



State of the Fair

by Wally Bomgaars, OCF Executive Director

May 7, 2020 — We're sorry to say that our traditional gathering on the Fair site in July will not be taking place. It's important that you do not plan on it happening.

The health and safety of the public and local communities are paramount to the Oregon Country Fair. The organization will follow all state and federal recommendations regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, including Governor Brown's statement today on event and gathering limits. As we stay committed to this, we are also working to protect our ability to hold the Fair in the future.

The Fair operates under legacy "nonconforming use" rights that could potentially be lost if we do not exercise these rights by holding an event this summer. We are working with and through all the appropriate government bodies to find a solution that preserves our property rights without risking further spread of COVID-19 in the community. We will continue to keep everyone updated on the matter.

In the meantime, we are looking at all the ways we can come together as a community virtually, and are excited about the many ideas and possibilities that so many are bringing forward. Stay tuned for more on this soon!

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Premier of New FFN Feature: Behind the Scenes with...

White Bird Medical



*White Bird Medical Banner (tye dye by Ben Jammin')
Photo © Christina McClory*



FAIR FAMILY CALENDAR

Editor's Note: Because of the physical distancing required at this time during this COVID-19 pandemic, many OCF meetings have been cancelled, and those that will go forward are being held virtually.

All previously scheduled **Booth Registration** times have been cancelled.

For the latest information on Fair meetings, please check the calendar of events on the OregonCountryFair.net site.

JUNE

- 1 Board of Directors meeting, 7 pm, online
- 3 Fair Family News Deadline
- 15 Board Work Assembly: Topic, Bylaws/ Elections, 5 pm-7 pm, online

JULY

Let's Imagine Something Magical. Stay Safe everyone.



Here's a shout out to all our great Fair family members! Every one of you deserves recognition for your hard work for the Fair!

Volunteer Opportunity with OCF Elders

Connect with new and old Elders by volunteering as the Elder Application subcommittee leader. Hear Fair stories, be appreciated, and honor Elders who have put in a lot of time and energy.

The Elder Applications Subcommittee verifies references for new Elder applicants by email or phone from home and meets up twice a month in Eugene from September through March. Approximate time commitment is two to four hours per week. Volunteers work closely with the Applications Subcommittee, Elders Committee and Elders Wristbands Subcommittee.

At least one subcommittee member attends Elders Committee meetings in Eugene once a month from October through March to bring applications for approval.

Helpful for this position are strong organizational skills, having a computer, printer, phone and a friendly disposition. Training, support, office supplies and eligibility for an earned wristband for a qualified Elder offered.

For more information, contact Patty at elderapplications@gmail.com

KEEP IN TOUCH



WASH HANDS IN SOAP AND WATER!

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Office and Site Closures

Due to concerns about COVID-19, the novel coronavirus, the Fair office in Eugene and the Fair site in Veneta are closed until further notice. During this closure, OCF employees and volunteers will be working together remotely. They will be monitoring and returning all emails and phone messages, so please don't hesitate to contact them.

Fair Family News Online Only

by the Fair Family News Crew

Dear Readers,

As we wrote last month in the wake of the Board's suspension of financial expenditures for Oregon Country Fair crews, Fair Family News is now available only online to save printing and mailing costs.

Even without funding, your Fair Family News crew has pledged to continue to bring you an online newsletter each month to keep our Fair Family informed.

Please email your letters of opinion (limited to 300 words), committee reports, announcements, Fair photos and Fair memory stories to Fair Family News (ffn@oregoncountryfair.org).

We have more freedom of space online, and more opportunities for creativity. For example, check out Suzi Prozanski's first installment of her new column "Behind the Scenes" on page 4.

We are also exploring publishing platforms that will make FFN much easier to read on your smart phone as an e-pub.

