

## Oregon Country Fair Board of Directors' Meeting

April 3, 2017

7 pm, NW Youth Corps, Columbia room

**Board members present:** Diane Albino, Justin Honea, Lucy Kingsley, Jack Makarchek (president), Jon Silvermoon, Lawrence Taylor (alternate), Sue Theolass, and Kenya Luvert.

**Peach Gallery present:** Staff (Crystalyn, Shane, Stephanie and Shelly), Officers (Hilary, Lynda and Randy) 47 members and guests.

Jack: It's been a while since we had such a full house. Let's try our best to figure out a way to work our way through this tonight in our usual loving manner, please. We have two facilitators here tonight to get us through, so if we want to caucus or go about traditionally we have options. There are a lot of people here not to be ignored. I'll start out by saying thank you for being here.

LT: Point of procedure, in light of the large group here and the substantial amount of old business and the reason that there is a lot of people here tonight, I recommend that we either move employee and committee reports to the end of the meeting or have them submitted in written form.

### New Business

**Justin moved and LT seconded to move Logo Jurying from New to Old Business.**

**Motion passed: 8-0.**

Appoint Otis Greg as coordinator for Path Planning (Justin)

Appoint Photo Booth coordinators Desta Moore and Ami Goldberg (Justin)

Accept recommendation from Community Center Committee on vacation of Chickadee and parts of Aero Road (Jon)

Martha: This Board of Director's meeting is being live-streamed through YouTube Streaming and will be available to the Fair family on the OCF YouTube channel for those wanting to watch the proceedings here tonight. To get links for this, and all Board meetings, go to the Board section of oregoncountryfair.net and click on "Sign up to receive links to the stream of monthly Board meetings."

Stephanie: Tonight is actually our test for Live Streaming, but our model for next month will be for it to be both live and available after the meeting via a YouTube link.

### Announcements

Joseph: I am in the process of writing a book on Amazon Creek, a contributor to the Long Tom. If you want to see a different view of our local waterway it is here.

Steve: Bill Brewer of "Function at the Junction" passed away last week.

Jain: On April 15 there is a march for tax justice, on April 22 there is a march for science, and on April 29 there is a march for climate safety.

Justin: Packets went out last Friday for the booth world. If you've not gotten your packet, we need to know. We did a lot of grooming on the database this year and created a data user interface so that you can input your data and make sure we get the booth reps address right. They are out there, put the money in and send them back.

Sue: Spring Fling is Saturday, May 6, at Whirled Pies. I have raffle tickets, so stop me and buy some. All the proceeds go to Culture Jam. There will also be many of the Logo items in the raffle as well.

### Staff Reports

**Crystalyn and Shane:** Tickets for the 2017 Oregon Country Fair went on sale April 1! We have been using TicketsWest and social media to get the word out to the public with resounding success, sales have been steady and we are excited to present a wonderful event to our patrons! Thank you Stephanie and James for helping proof the media blasts and getting the artwork prepared for the public.

We recently had a coordinators meeting that was very well attended, so much so that we don't think we have ever seen so many coordinators at one meeting. There was lots of great information shared between the crews, and the change of venue seemed to be well accepted. It was really great to see everyone socializing and enjoying themselves. Thank you to all who attended, it was a great way to really kick off the event cycle!

As many people are aware, we continue to reach out to all the crew coordinators to check in on progress and see if there is anything we can do to facilitate any needs. We met recently with Quarter Master and our rental vendor to submit this year's list of needed equipment for quote. If any coordinators need rental equipment please fill out the required rental form and submit to QM. This is a new program we started last year that has allowed us to save a significant amount of money on all of our rental needs and we appreciate everyone participating in the program. If for some reason you have not received the form, or if you have forgotten a piece of equipment or have questions, please reach out to Stephanie or the QM coordinators. They can help guide you through the process.

We also met recently with Fire Crew and have scheduled a tabletop exercise with Lane Fire Authority, Fire Crew, and some of the management team to sharpen our fire response skills and further develop our relationship with outside first responders in the community.

Staff also met with the Elections Committee and Get out the Vote to brainstorm more ways to increase membership participation in the Fair election process. Some great ideas were borne from our time together and you will see an increased effort from the Get out the Vote team to energize membership and increase education during pre-Fair, the event, and post Fair. We look forward to seeing the results of all the hard work with an increase in membership participation.

Recently Staff met with Net Corps to talk about providing remote access for the staff and treasures to Quick Books. This change will help Hilary, Lynda, and staff to access Quick Books remotely, allowing us to be able to print reports or change incorrect items while onsite or at home.

We would like to remind everyone of the changes this year due to LTD's internal procurement department. This year we will not be purchasing the whole ridership portion of LTD, however, anyone with a pass or ticket to the event will be able to ride the bus from anywhere in the system to the Fair site for no charge. Currently we are waiting to hear back from LTD procurement regarding a language change, and hope to have the contract finalized by the end of the month. One of the positive changes that came about with the way LTD procures contracts is the advertising portion. This year, the OCF will have advertising displayed on the sides and tails of more than 70 buses circulating through Eugene,

Springfield and satellite communities serviced by LTD. Another advantage is that we will be adding some bus stop displays in the Portland area to promote the event.

