

OREGON COUNTRY FAIR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 04/07/03

PRESENT: Charles Drew, David Helton, David Liberty, Lawrence Taylor (LT), Charlie Zennache, Jack Makarchek, Jim Newhall (Dr Jim), Bear Wilner, Diane Albino, and Jim Sahr & Marlene Monette (alternates).

NOT: Brad Lerch

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CALENDAR

Booth registration packets are in the mail! If you're reading this announcement and have not received your packet yet, leave a message for Registration Crew with the Fair office.

The updated and improved 2003 Guidelines are back from the printer. They will be mailed to coordinators and booth reps to share with their crews and booth members. There will be a test!

The Culture Jam is listed in the City of Eugene's Summer Parks and Recreation Guide. The Fair has partnered with the City of Eugene, which will handle registration for the Culture Jam. Enrollment is open to all youth age 14-18, on a first-come, first serve basis. Call (541) 682-5361. Apply early as three people have already submitted enrollment forms.

No work session will be held this month.

Diane Albino is a grandmother again! Tristan Green was born on March 31, 2003.

Sat 4/12 Highway Pick Up. Meet at the Warehouse, 10am or Maple Gate ramp if you're running late.

Sat 5/10 Spring Fling, the annual party to kick off this year's Fair will be held at the WOW Hall; doors open at 6pm.

Mon 5/12 Deadline to submit letters of interest to serve on the Election Committee for 2003. The committee will be appointed at the June Board meeting. Work commences after the Board candidate statement deadline, August 18. It's not too early to begin considering whether you want to serve on the Board or encourage someone you would like to see on the Board. The Fair is a great time to network!

MINUTES APPROVAL

Dr Jim moved, and Bear seconded, that the Board approve the minutes (hours!) of the 03/03/03, Board of Directors meeting. The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

MEMBER INPUT

Barbara Edmunds (100th Munchie, strolling food vendor) is interested in creating an Oregon Authors booth at the Fair. She wondered if this could happen as part of the Spoken Word program. Alan Siporin, told her that the booth would give new meaning to the term, "dust jacket"!

Merrill Levine (Wristbands Co-Coord) thanked norma and Leslie for all of their work organizing the memorial and the celebration of life for Marshall. It eased his family's burden a lot.

Daphne Singingtree (Midwifery Booth) hopes that booth issues will be resolved soon with Craft Committee. Daphne made the following recommendations that she says would benefit all booth people: 1)clear guidelines for appealing Craft Committee rulings, 2)flexibility for exceptions, 3)support family businesses/recognize all who co-craft a product, and 4)support youth crafters as they become adults by awarding them extra points in the jury process. Kim Allen corrected that Daphne's concerns are with Craft Inventory, not the Craft Committee.

Daphne demonstrated a mock-up of a plastic souvenir cup that the Fair and the food booths could sell. This would educate and encourage people to reduce/reuse/recycle.

Joseph Newton (Recycling) noted that the Grievance Process is in place, ready to be used.

David Helton noted that the Guidelines state that one cannot tape music at the Fair. He would like to start a dialogue and seek flexibility to this rule. David said that many people in our community are tapers. Tia (Main Stage Crew) – We have to consider the legal ramifications; recent federal legislation requires the artist's permission to record their music.

Darrin McNally and Loretta Mullins (Main Camp) submitted a proposal for a New Year's Eve event this year. Possibilities include renting the WOW Hall or the Crystal Ballroom, music, festivities, etc. This could be a time when we could all get together when we don't have to work. Charlie Zennache offered to meet with Loretta and present a streamlined proposal back to the Board.

STAFF AND OFFICER REPORTS

General Manager. Leslie Scott thanked everyone who helped all of us through the loss of Marshall. She has been deeply affected and is still very sad. Leslie thanked Norma for stepping in and supporting Marshall's family, making arrangements for the memorial and celebration, and placing notices in the newspapers. She was unbelievable. And, thanks to Jack, who was immediately present and supportive of Leslie when she first heard the news. Marshall's crossing has left a big heartache in many of us as well as a new organizational challenge. We, individually, and collectively as the Fair, offer support to Marshall's family, including his partner of two years, Debra Chandler. We must also, support Crew Services, one of the many legacies Marshall left for us. So many details are stored within his own corporeal data base/memory that Crew Services requests that you contact them, (via the Fair office) and let them know how Marshall provided for your crew.