- ☞ If you already get Fair Family News online or by email, you're set.
- ☞ Anyone can access Fair Family News online at oregoncountryfair.net even without an email link.
- ☞ If your FFN used to arrive in the mail and you want to get email notices when the Fair Family News is posted, please send the Fair office (office@oregoncountryfair.org) your email address. Every time FFN publishes, the Office will email you a link to the online version of FFN.
- ☞ If you are a Fair voting member and have no email address or internet access and wish to receive the OCF Board Minutes by mail, you must contact the Fair Office by phone (541-343-4298) or mail (442 Lawrence, Eugene, OR 97402) to get on the mailing list. (Note: This is for the Minutes only. In these uncertain times, the Board could decide to end all mailings to reduce costs.)

Thanks for staying with us during these extraordinary times. We need to keep communicating with each other more than ever during these times of physical distancing.

FFN 28TH BIRTHDAY ZOOM



Kim "Muted" Griggs



Suzi "Chipper" Prozanski



Niki "Distracted" Harris



Brad "Unstable Internet" Lerch



Daniel "Parenting" Cohn



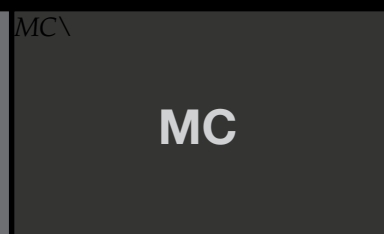
norma "can you see me?" sax



Mary "Too Close" Doyon



Michael "Off Screen" Ottenhausen



Mary "No video" Callaghan

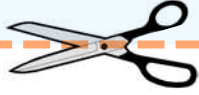


Get on the FFN and/or Voting Membership List

Tell us your name; your email address to be notified of the online version of the newsletter; your crew or booth number; name of your leader or booth rep; name of person who can verify your participation, and your mailing address if applying for membership.

Mail to: OCF, Membership/Mailing, 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene, 97401.

Or Email to: office@oregoncountryfair.org



Fair Thee Well: Tim Keenan

from Chris Howe Harrison and family, Water Crew

Tim Keenan, long time Fairgoer and Water Crew member, died on Dec. 14, 2019, in Las Vegas, where he had lived for many years.

When Tim first came to Oregon in 1971, he decided this was his second home. His job as an electrician took him all around the country, but he seemed to always

come back to the Fair, mostly just to play. It took some talking to get him on Water Crew.

Tim had so much fun and was so fun with his joyful laughter and gentle manner, wherever he went.

Tim, good friend, you will be greatly missed.

Recently Unclassified Material

We accept UnClassifieds up to 30 words for \$5 each, per issue. Send listing with \$5 to O.C.F.-F.F.N. 442 Lawrence St. Eugene, OR 97401. For questions, information about display underwriting and to submit listings, Email bradlerch@aol.com

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with...

White Bird

"It's Not a Party until Someone Goes to White Bird"

— Fairgoers' proverb

"We Take Care of Broken Bones & Broken Spirits"

— White Bird proverb



© Christina McClory

Big Bird (The Doctor is Way Out There) greets visitors.

by Suzi Prozanski, Fair Family News

In January 1970, White Bird launched the Bummer Squad as its very first service. A precursor to today's CAHOOTS (Crisis Assistance Helping Out On the Streets), the Bummer Squad's volunteers responded 24-hours to anyone needing help with crisis counseling or drug rescue. By mid-February 1970, White Bird Sociomedical Aid Station had become formally incorporated and had opened its clinic in an old house near downtown Eugene.

Three months later, on May 29, 1970, White Bird ran a first aid station at the Renaissance Faire on Crow Road. White Bird's history has intertwined with the Oregon Country Fair ever since. This month marks the 50th anniversary of that partnership.

Lucy Kingsley, who volunteered on the White Bird team in 1970, says the clinic brought all of its first-aid supplies to the Crow Road Faire in a few paper bags. About a dozen volunteers staffed the booth. When Lucy became White Bird team coordinator for the 1972 Faire, she upgraded to a large footlocker to carry all the supplies for the Fair weekend.

Wren Arrington, one of today's White Bird team coordinators for the Fair, says "We didn't have all the groovy things that we have now to provide care with. But now we pretty much are EMS (emergency medical service) for the Country Fair."