Things are really ramping up, and we are on schedule for another wonderful event. We would like to thank all of the volunteers who work throughout the year for the event.

Stephanie: Craft applications have closed and Booth Reg packets are going out. I have been working closely with Doug Quirke of Booth Reg to try to get the most current info possible to update both the Peach Pit and crafter listings on the .org site. He has been doing an amazing amount of work, as have Travis, Justin and their whole team. Tickets went on sale and with that come increased phone calls and emails about where to buy them and where to stay. Also, with your donation to Womenspace, eight people are invited to attend their 40th Anniversary Dinner. Please let me know by April 20 if you care to in attend and I will RSVP for our organization. Lastly, Robin sends her regrets that she could not be here tonight. She has a family issue to take care of. She wants you to know that Culture Jam youth registration is now open.

**Shelly:** Thank you Erik Kasmar and Josh Padron of Site Crew for pulling the transmission out of Mothr the other day. Thank you Melissa Padron for coming out last month to make big piles of storm debris with me, hauling trash and cleaning up Waterworld. Big thanks to Tree Crew who are now coming out every weekend and getting preliminary work done before pre-Fair begins. The site is gorgeous. Please come out and enjoy all the trilliums in bloom and remember to tread lightly.

## Committee Reports

**Fiftieth Anniversary Task Force:** norma said the Task Force met Feb. 18–19 and March 11, to initiate discussion and planning for a celebration that marks a half-century of this incredible, magical, multi-faceted event. We are committed to commemorating our rich history while looking to the future as we provide a showcase for the 50 years of the Oregon Country Fair. Our impact on the arts, philanthropy, sustainability, entrepreneurship, culture, social change, engagement, love and family are all to be honored and celebrated.

### Organization

The Task Force consists of long-standing OCF participants as well as younger members who represent the Fairs of tomorrow. Veteran OCFers on the Task Force are Sandra Bauer, Sallie Edmunds, Jerry Joffe, norma sax, Leslie Scott and Cynthia Wooten. New additions to the group are Hunter Briggs, recent Culture Jam camper, and Laurel Goerger from Main Camp kitchen, who along with Board member Kenya Luvert and staff liaison, Crystalyn Autuchovich, offer the fresh perspective of the next generation who will take us into the future.

We have met in February and March and will continue to meet once a month to set our goals, develop planning strategies, coordinate efforts, plan idea gathering activities, and identify, allocate and report on tasks to accomplish. We expect to meet more often, as we get closer to the anniversary year. During this process we will share information on a regular basis on our progress with the Board and the general Fair community.

We have established several subcommittees to work on specific area objectives. These include communications, archives, resource development and outreach to groups both within the Fair family and the community at large. As plans evolve, we will be adding more subcommittees that will include members from outside the Task Force.

Throughout the spring and summer we will be in an information gathering and sharing phase. The Task Force will act as the clearinghouse for all ideas and activities related to the Fiftieth Anniversary celebration. In the fall, we will organize, collate and consider the feasibility and relevance of all anniversary suggestions. We then plan to meet with the Board, Management and the Budget Committee to evaluate all the proposals in light of the celebration's goal of honoring the past and envisioning the future.

### **Information Gathering Phase**

It is our goal to reach out, to share information with, and to solicit ideas and suggestions from all the groups that have made this Fair the essential event it is: crafters, crew volunteers, entertainers, food booth participants, Community Village, Energy Park, Culture Jam, former and current staff, Board and Elders.

To do this, we plan to:

Hold an "Open Space" formatted idea gathering session on June 11 at Alice's Wonderland.

Attend crew and committee meetings.

Submit a series of articles to the Fair Family News.

Submit regular reports on our progress to the Board.

Have an informational table at the 2017 Spring Fling and the Teddy Bear's Picnic.

Produce a page on our .net website.

Develop strategies for soliciting and gathering ideas during the 2017 Fair.

We also want to reach out to and involve those groups outside the Fair community who have contributed to and benefited from our success: local businesses, the Fern Ridge communities, arts organizations and tourist associations. There are also groups local to Eugene who do and do not participate in the Fair who share our anniversary timeline (for example, Oregon Bach Festival, White Bird, Growers Market) that we plan to invite to join in our celebration.

### **Implementation Phase**

Once the scope of our Fiftieth Anniversary celebration has been decided by working with the Board, Management and the Budget Committee, the Task Force will assist the groups and individuals who have had their ideas approved, in developing implementation strategies, work plans and budgets. Financing may include additions to crew budgets, capital project requests and grant applications to outside funding sources such as the Oregon Cultural Trust and Travel Oregon.