Amazingly or oddly enough, other business proceeded during this time as well. We have good news regarding insurance and taxes. Leslie reviewed the Fair's insurance policies with our agent at Gales Creek. They anticipated a possible increase of up to 75 percent, but concluded with only a \$100 increase! She was glad to decline the terrorism insurance, which could have required a metal detector at all entrances. We know that we have one of the most beautiful, loving, and safe events on the planet. Additionally, the Fair will receive approximately \$3000 from the county for an error in the property tax assessment. Contracts are being negotiated and signed; and the press release is going out. The craft jury process is complete (thank you Craft Inventory).

Zak Schwartz (Back Up Manager (BUM)) will facilitate a follow-up training for Crisis Intervention Trainers on Saturday, 4/26, at Alice's Wonderland. There will be more opportunities for people to begin the training in the future.

Thank you all for being who you are.

Site Manager. Steve Wisnovsky hopes that the flood on site two weeks ago was the last one of the season. The land is green, wet and soft; please tread lightly and keep vehicles on graveled roads only. We are currently in that magical window when the wildflowers are beginning to bloom and the mosquitoes are not! Come out and visit!

Steve wanted to thank the three people who live on site, 365 days a year, and are constantly working to maintain and improve the Fair. They're the unofficial WHAY (We're Here All Year) Crew. Andy Strickland (Resident Caretaker) has spent an incredible amount of work on the site truck fleet the last few months, along with all his other duties. Tommy Rhea (Communications Crew) rents the first house on Chickadee Lane. He's a radio engineer and the site's on-call systems engineer. Animal (aka Jeff Johnson) is the ad hoc, defacto caretaker of Alice's Wonderland, and his care of the Fair's newest property is greatly appreciated. It's time to thank them now before the days become so busy and crazy such that he forgets. Thank you also to the VegManECS. Yesterday, they arrived early and moved the hay bale dams before people arrived for the Marshall's Celebration of Life.

Steve Simmons is the new mechanic on Site Crew. He, Tommy and Andy completed an in-frame engine rebuild on Godzilla, our oldest ('49 Chevy) flatbed truck, this winter. Yesterday, she was up and running without that smoky exhaust, which will be greatly appreciated by Recycling.

Please read the article on mosquito control that Steve W wrote for the Fair Family News (FFN). The bottom line is we cannot completely eradicate all mosquitoes from the site, nor would we want to do so. They are a natural and integral part of the ecosystem. The Fair will take as pro-active stand as practically possible. They continue to check standing waters on site, but haven't spotted any mosquito larvae yet. They will begin spraying BT dunks this week.

Administrative Assistant. Norma sax thanked Marshall for the privilege of being a close friend and she thanked his family for letting her intrude into their lives. The celebration of life for Marshall was great; the site was green and the sky was blue with the sun shining brightly. Surely Marshall ordered the beautiful day for us all to share.

Daily tasks continue on at an increased pace. The application deadlines have past and so the forms have been removed from the web site. Norma thanked Robin and Mira (Office Crew) for their wonderful work. She recently met with Crew Services team leaders and will work with that crew this year. Norma is sure these folks will do the same fabulous job they've always done. She's assisting the Fair Family News crew again, which is a bit short-staffed. The newly redesigned web site will be up soon. It was delayed a while longer by a coming and a going. The designer had a baby and Marshall went somewhere else.

Treasurers Hilary Anthony – Budget issues continue to trickle in.

President. Jack Makarchek – The suddenness of Marshall's crossing over has had a profound effect. "As a group we are very strong. The suddenness of not being here makes us fragile.... When we're together, let's really be together and express love for each other."