At the Oregon Country Fair's 50th anniversary in 2019, more than 250 White Bird volunteers staffed two clinic booths that featured much of the same high-tech equipment found at urgent care centers in town, including nebulizers, heart-rate-monitors and defibrillators. In addition, "We have eight teams roving throughout the Fair staggered at different times until 3 a.m., as well as teams dispatched from our two booths," Wren says.

White Bird's services at the Fair have evolved over five decades of experience. The booth that White Bird opened in the Main Stage area in the early years grew from a simple one-room structure into a sprawling booth that provides three areas of treatment.

The front of the booth serves as "an urgent care area where people come in for general family medical concerns," Wren says. "That's probably the busiest part of our booth: All sorts of wounds, abrasions, infections, people who have gotten sick somehow."

White Bird volunteers interact with those seeking first aid. "So if you come up for a Band-Aid, we're likely to ask 'Well, what do you need the Band-Aid for?'" Wren says. "And if you say, 'I have a cut foot,' you might wind up in the first aid station having your foot bandaged by a nurse."

The back of the tent is an area called the "Down Tent," Wren says, "where people who are a little overwhelmed or need monitoring for whatever reason can lay down. It's a low-stimulus area. ...

"And then we have a third section for more advanced medical care," he adds. "We have hot and cold running water. We can start IVs. We have several heart monitors with defibrillation and we can do oxygen and intubation if necessary. We provide most of the emergency life stabilization that you would find on an ambulance or in an ER (emergency room). Not quite everything, but enough to keep somebody alive. We can do suturing here. We can set a broken bone. We have a dispensary of medications that our doctors dispense. They can prescribe and they can call in scripts into local pharmacies."

During the Fair, White Bird has a minimum of two doctors on shift at each booth, at all times, and one of them is always an emergency room doctor. "We can stabilize most life-threatening or traumatic injuries while we arrange transport to a different level of care if that's necessary," Wren says.

Every year, the Fair and White Bird work with emergency medical teams in West Lane County to provide ambulance transportation during the event. In the past, Fair organizers designated EMS landing sites around the Fair property. More recently Fair volunteers have been meeting the EMS team at the site entrance to escort them to the patient.

Last year, there were 12 medical transports, which is normal but on the higher side, Wren says. More typically, White Bird requests only a handful of ambulance transports during Fair. Transports can be anything from a cardiac event to a broken bone to a mental health crisis.

About half the White Bird staff at the Fair are doctors, nurses, and Emer-



© Wren Arrington

Cynthia "Peaches" Peachy stands in The Pre-Fair White Bird tent.



© Lacey McCarley

Big Bird Advanced Care as it's being set up.



© Lacey McCarley

The First Aid area at Big Bird awaits patients

gency Medical Technicians; and half are social workers, therapists, and trained crisis workers.

“We always work in teams ... of a crisis worker and a medical worker,” Wren says, “to give a more complete service and get away from a medical model in some settings where not enough attention is paid to the heart and spirit of the person you’re treating. Sometimes the crisis worker can slow things down and be there to help keep the anxiety at bay. ... To comfort them while the medic does their thing is really helpful. Sometimes there’s something that’s primarily emotional or mental health and the crisis worker takes the lead. But really it’s not as cut and dried as that; we have more of a blended model.”

In 2016, White Bird and the Fair hatched the second location for a clinic in the new Xavanadu area. The original booth near Main Stage became Big Bird while the Xavanadu booth was dubbed Little Wing. Like Big Bird, Little Wing is set up with three treatment areas and has staff who can treat all the same issues.

Little Wing was named “after the Jimi Hendrix song,” Wren says. “Not because it’s little or secondary or anything like that.”

White Bird also provides medical staffing pre-Fair during Main Camp.

“The first weekend there’s only a couple of us out there — me and Peaches (Cynthia Peachy) and perhaps one or two others on site,” Wren says. “We’ll still get called up in the middle of the night. We leave our radios on. ... We don’t do suturing but still can respond to cardiac arrest or traumatic injury — oxygen, heart machine, all those bells and whistles, but not the higher level of expertise or as much of a variety of medications as when we have doctors in the house. We work under the standing orders of our Medical Director.