We would be remiss if we didn't include in this report the one we-can't-do-without-it activity we have identified:

A BIG, HUGE, GIGANTIC YUMMY BIRTHDAY CAKE! Guess what flavor!!! (Here's a clue – it's a fruit.)

**Community Village Open Source Advocate:** Jamie said: You may know me as the little nerdy guy in the back of the room fussing with the camera gear, or maybe you know me as a video guy, or maybe you know me from such fun activities as onsite IT, or that LED Fairies guy, where I get to do a wide variety of fun things with computers and electronics. However, what most of you probably don't know is that I'm from Community Village as the open source software and hardware advocate. It started with open source software, also know as free software and we started including electronic designs or open hardware. The whole idea behind it is transparency. Transparency is as simple as the idea that everyone should be allowed access to the information that they need to make the best decision that impacts their lives. It doesn't have to be complicated or difficult and it can be as easy as making Board meetings open to the public.

In our case many effected people are not able to be at the meetings and extending the meetings electronically, in real time, does a good job of bridging that gap. That's why I've spent so much time and effort trying to help make these videos happen. I would also like to extend this to other meetings, particularly where important decisions are being made. There is another hurdle that I would like to see us cross, to help make things more transparent. We currently restrict who can watch the meeting videos. I would like the restrictions removed so that anyone can watch the videos. Everyone is allowed to come to the meeting and that should also be true of watching the meetings. There is no good reason to keep people from watching these meetings and if we inhibit people even a little bit, it can make a big impact. It would also mean that people can review videos of older meetings, not just the current meeting.

I would also like to include more videos to the public about how we do things at Fair. I have one recording of the HI training, given by Zak and Brad. I would like to make it public, however it deals with Security, and we don't want to make their job harder. It is an awesome example of Fair ethos and ideology and is probably the most important thing that we can share with the public. Both Paxton and I have made many time-lapse videos of various crew tasks because they take all day and nobody wants to watch that in real time. This is a good example of how we work together, we get the job done, and we have a good time doing it. I think that we could build a real nice YouTube channel with all the non-meeting videos and we can probably get help from video crew on adding videos recorded during Fair.

**Radio Station KOCF:** Dean reported that the station continues to operate from our remotely controlled equipment rack in Lane Fire Authority radio room due to lack of a funding effort from the REX foundation we'd hoped for. We are very grateful to the Fire Authority, it's clear that Chief Terry Nay has vision and understands how important it is to the Fern Ridge Community to have its own radio station. We're grateful that the community came out and supported our second annual auction. We raised about two-thirds of what we brought in last year, which means we need find additional funding. We have an opportunity coming up soon that will have the radio station in the same room as 40 other Fern Ridge businesses. This will give us an opportunity to market our underwriting. We have had a number of local businesses ask about underwriting, so now we have to build a system and sell it. We are talking with staff about what our presence at this year's event will look like. Crystalyn and Shane have been great to work with. The Fair is fortunate to have these two talented people working for it. Board members Jon Silvermoon and Casey Marks-Fife have attended our Community Advisory Committee meetings and have helped us with long-term planning goals.

### **Member Input**

Paxton: Many of you are aware that my partner of 37 years, Lois, passed last month. Thanks to the Fair for the wonderful flowers and all of your condolences and support.

Joseph: Digestive health and posture are important and I'd really recommend us to think of having a squatting toilet.

Martha: I'd like to thank the Diversity Task Force for the learning opportunity provided by Johnny Lake.

Michael: I wonder if Community Village has thought about offering draft resistance and AWOL consultation, seeing as we are looking at maybe the draft again.

## Donations/Secretary Report

Randy: We have seven nonprofits to donate to tonight:  
Global Alliance for Community Empowerment for \$350 (Jon)  
Siren \$350 (Jon)  
Native American Youth Enrichment in Education for \$1,000 (Diane)  
Head Start \$500 (Sue)  
Community Alliance for Lane County (CALC) \$700 (Lucy)

We have seven nonprofits on the docket for May:  
Sweet Home/Lebanon Farmer's Market \$1,000  
The Village School Kitchen \$1,000  
Patterson Preschool Cooperative 2 passes to event for raffle  
Bertha Holt Elementary School \$500  
Calapooia Watershed Council 2 passes for silent auction  
Lane Arts Council \$1,000 (already a Bill Wooten Endowment recipient this year)  
The Dome School \$1,500  
Board members, please let me know if you want to sponsor one of May's donation requests.

Karla: Head Start works to ensure Lane County's youngest children have a solid start on life. Head Start is our county's premier provider of development and educational services to pregnant moms, babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their families, who live in poverty and struggle to meet the basic needs of life. This donation will provide parents the ability to network by funding transportation.

Aleda: I am here to represent Native American Youth Enrichment in Education. It is an educational and public benefit organization dedicated to providing information, resources and activities of cultural and educational significance as well as other enrichment opportunities to Native American children and families in our local service area. This donation will help fund our summer culture camp.