CREW & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Archaeology. Virgil Courtwright (Archaeology Co-Coord) – Dennis Griffin (Function at the Junction Booth) is the new State of Oregon's Archaeologist! Archeology Crew will submit a proposal to the Board next month for a comprehensive policy and procedures for archeological sensitivity on site. The good news, as we have already documented, is that people have gathered on this

same piece of land for 9800 years. The down side is we must employ new practices when digging anywhere on site. This means, when digging new holes, check with QuarterMaster first; all dirt must be sifted and artifacts found must be recorded. Permits (includes budget impact) must be obtained from the state before any digging can happen on documented sites. Archaeology will provide a map of known archaeological sites on the Fair's land to Operations. Jack added that to do otherwise would be disrespectful of the Kalapuya who gathered on the land before us. In reality, it is their history that saved the land when the state re-routed Highway 126. The original design laid the road out through the middle of the site.

Peach Pages Robin Lindsey and Aleta Miller announced that the business directory will be going to press this week. Much applause and appreciation from the Peach Gallery.

Elders. They have been very busy developing an application process and a verification committee. At present, the Elders Committee has confirmed 47 people as Elders, 10 of whom have requested an Elders Pass. They are creating a Job Skill Bank that may be used later for graduating teens and other folks that want to move to a new area.

Craft Committee Brian Alexander resigned from the committee but, he has yet to send a resignation letter to the Board. Thus, there is an open seat on Craft Committee. David H recommended that people attend meetings before they apply for a seat. He also encouraged non-booth reps to attend and apply. Craft Committee meets on the second Wednesday of each month at the Fair office at 6:30pm. Kim Allen (artisan) -- the committee has not discussed a preference toward booth reps. or non-booth reps applying for the craft committee; that was David's opinion on preference.

OLD BUSINESS

BUDGET – CAPITAL PROJECTS

David H moved, and Bear seconded, that the Capital Projects Budget be increased by \$3000.

Background: \$2000 will complete the WC Fields rigging truss; the aerialists can continue to fly safely. \$1000 is a carry-forward from last year to continue milling timber from the 2/7/02 wind storm. Steve W -- More logs are stockpiled, off of the ground, to be milled within the next two years. The logs are being milled into big timber beams and the sides (what was that special word) will be saved for the Fair's carpenters. We will utilize everything that comes off of the logs!

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

BUDGET – CREW BUDGETS

Charlie moved, and Jim seconded, that the Board increase Crew Budgets by \$2575.

Background: -- The Budget Committee recommends: \$1000 for Fair tent tags in Main Camp Supplies; \$300 Elders supplies and \$500 Elders Memento and \$40 food vouchers for Elders administrator within Office Site Crew; \$735 for food vouchers for an additional 15 crew in Internal Security to cover needs at Alice's Wonderland, Water Gate, and Far Side Bridge.

Peach Gallery: Leslie noted that the Budget Committee is working with Registration and Crew Services to implement new operational changes. She is still negotiating the medical contract and looking for a shuttle bus. Hilary -- If approved, the bottom line is \$2868 in the red, which includes \$25,000 contribution to the Endowment principle.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

DONATION – CENTER FOR COMMUNITY COUNSELING

Marlene moved, and David L seconded, that the Board donate \$500 to the Center for Community Counseling.

Background: The Center for Community Counseling provides counseling to indigent and low-income people. A group of professional counselors volunteer their time. Clients are paired with professionals with expertise that match their needs.

Peach Gallery: Note: an historic moment occurred without fanfare at this point. The first real-time cyber question to the Board was asked by Grumpy who was not at the meeting. (Paxton Hoag (Photo ID Coord) has been experimenting with web-streaming the last few Board meetings.) Grumpy asked whether the center had any religious affiliations. Answer: They receive some funding from religious groups, but they are not part of their governing structure or focus.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

DONATION – FIESTA LATINA

Bear moved, and Jack seconded, that the Board donate \$500 to Fiesta Latina.

