celebration support

Treasurer's report and Budget

Meeting facilitation protocols (Jon)

Volunteer and Member Relations staff person- "The Board requests the Personnel Committee develop for Board consideration a position description for a volunteer and member relations staff person." (Jon)