Joan: CALC is a sponsor for 350 Eugene, to support the Eugene/Springfield "March for a Climate of Safety" which is one of hundreds of People's Climate March event in the U.S. on April 29, 2017. The donation will help fund a sound system to be used for this march and other CALC events.

**Motion passed: 8-0.**

Maple Elementary PTA and Ridgeview Elementary School removed from the consent calendar at request of Jon.

**Sue moved and Justin seconded to donate \$750 to Maple Elementary PTA.**

Barbara: This donation will go toward a positive behavior gathering of children called "Camp Kindness." We are taking steps to stop bullying in school. The donation will fund t-shirts for all the students at Camp Kindness.

Jon: The reason that I took it off the consent calendar was it is not clear to me what the money is going to be used for. Is this a portion or your total budget?

Barbara: We have other funds and this is so that every students get a t-shirt.

**Motion passes: 8-0.**

**Sue moved and Justin seconded to donate \$500 to the Ridgeview Elementary School.**

Ann: I'm on the board at Ridgeview. We have started funding for a new play structure, as well as drainage work. We've already raised about \$15,000 of the \$50,000 project. This will help us with this project.

Jon: You answered the question that I would have had. You are asking for one percent of the \$50,000 budget.

**Motion passed: 8-0.**

### **Treasurers' Report/Budget Items**

Hilary: The draft updated financial statement that the Board gets provided inaccurate payroll numbers this month. This has been revised. The bottom line on the budget is -\$73,000, but it includes a \$53,000 deferred maintenance fund that was a carry forward amount from last year. That deferred maintenance is a placeholder in the budget. The overall operating budget is much more in the range of -\$20,000. All it would take is some good ticket sales and we'll be in the black again. Our outside accountant did some irregular accounting practices that made the budget look worse than it is. We are about to both spend and make a lot of money. Coordinators, if there is something going wrong with your budget, talk to your Board liaison.

Lynda: I have two line item adjustments. I'd like to request an increase in the Booth Registration line item to \$3,400, an increase of \$500, for a credit card reader to be able to take credit cards at Booth Registration.

**Jon moved and Jack seconded increase the line item for Booth Registration by \$500.**

**Motion passed: 8-0.**

Lynda: The second request is to increase the line item for Medical by \$2,883 for the food vouchers for volunteers to staff the Little Wing medical expansion.

**Jon moved and Lucy seconded to increase the Medical line item by \$2,883.**

**Motion passed: 8-0.**

### **Old Business**

**LT moved and Sue seconded to approve the minutes for the March 6, 2017, Board meeting.**

Jon: I'd like to amend the motion to include the corrections that I sent the secretary that did not make it into the unconfirmed minutes.

**Motion passed as amended: 6-0-2; Diane and Lucy abstained.**

**Sue moved and LT seconded to accept the recommendation from Craft Inventory to accept all new submissions.**

Jeff: The crafters that want to use the logo peach have honored it well this year. If you don't win the items in the raffle at the Spring Fling, watch for them at the Fair.

Sue: This year with cooperation with Commerative Sales, there will be a display to indicate where all the logo items are located in the Fair. Also this year, Commerative Sales is working with a Fair family screenprinter who is making all the t-shirts.

LT: I want to acknowledge Jeff for what is now measured in decades of devotion to the Logo Jurying.

**Motion passed: 8-0.**

**Sue moved and Lucy seconded to appoint Peter Dilcher as co-coordinator of Solar Stages.**

Hilary: I am excited that Peter is stepping up. I understand that he is working to coordinate transportation so that the transportation needs of our entertainers are better served.

Jon: As a new entertainment coordinator, I'd encourage you to look at Vision Quest goal number one, on diversity and we'd welcome you to next Diversity Task Force learning opportunity.

**Motion passed: 8-0.**

**LT moved and Sue seconded to appoint Eric Wiseman as co-coordinator of Cartography Crew.**

Joseph: Cartography has a lot of work ahead of them toward getting a common Fair map and the time is now.

**Motion passed: 8-0.**

**Jon moved and Diane seconded to appoint Ken Hardenbrook to the Diversity Task Force.**

**Motion passed: 8-0.**

**LT moved and Sue seconded to appoint Todd Kelley to Lot Crew co-coordinator.**

Cindy: He's awesome! I've been a coordinator for 16 years and I'm so excited that Todd is stepping up to help me out.

LT: Welcome Todd and I have to say it is a "lot" of work.

**Motion passed: 8-0.**

**Justin moved and Sue seconded to appoint Emma Gibson Raven and Jesse Autuchovich to be coordinators for pre-Fair kitchen.**

Crystalyn: These two have been in leadership roles for some time now. The current kitchen coordinator could not be here tonight, but he fully supports these appointments.

Jack: Kitchen is a really arduous task, so get your meal counts in.

Justin: I've been around both of these individuals and their level of detail is impressive.