BoD: David H noted that the request from Fiesta Latina requests \$750 for sponsorship. This is an increase from the past years. He hopes that the OCF will still be recognized as a sponsor. Bear replied that he is uncomfortable making Board contributions beyond the \$500 level without serious discussion of our contribution process.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

DONATION – ELMIRA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION NIGHT DRUG & ALCOHOL FREE PARTY

Jim moved, and David H seconded, that the Board donates \$200 and ten day passes to the Elmira High School Graduation Night Drug & Alcohol Free Party.

Background: Penny Peek (Cool Shoes) and parent of a graduating senior, Nick, presented the proposal. Elmira High School will bus graduating teens to an all-night party with a casino, karaoke, dj/dancing, and buffet. The day passes will be awarded as prizes. Additionally, if you are interested in being a chaperone for this party on June 7, contact Penny Peek, 541-935-2016.

BoD: Bear – although this is a worthy request, he cannot support a Board contribution to an event that is not open to the community at large. However, he will make a personal contribution.

The motion passed: 8 in favor and 2 opposed (Bear and Charlie).

DONATION – EUGENE EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

Diane moved, and LT seconded, that the Board donate \$500 to the Eugene Earth Day Celebration, which is produced by Downtown Events Management, Inc. (DEMI)

BoD: Diane invited folks to come and participate in the fantastic Procession of All Species, April 19!

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

LOGO JURY ITEMS

Jeff Harrison and Ken Kirby (Craft Inventory Co-Coords) displayed all logo jury items for Board members to examine and review. Board members were instructed to write Yes (I approve of this item baring the OCF logo) or No (I don't approve of this item baring the OCF logo). The artist who submitted the photo cards followed up on the feedback given last year and had signed releases from the subjects. Jeff informed the Board that all items that received a two-thirds majority approval would be accepted as an OCF logo item.

Final Result: All items were approved except for the photo cards..

Note: a guide to Logo items will be published in the Peach Pit.

APPOINTMENTS – YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Dr Jim moved, and Marlene seconded, that the Board appoint Michael Glowonia, Shari Bostelman, Jenny Boyce and Tiffany Purn to the Youth Development Committee.

BoD: Dr Jim – Each person has been active since the committee formed and contributed many enthusiastic hours.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

APPOINTMENT – SECURITY/SWEEP CREW COORDINATOR

LT moved, and Jack seconded, that the Board appoint Michael Rose as the Security/Sweep Crew Coordinator.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

OREGON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION INVESTMENT

Marlene moved, and Jim seconded, that the Oregon Country Fair invest \$25,000 of the Endowment principle with the Oregon Community Foundation.

Background: This represents one-tenth of the current endowment principal. The Oregon Community Foundation (or from a fairy's perspective, the other OCF) has a wonderful reputation for sound financial management and attention to/sensitivity for a community's needs. Part of their mission statement is to support Oregon non-profit organizations. David Westcott (Vice-President for Development, Oregon Community Foundation) has presented information at two work sessions.

Peach Gallery: Leslie and Hilary have met with David Westcott to discuss a partnership between the two OCFs. They are very excited to move forward in this direction. The following is an excerpt from Leslie's letter to the Board, April 2003: "Marshall's family asked that contributions in his name be made to the Fair. And so here we are, the first of what could be many Fair family passing and leaving something to the Fair. We cannot manage a planned-giving program through the office, and one of the compelling reasons for establishing a relationship with the OCF is that they help manage those kinds of funds. We think this is a good idea on its own and it is supported by the Endowment Committee." Hilary assumed the Fair would prefer to participate in the track that includes a socially responsible investment screen. The OCF charges a one percent management fee and returns an agreed upon percentage back to the investor, currently the rate is approximately four percent, and reinvests anything over that amount. In better days, they returned five percent. Joseph – Finance rules the world; anything we can do to encourage consciousness in investments is good.

BoD: David L supports the motion and is willing to invest more. LT – this allows us to have a greater impact in the larger world.

