

ELDERS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – 2nd draft for submittal to .net site

November 21, 2019

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Alan Cohn, Katie Cousins, Jain Elliott, Heather Kent, Kay Kintzley, Robert “Mouseman” McCarthy, Eric Nicholson and Ann Rogers

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Diane Albino, Robert Jacobs, Michael James Long, Patricia Van Esso

OTHERS PRESENT: Roberta Austin, Peggy Fitzgerald, Carolyn Gsell (scribe), Christine Howe Harrison, Nanci Hogan, Patty Marx, Jan Royalty and Licia Shultz (facilitator)

LOCATION: Grower’s Market MEETING TIME: 7 p.m.

Intros, announcements, agenda items

Announcements

- Elders Holiday Party at the WOW Hall: Thursday, Dec. 19 5:30 – 9:30 (see below)
- The Elders spring retreat is scheduled for March 28/29, 2020 at Alice’s
- Jan L. will be assisting Alan with the Elders contact mailbox ocfelderscontact@gmail.com. This is the email address where Elders send specific or personal questions or requests to the committee. Michael JamesLong continues to be backup on the two list services.
- The Diversity Committee Meeting is on Monday, 11/25 at the OCF Office. Ann is encouraging Elders to attend. There may be an online “GoToMeeting” option.

Agenda Items

- Approve September and October Meeting Minutes
- December holiday party planning
- EC resignation
- Elder budget report
- 2020 EC dates
- Elder Committee responsibilities and general OCF Committees discussion
- New Elder applications
- Elder committee size (# of people)

APPROVE SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES

- Ann made a motion to approve the September 2019 meeting minutes. Katie seconded. The motion passed 8 – 0.
- Ann made a motion to approve the October 2019 meeting minutes with one amendment – The 5 Elder applications that were pre-approved for the October meeting were final approved and vetted at the end of the meeting. Alan seconded. The motion passed 8 – 0.

DECEMBER HOLIDAY PARTY PLANNING

The Wow Hall upstairs is reserved for Thursday, Dec. 19th from 5:30 – 9:30 p.m. Bob Fennessy will be hosting on behalf of the hall. This party is 100% attendee contributions. The goal is to use no single-use plastics, unless they are leftover items from someone’s home that need to be used up. Everyone is encouraged to participate with setup, cleanup, and bringing the following:

- Food with serving utensil
- Beverages
- Your own dishware, cup and utensils
- Decorations
- Table Clothes
- Lights

- Music (acoustic)
 - Setup 5:30 – 6
 - Party 6 – 9
 - Clean up 9 – 9:30

Jain will post information on the Elder F.B. page, listserv and contact FFN.

EC RESIGNATION - Dee Wirak has resigned from the EC and has sent a letter of resignation to the BOD. Thank you, Dee for your service. You will be missed!

ELDER BUDGET REPORT – Katie C. reported that Quartermaster charged us \$480 for the Geezer Pleezer cart. Overall, we came in \$300 under budget for the year. In 2020 we'll likely bypass Quartermaster assistance and procure our own Geezer Pleezer cart.

2020 EC DATES – Jain stated that the Growers reservation calendar is not yet up for 2020. She will reserve the upstairs large room for the 4th Thursday of each month for Jan., Feb., and Mar. The dates are:

Jan. 23, Feb. 27 and Mar. 26

OCF COMMITTEES – DISCUSSION – Katie C. stated that she received a “Committee Best Practices” survey and completed it. The question came up around obligations of committee members, but nobody at this meeting seemed to know about anything that’s in writing around rules or guidelines for committee members. Ann mentioned that some committees don’t allow more than 3 unexcused absences (committee member fails to notify of absence prior to meeting). When committee members don’t show up it creates the possibility of no quorum and this makes it difficult for work to get done.

Katie said that the survey asked about a central coordinating person. Kay is opposed to the 3 missed meeting rule, stating that as Elders we are self-regulated. As far as limiting the number of committee members, the current #12 is a good number. General agreement was echoed. Alan also reminded us that there are some committee members that don’t consistently attend meetings but do a lot for the group. Licia reminded everyone that the Elder Committee has been going for 17 years, we don’t have a chairperson, and the way we are organized is board approved.

Licia also reminded us that we discussed the creation of a mission statement at the fall retreat, and that is something we need to work on. It was also noted that we seem to fall down on communications. Other people, especially Elders, don’t seem to know when parties, meetings and retreats are scheduled. Many Elders hear about Elder events after the fact.

SIDE DISCUSSION – ELDER COMMUNICATIONS (not on agenda)

Heather reminded us that we need to look at where people get their information. The primary avenues are a newsletter, OCF ELDERS Facebook page and Fair Family News. Peggy F. said that she used to do a bi-annual Elders newsletter, and she also delivered an EC report to the board. To date nobody else has picked up on the newsletter or the report to the board. Licia reminded us that at the fall retreat Peggy Isaacs expressed willingness to put together a newsletter, as well as doing Elder outreach on social media. She has expertise in social network marketing as well as digital graphic design. Peggy F. said she we be happy to provide mentorship to Peggy I. for putting together a newsletter. Licia will provide Peggy F. with Peggy I’s contact. A postcard to all Elders was suggested, but Katie C. reminded everyone that it is too costly. Rather, the listservs can be used to e-blast the holiday party, meeting and retreat dates.

OCF COMMITTEES – DISCUSSION PART II

Jain mentioned that she scribes for the LUMP committee and includes a summary report for the BOD. She will confirm who our liaison is. Jain will send a copy of LUMP meeting minutes to Carolyn that gives a good example of how a summary can be written.

Licia will include the writing of a Mission Statement on the January 2020 agenda.

NEW ELDER APPLICATIONS – Patty M. brought 21 Elder applications that were pre-approved by the New Elder Applications subcommittee. These were circulated during the meeting and were signed off by all EC members present. There are 21 newly vetted Elder Applications. Katie C. made a motion to approve the 21 new applications. Mouseman seconded. The 21 applications were approved 8 – 0.

ELDER COMMITTEE SIZE (# OF PEOPLE) – There was a discussion of limiting the total number of EC members to 12 people. That is the current number given recent resignations. There was a discussion about the difficulty of achieving a quorum when there is a larger number of members. A quorum is defined as 50% plus 1. Even when there is no quorum present, we are obligated to hold the meeting. Kay suggested that Chris Howe H. could be next in line to be on the committee, since Chris has been attending meetings regularly for the past 5 years. It was mentioned that there is a lot of talent and wisdom within the Elder group. Elder meetings are open, and anyone can attend. All Elders are encouraged to contribute to discussions and do volunteer work. Katie C. made a motion to limit the Elder Committee to 12 people. Mouseman seconded. The motion passed 8 – 0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

SUMMARY OF MOTIONS PASSED:

- September and October meeting minutes approved
- 21 new Elder applications were approved
- Elder committee members limited to 12 people

TO DO LIST:

- Jain to post info about holiday party on listserv, OCF Elders Facebook page and FFN
- Everyone - bring stuff to holiday party
- Everyone - prepare for January agenda item -Elder Mission Statement
- Licia to connect Peggy I. with Peggy F.
- Jain to send LUMP minutes with Summary for BOD to Carolyn
- Jain to confirm BOD liaison for EC
- Jain to reserve Growers Market meeting space for Jan., Feb., March EC meetings

SUMMARY FOR BOD: EC met on 11/21/19.

- 21 new Elder applications approved
- Elder Holiday Party scheduled for 12/19/19 at WOW Hall
- Elder committee size set to 12 people