Their feeding or the soul and caring about pre-Fair kitchen is impressive. Thanks for stepping up!

**Motion passes: 8-0.**

**Sue moved and Lucy seconded to appoint Judy Scott to Water Crew co-coordinator.**

Lucy: I'm Lucy from Water crew and we need Judy, so it'd be great if you appoint her.

**Motion passed: 8-0.**

Stephanie: All you new coordinators, please send me an email to { [HYPERLINK "mailto:office@oregoncountryfair.org"](mailto:office@oregoncountryfair.org) } so I can get your contact information in the coordinators contact list.

Jon: I am making this motion at the request of management, so that the Board can discuss this issue.

**Jon moved and Justin seconded that the Board make a one-time exception to the fireworks guideline, permitting fireworks as part of management sponsored volunteer appreciation activity on July Fourth for the 2017 Fair only as a transition to the full enforcement of the guideline in 2018 and beyond.**

Shane: We are only having fireworks on the Fourth of July, which is Tuesday before the Fair. It is crunch time for us as we get ready for the greater event. We'll just have a fireworks celebration and schedule another day pre-Fair for volunteer appreciation. We appreciate the Board revisiting this again. Given the transition, it would be difficult to manage the event and manage people bringing their own fireworks on site. If this motion does not pass, we fully expect to hold those accountable for setting off their own fireworks.

Crystalyn: The reason that we are choosing to do the fireworks as part of this volunteer appreciation on the actual Fourth of July is because we checked with all the Neighborhood Emergency Response Teams (NERTs) and they said it would have a negative impact on the neighbors to do it on any other day.

Martha: Before I ask for other member input, I want to remind people that this motion is for one year only. Be respectful of each other and only speak once and we'll get through this.

Joseph: Everything I've said speaking against fireworks is based on my own experience that every fireworks shoot that I've witnessed up to the year 2009 left debris. I'd be into it, if we could do it without plastic or non-biodegradable material.

Michael: The fireworks party uses a lot of extra resources and money. I suggest putting both the Barter Fair and fireworks after the Fair so the separations of staff, workers and volunteers is the same. Let's get innovative.

Steven: I am a co-coordinator for the Fire Crew and I'm not here to lobby for or against fireworks. The majority of the Fire Crew wants to put it on. The fireworks are not that big of a deal, but they do bring a lot of pleasure to a lot of other people. The guidelines were written for those doing fireworks in an uncontrolled way. We are using certified people and put in a great deal of time and a conscientious effort to clean the place up. There are a lot of things that happen at the Fair that across generations are not liked by all. We make regulations in space so people that want certain kinds of experience make sure we are not being disruptive to everyone else. It comes down to how disruptive is it for those two or three hours given the amount of joy it brings. What better way to show Veneta we are all Americans.

Michael: I'm the guy doing the fireworks shoot. I've been doing it since they have been allowed at the Fair and I was part of it before it was allowed. I know the difference. We do not leave plastic debris on the Fair site. In the big picture of the Fair, if pollution is the concern, we need to stop all parking on the Fair site. As the person that started the cleanup using my blower, we do a very good job of cleaning up. The professional shoot and the product that we buy is checked out every year and it blows up cleaner. It is a great way to show appreciation for everyone who is working so hard. If you think of the amount of people enjoying the fireworks, it was twice the number of those voting to ban fireworks in the election referendum. We try hard to do the best for you.

Michael: Volunteer appreciation is only for the pre-Fair folks, it is not for all our volunteers. The reason we outlawed fireworks was because one hit Palmer. Accidents happen, and we almost had an incident last year from a smoldering ember. We voted. I'm sorry the pre-Fair folks didn't. I don't know why it is being readdressed. Patriotism does not fly for a lot of us.

It takes me back to Vietnam. I don't want an accident. Our insurance does not cover burning Veneta down.

Cristy: I would like us to remember that this year the Fourth of July happens right before the Fair. We are a volunteer-based event. If we expect to have the volunteers to be there and make this happen, it might be nice to have them onsite and not celebrating somewhere else.

Saskia: As someone who works pre-Fair, I've enjoyed the fireworks every year. It is the last time during the Fair that my crew gets together as one before the final stretch of crunch week. We cannot leave the site. Before we cancel the fireworks, there should be an adequate replacement. There is no single act that draws as many people as the fireworks. Suggesting lasers is just sad, because even laser heavy shows with pretty lights end their shows with fireworks. Also blinding people with lasers is a thing — it has happened. On a basic safety and logistics level, even if we don't have a show, there will be those shooting fireworks. I know we are a very rule-abiding bunch, but a sanctioned and monitored event is a more responsible decision. Before you make a hard-core decision, I think there should be an actual replacement, not just another Dead cover band.

Matilda: Being another from pre-Fair kitchen, there is always someone doing dishes, making breakfast or starting coffee. It is really amazing to have everybody get together with our families as pre-Fair kitchen for the fireworks.