Jim spoke with David W who answered all of his questions and mailed a prospectus to him. Jim is willing to take this first step and watch how it works. He wants the Fair and the Endowment Committee to continue to manage the Endowment grants process. David H is concerned about the risk. If the market goes down, then our principle also goes down. Marlene – at present we are losing money because the CD rates are not keeping up with inflation. Jack – this motion is a leap of faith and an exciting sign of our own maturity.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

OREGON COUNTRY FAIR HISTORY BOOK PROJECT

Charlie moved, and LT seconded, that the Board gives its blessing to, and authorizes access to the archives for, a book project by Suzi Prozanski, with assistance from Norma Sax, History of the OCF, Co-creating a Counter-culture.

Background: Suzi has been a news reporter/journalist for 20 years, weaving wire stories together. She anticipates this will be a multi-year project, researching the archives and collecting oral histories which she will weave together. There are many wonderful connections to explore including, Tobys, the Hoedads, White Bird, Bring, beekeepers, community gardens, etc. Suzi has discussed the process with other authors/editors of histories. She believes it would be better and easier to write it solo rather than use multiple authors. She intends to outline one chapter and present it to a publisher. If accepted, she will seek grant funds to pay for the cost of a transcriber. She is not asking for any funds from the Fair. What happens to the profits when the book sells? Suzie wants to be paid for her craftsmanship, writing the book and would negotiate with the publisher for the Fair to receive a percentage of the profits. Editorial control by the Fair is questionable.

Peach Gallery: Leslie expressed concern that an authorized history of the Fair would be written from one voice. She values Suzie's creativity, intelligence, and wonderful contributions to the community. However, the story of the Fair is one of many voices. Mike James (External Security Co-Coord) – it would be unwise to have several folks or a committee of final editors. Mira is concerned about a single voice as well. The Fair's history is comprised of many anonymous people, important shadows. Meredith Snodgrass (FFN) and Anne Morris (VegManECS) recognize and appreciate one person's perspective. There could be many history books, each with its own perspective. Paxton – the motion asks for the ability to do research. A future board could give approval for publishing. Norma said she and Suzi are asking for the Board's support and permission to access Fair archives. While everyone's opinion is interesting, she and Suzi are not seeking editorial direction.

BoD: David H – this motion asks for access to the archives and the Board's blessing so that Suzie can present the book to publishers as being officially sanctioned. The motion does not give the Board editorial control. In fact, except with the existence of a specific contract as if the Fair commissioned a book to be written, no one can control content or whether it is published or not. David continued to say that there is nothing to stop anyone else from writing a compendium of stories, or another history. He would support all of them. Bear recommended that Suzi include people's stories, or parts of their stories, in their own words. LT – the time to begin writing our history is past. Bill Wooten is gone; Kesey's gone, and now Marshall's gone. The stories must be collected soon. David L offered the research he collected when he began to write a history of the land. This is a huge undertaking. He also hopes to see many books written about the Fair. Diane hopes the book won't be sanitized. Jack has difficulty grasping the notion of history. Few histories have inspired people to change their way of thinking about things. The Fair's story is more of a novel, of whimsy and mystery. There is much that will not be told. "Go for the novel, go for the truth!"
The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

ASSISTANCE TO A MEMBER

Jack moved to create a capital base and confidential solicitation of support for Kirsten Anderberg, aka Mother Zosima. The campaign will last through the month of April and will be awarded by mail as a check from the Oregon Country Fair or a responsible committee in early May.

Peach Gallery: Anne – Many people are or will find themselves in periods of great need. Perhaps we could establish a fund to which anyone may contribute and draw from. Hilary – How do we determine who qualifies? Would we send them a 1099? Will folks make restricted donations to the Fair designating the recipient? The laws governing our 501(c)3 status are very clear. We would need documented proof of a recipient's indigent status, at a minimum. Hilary objects to this motion without establishing the systems to support it first. Leslie believes this kind of action could jeopardize the Fair's 501(c)3. The laws state that the Fair cannot use its resources for the benefit of a private member. Joseph spoke for many folks – Did anyone understand that motion?

BoD: David L – Artis brought this situation to the Board's attention. He is asking members to make a personal contribution to Mother Z. Charlie agreed with Joseph; he doesn't understand the motion. There is no good line that can be drawn. Everyone is worthy; how can the Board determine which Fair member should receive money. Charlie and Diane – One way that we could really help the membership would be to research and create a health insurance program for uninsured Fair members. Bear is glad that the Board offered financial assistance to Artis last year when he had a heart attack. As right as the gesture felt, though, he now believes this is not the Board's proper role. LT – This could be an announcement that we have a member in need; it doesn't have to be run through the Fair. Jack – Any time a request such as this is made, the asking and the response is awkward. We will continue to have members experience desperate, financial periods. The Board should create a policy to say that it does or does not offer financial assistance. If it chooses the affirmative, then the support systems must be developed that do not threaten our 501(c)3 non-profit status.

The motion failed: 2 in favor (Jack and Diane) and 8 opposed (Dr Jim, David H, Bear, Marlene, Charlie, LT, Charles, and David L).

Bear moved, and Charlie seconded, that the meeting be extended to 10:30.

The motion passed: 7 in favor and 3 opposed (David H, Charles, and David L).

ELDERS STATUS/ELDERS PASS DISCUSSION

Charlie moved, and Marlene seconded, that an Elders Pass is available to people who qualify for Elder Status and are no longer willing or able to contribute to the Fair in the same way they have in the recent past.

Background: Charlie presented the motion in order to discuss conflicting e-mail that is being sent back and forth among members. It is his understanding that the Board passed the motion last June to create crew turn over and allow room for youth/younger people to move into crew positions. Diane – The motion approved last June gave elders the right to participate in a program that allows them to purchase or earn an Elders pass. Working with the Elders Committee, the Budget Committee has designated 100 trade passes to be sold to qualified Elders for \$50 each and 10 free trade passes for qualified Elders with a hardship case. Paxton and Mira – Charlie's assessment works well for crews, but it does not meet the needs of Entertainers and Booth people. Would this motion mean that an Elder Performer would be forced to stop performing? The Elders Committee is still debating and seeking resolution to the different needs.

Charlie withdrew the motion.

REVISIT 5% SOP INCREASE

Bear moved, and David L seconded, that the Board suspend the additional 5% SOP increase for one year.

Background: We are in the third year of increasing the SOP passes from 50% to 75% at a rate of 10%, 10%, and 5%. The potential increase for this year would be 150 more passes.

Peach Gallery: Leslie – There are 110 new Elders Passes available which will use up most of the extra 5%. Operations is exploring the idea of a Tween Pass for graduated teens age 19-21. Operations is asking the Board should consider the Fair's population issues as a whole.

BoD: David H said that, during last June's discussion, he advocated determining the maximum carrying capacity of the land and resources the Fair was willing to accept and then determine a fair distribution for all population needs. He continues to assert this position. Bear -- Operations is expanding pass availability by increasing crew size in targeted areas and creating the Elders Pass. He would rather have working SOPs receive an actual volunteer staff shirt and benefits than pay to volunteer. Jack – the truth is, the original increase would not have gone forward had Steve and Leslie not supported it. Jack, Charlie, and LT support the motion because it asks for a one-year suspension. They hope to review and reinstate the five- percent increase next year.

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

The following items were tabled until next month. Elders Status/Pass Clarification (Charlie), New Year's Eve Proposal (Charlie), Elders Policy/Pass Clarification (Charlie) and Changes to the Personnel Policy & Procedures Manual and Job Descriptions (Marlene). Jim permanently withdrew the Ken Kesey Memorial Sculpture.

The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, May 5, 2003, at EWEB at 7pm. The agenda, subject to change, includes the tabled items above and the following New Business items: Donations to Fern Ridge Library, Lane County Migrant Education Program, and SMART – Start Making A Reader Today; Appointments – History Booth Co-Coord, VegManECS Co Coord, and Crew Services Coordinating Council; Support Hells Canyon National Preserve Proposal; Revisit Teen Crew Graduates Motion; Documentary Proposal, Archaeology Policy; Tribute to Marshall Landman at the Fair (for the general public); and Midwifery Booth Suspension.

Hours by Jen-Lin