Laurel: Other people addressed a lot of the concerns I have. I think a lot of the concerns are how important it is to come together and the possibility of dangerous situations happening. Crystalyne and Shane are being asked by the Board to do the work of three people, so asking them to be responsible for the chaos of the unknown might be more appropriate in 2018 when the management structure has been made more official. I think you should consider all of this, especially this year, and allow the motion to pass.

Charlie Z: The reason we started doing the official fireworks show was for years the Board said no fireworks and fireworks were happening anyway. In an effort to make it legal, safe and insured, we had Fire Crew come out and we moved to a professional fireworks shoot. The reason that we addressed it in part was because there was a demand from the Fair family for pre-Fair to have a big celebration. I and the other Security coordinators are very nervous about this — please give us a year to transition. This year we will probably have more people on site on Tuesday than we've ever had because of the holiday and registration opening on Wednesday. Are we really going to ask people breaking the rules to leave two days before the Fair? I am also concerned about so many of our folks leaving site to go to town and watch a fireworks shoot. Like it or not, some degree of partying occurs. Do we want to run the risk of pushing people off site? As a routine, if we have people at the event that are intoxicated, we don't send them home, we take care of them because we recognize putting them out on the street or back into the community is not a safe thing to do. For a lot of reasons, I'd recommend letting us do the fireworks shoot this year, then get the information out for next year. If it remains the policy of the Fair, we can let people know and we'll plan for that. We have a lot of volunteers from Fire Crew and Security Crews that come out and help us put on this event. If we are not doing fireworks, this night is nothing but pre-Fair Security and a relatively small number of Security people are onsite. If we are going to enforce no fireworks we will certainly need some extra help.

Coyote: I come to ask you to honor the wisdom of the guideline. I'm an Elder and a Fair volunteer since 1976. In October of 2016, 565 voters said to honor the no fireworks guideline. It was more votes cast than for three Board members. One of the crew I volunteer for is the Jill Heiman Vision Fund. Here voting members cast votes on where funds for the vision

fund are utilized. We honor the voting wishes without discussion. I ask you to honor the wishes of the 565 voters who voted for the no fireworks guide. A portion of our land was a gathering place for Native Peoples of this area. When archaeologists noted this, we were able to preserve more land and protect her from the development of a highway. We donated to the Standing Rock Sioux. We honor Mother Earth on Friday morning when we open the Fair, and yet we are considering a proposal to further pollute the air and water, to traumatize our four-legged and winged brothers and sisters for a few fleeting moments of loud noises and bright explosions. We must walk our talk. We must honor what we hold sacred and blessed. Chief Seattle said the Earth does not belong to us, we belong to the Earth. We all got the letters from Robert DeSpain talking about who we are as a Fair family. We know about global warming and the deaths of the great reefs and everything; the pollutants that go into the Long Tom and go out into the groundwater. The doomsday clock is ticking. I enjoy a party as much as anyone else, but we owe it to Mother Earth and our children.

Shelly: I am the caretaker and for the record I found not a single scraps of fireworks from last year. The biggest thing that drives the wildlife away is the people, the minute people leave they come back.

Steve: I'm Grumpy, Back Up Manager, and been involved with the fireworks since they began on the Fair site. The main reason that we started doing formal fireworks is that it is so hard to prevent all of us from doing them on our own. We've heard about Robert DeSpain's letter. He said we should do drugs and sparklers. There is nothing more polluting than sparklers. Let's do this in a respectful way that really doesn't pollute. The pollution at the Fair is not from legal fireworks, it is the people just being there. The test is that the animals come back. I doubt there is anything that gets in the Long Tom. There are at least 2,000 people who come and enjoy the fireworks. They are voting with their feet and they are voting by being there. We heard about water and fire and earth — you are going to exclude the fire part because you want to make an argument. You talk about our children and the generational gaps. I think you will find that it is the young people at the Fair who really enjoy the fireworks.

Paxton: Most of the fireworks I've seen in my travels around the world are part of local religions. They believe that fireworks are a direct connection to god. I'd say over a thousand people watch the fireworks. My big concern this year is if we don't do legal fireworks, they will move off site and we'll get blamed for it.

Chris: How can you get a special pass for the fireworks with so many people on site needing this pass?

Shane: Everyone has made some really good points. I hope if we ban fireworks because of the mess left behind that we also address the garbage and the non-recyclables that are left behind every year that Site Crew has to clean up. From the air mattress box that someone bought and brought to the Fair to a pile of trash as high as the roof in the Screen house, there are tons of debris and non-recyclables that are left behind every Fair.

Everybody is invited to the fireworks. The passes are circulated months in advance. There is a mass mailing that goes out to booth people and coordinators. People without a wristband are not allowed onsite, they are funneled into Dug's Green so that we can contact the booth person or coordinator and determine if they belong onsite. We are not going to shut down the site because there are a lot of vendors that need to come and go to be prepared for the event beginning on Friday. We want to thank our volunteers, many who work year round and put in thousands of hours. I am really thankful for our volunteers. I think it is very

important to have time to get the word out that next year we will not have fireworks. We work closely with Lane Fire, we have permits in place and we do have insurance. As Shelly pointed out the wildlife comes back in droves once the people are gone and by Culture Jam there is lots of wildlife. Fireworks are not attributed to all the things that are being pointed out, we are all a part of the impact on the land, whether you are for fireworks or not.

Jesse: Turns out, I am a Kitchen coordinator. I have heard a lot perspectives from philosophical to environmental, to operational to security concerns. This was an advisory measure and we can round up and say that a thousand voted, one way or another. All generations are sitting in this room expressing what they think about this. To take the voices of a thousand people when we all know and understand that those who vote do not make the entire membership base. This is an emotional and detailed position for people. This advisory measure is punitive to the younger generation. But the larger issue is a big-time generation gap that needs to be addressed here.

Heather: I wish I had the foresight to bring the photos of the drifts of firework debris that I have. Fireworks do not represent the ethos that started the Fair.

Howard: Fireworks obviously make us feel good and we have guidelines, so let's have a discussion on changing those guidelines.

Diane: I'd love to see research on nontoxic fair trade fireworks. I abstained two months ago. I read everyone's concern. Just like shit, fireworks happens. We will never come to consensus on this. I feel for those on both sides. I don't know the solution. The way we do fireworks is very safe.

Kenya: I hear the concerns. I think that there is some self-gratification going on. We need to talk and come up with a solution. There has to be some way to honor the votes and the volunteers, as well as the guidelines.

LT: It is clear from discussion that we are only talking about fireworks, not gathering and having a volunteer appreciation event. I see that on one side fireworks create lead, mercury and other chemicals — we were called stupid for saying that fireworks cause pollution. The diversionary argument is that we bring all this waste or use internal combustion engines. Everyone of us, if we could afford an electric car, we'd have one. We don't drive to the Fair for the purpose of spewing fumes. It's a bogus comparison. The wildlife leave because we show up. What do they come back to — barium, aluminum and cadmium and rubidium? Is a couple of hours of cheap thrills worth it? It comes down to the values we choose. I've heard it suggested that those of us concerned about the wellbeing of wildlife are somehow hypocrites because the bacon we eat is raised in factory farms. We had a letter from a vaudeville coordinator on the impact that fireworks has on the people coming in to rebuild a stage and that were turned away because they did not have a wristband. Michael raised the smell and noise that traumatize the veterans of nationalistic adventurism. I don't want to show anybody that we're all Americans, I want to show that we are citizens of this world. If you want to know where we'd be without the Declaration of Independence and the Fourth of July, we'd be Canadians.

Casey: Apologies all for not being present to deliver these ideas in person concerning fireworks at the Fair:

First I would like to thank all of the people who took their time to weigh in on this issue from both sides and to Stephanie who has thus far proven herself as a Delight and a processional in her duties in service to the Fair. Thank you.

I understand how this is a divided issue among us. I really do. Furthermore it is multifaceted. As I'm sure everyone will be weighing in on this topic I will keep my two cents brief. Please everyone do your best to stay open minded.

Cut and dry, I think we should empower our management to allow fireworks where and when they deem safe and appropriate. Our event is bigger than it ever has been. Our volunteer base is larger than it ever has been. In my view and experience the Fourth of July party and fireworks show has become an important time and space for our entire operations and safety systems to perform a dry run. Much like a tech rehearsal or a walk through as any other professional event or large scale production would undertake, this is an invaluable opportunity for us to work out the kinks a few days before we are open to the public. I know that many of you agree with what I'm saying but do not agree that fireworks must be present in order to satisfy this function. I hear you. I do. I've read your letters, taken your phone calls, and we've talked to you face to face. The brilliance and beauty of our event (and truthfully the reason we've lasted as long as we have) are rooted in the performance of our volunteers. Good performances come from being calm, ready, and well rehearsed. Accidents happen, miscommunications happen, wild cards happen. Don't be afraid. Problem solvers happen, solutions happen, improvisation happens. Trust in our teams, Trust in our people, and give them a rehearsal where real medical, fire, water, operational problem solving may need to happen. It will make us all the stronger.

Two last points:

First: many of you don't think the Fair should pay for fireworks. I can totally agree to this. If some people want them, let them pay for them. Many groups and causes within our organization and within our community at large could benefit greatly from the same dollars we would spend on fireworks.

Second: with respect for my peers, youngers and elders, this may come across as dismissive but I truly mean this with all respect. If you are a person who does not like the loud noises, explosions or smells associated with fireworks, then don't attend the show. Honestly I see this as parallel with many other issues we face at the Fair. Some people don't like amplified sound others don't like all night drumming, some don't like topless painted women, others don't like pant-less men. Not everything is for everyone, but what I believe is that the Oregon Country Fair is a place for everyone, a place where we don't point at the things we don't like and keep others from enjoying things they might because it doesn't suit our personal preferences. There are so many who enjoy this and enjoy it now as a part of their Fair family tradition. It may not be your cup of tea, but ask yourself, is that really the most important factor here? Some day your preferences may come to question or be in jealousy of mandated cancellation and I'll be there to defend them as well.

Justin: It comes down to me as something self-serving — I put in 14-hour days validating people coming to the fireworks and it is extra work for my crew. We put in extra work and extra staff to be part of the validation of those wristbands. I like the boom boom, I enjoy watching it and it is an opportunity to have a time with my family. For me, it boils down to risk management. This is something that we've been doing for many years and we are really good at it. We have gotten better every single year. We are an eco-conscious family here. We want to do it right. I am willing to step away, when we have a full calendar cycle to have this conversation. The advisory motion is what it is. I truly believe that if it were worded differently, we'd have gotten different results. I believe the guideline was not there for this fireworks shoot. This is a fire safe event. It is risk mitigation. Let it go and approve it. If we do not pass this, I hope all those that did not want this motion will be there to police those

shooting off fireworks onsite on the Fourth of July. We need to do right by not only us, but our community.

Sue: I was not at the February Board meeting. I hear what the crews, Charlie Z, and Crystalyn and Shane are saying. I am saddened that we cannot rely on our family, in that if we say no fireworks that we'll have to run find those who are shooting off fireworks. I try really hard to follow the guidelines. I'm not sure how to vote. We are only talking about this year.

Jack: I feel ashamed for a lot of reasons. It is a wakeup for me that the vote did not go the other way. I am not going to devolve into to what I did before, that was wrong and false equivalencies. There is a lot of that going on. Those of us who want fireworks are not demons, and those of you who don't want fireworks are very admirable and won't have to carry the shame that I have. I will vote for fireworks. It is not my pathway to god. I hope I've put my dues in for whatever else it takes. It is a shameful pleasure and I admit it, but I'm voting for it at least one more time.

Jon: What I've not heard from proponents for fireworks is what I'd hoped to hear. If we made the exception one last time this year, that they would live with it, that they would be willing to live by the guidelines. I didn't hear that. I heard why it was important to do fireworks, not why it was important to do it one more time. The Fair had a previous guideline change prior to the legalization of marijuana, we decided to enforce the law of the land on our property. There were those of us during that time who thought that was an unjust law, so we ought to be able to do it anyway. That is kind of what I hear with the fireworks. I'm in the position of not knowing if I am going to vote for the very motion I made. I've had discussions with Shane and Crystalyn about the difficulties that they feel they will face by enforcing this guideline. I share Sue's frustration that there seems to be a segment of Fair volunteers and the population who will do what they want to do, no matter what the guideline says and create this difficulty for operations to enforce guidelines. If I vote that way, what am I saying to the members who voted for the advisory vote? I cannot buy the silent majority argument that if it were worded a different way or a lot of people out there that didn't vote we would have had a different outcome — I wish that were the case with elections — we'd have a different president today. That is unfortunately not the way it is. I want to make it clear that if I do vote for this motion, I am not voting to change the guidelines and if I'm re-elected to the Board in the fall, I'm not voting to change the guidelines next spring. I expect management to enforce this guideline next year and if people want to vote for a Board based on one issue, you are free to do so. This is a one-year exception. It is not an exception because I value fireworks, it is a one-year exception because management is coming to me and saying it is not possible for us to effectively enforce this guideline because we are not going to get the cooperation from our volunteers and Fair family to enforce the guidelines and let us do the job we are supposed to do. That, for me is a very unfortunate reason to vote for this motion. I'd rather vote for a motion that was more uplifting and positive. This is voting for a motion out of fear. This is not the Country Fair that I have been a member of for 44 years. It is not the values I thought we were trying to spread through the world.

Lucy: It is hard for me to cast a vote in opposition to a request that comes from our staff. As a Board member it is incumbent upon me to support requests that come from our staff. The reality is that regardless of the outcome of the vote or how the measure was written, nevertheless more people voted to uphold the guideline as it was written and that matters to

me. A part of me is distressed that this has come up again, but that is kind of how this family is. I am not going to support this motion.

**Motion failed: 4-3-1; Lucy, LT, and Kenya opposed; Diane abstained**

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

Jack: Thank you, everybody. Paxton, I want everyone to know how much I appreciate Paxton and Lois being a couple. It is important to me and I've always looked up to Paxton and Lois as a couple at the Fair. It has given me great strength to see them together and it has helped me in my relationship. I really miss Lois.

#### **Draft Agenda for May 2017**

Approve minutes from the April 3, 2017, Board meeting.

Appoint Otis Greg as coordinator for Path Planning (Justin)

Appoint Photo Booth coordinators Desta Moore and Ami Goldberg (Justin)

Accept recommendation from Community Center Committee on vacation of Chickadee and parts of Aero Road (Jon)