“We ramp up our staffing on the weekends and have fewer during the week. Gradually our weekday numbers go up as we get closer to the Main Event.,” he adds. “In July we switch to a more formal service structure. By July 1 we have as many as 15 people on site and we have a team on duty 24 hours a day and another team providing backup 24 hours.”

Besides providing medical care during the Fair each year, White Bird volunteers have for decades conducted annual trainings based on White Bird’s care model to help Fair staffers interact better with each other and the public.

Longtime White Bird staffer Zak Schwartz says that in the 1970s and early 1980s, prior to the trainings, White Bird volunteers noticed that more than half the crises they were sent to at the Fair involved a person wearing a Fair staff shirt. “The staff itself had no idea how to interact,” Zak notes.

In 1983 Zak and White Bird staffer Douglas Parker offered voluntary “Crisis Intervention” training sessions to Fair volunteers. It went so well that Fair organizers started requiring annual trainings for all Security Crew, Fair coordinators, and volunteers who interact with the public.

“So to this day we try to get everybody in a staff T-shirt to be exposed to this training,” Zak says. “It’s part of putting the shirt on because the training says a lot about the Fair philosophy and who we are and how we do things.”

Now known as “Human Intervention” (or “HI”) training, Fair volunteers today hone their skills each year “for making molehills out of mountains.” The sessions offer tools for remaining centered and calm, and tips for achieving cooperation and positive solutions. The approach promotes mellow vibes when Fair volunteers work with each other and the public.

“Caring is probably the most powerful thing we bring to an intervention,” Zak says. “I can’t tell you how many people I’ve walked up to at this Fair, public or us, that were freaked out at the moment who chilled really quick when they felt that caring. We’re not there to hurt, we’re not there to judge, we’re not there to blame. We’re there to help and love. ... Without that love and without that compassion, little else of our technique works as well.”

Fair Family News volunteer Suzi Prozanski has written two books documenting OCF history — “Fruit of the Sixties” and “Brigadoon of the Sixties.” www.suzipro.com



The sign goes up at Little Wing
© Lisa Parker

“Little Wing” by Jimi Hendrix

Well she’s walking through the clouds
With a circus mind that’s running round
Butterflies and zebras
And moonbeams
And fairytales
That’s all she ever thinks about
Riding with the wind

When I’m sad, she comes to me
With a thousand smiles she gives to me free
It’s alright, she said, it’s alright
Take anything you want from me
Anything, anything
Fly on, little wing



The Pre-Fair White Bird Fabulance sits ready for emergencies

© Christina McClory



The front of Big Bird at Main Stage during the Fair



Little Wing shines at night

© Fiona Starchild-Wolf

Fair Family Profile: Wren Arrington

by Suzi Prozanski, Fair Family News

As a teen-ager, Wren Arrington gravitated to the alternative theater and music scene in Baltimore, where he grew up. "I was a pretty hard-core flower child hippie peace activist, which was all I ever really wanted to be," he says. After high school, he tried college but ended up instead hitchhiking around North America to attend bluegrass festivals, Rainbow Gatherings and Grateful Dead shows.

Wren first found the Oregon Country Fair by coincidence in 1981. He and his then-partner were hitchhiking through Oregon and happened to land in Eugene on that special weekend. Someone seeing them assumed they were going to the Fair and showed them where to get on the bus.

Later that year, Wren helped establish a homestead with his partner off the grid on 40 wooded acres in the Ozark Mountains. In 1986, he, his partner and their child caravanned in their school bus with a group of friends in another bus and several cars to Southern Oregon, where they created a new homestead among like-minded people in the Applegate Valley. Wren's daughter was born shortly thereafter and



Wren Arrington and other White Bird staffers hold up a banner tie-dyed by Ben Jammin' © Stephanie Imholt

the family joined Horizon, the local hippie school.

Wren earned his first pass at the Country Fair by representing Horizon School in the Life Long Learning Booth in Community Village.

After Wren and his partner parted ways in 1992, he moved to Eugene and started volunteering at White Bird. "White Bird is organized as a training community and I got a lot of training," he says. "Eventually I was hired." Over the years, he worked in various White Bird programs: the Crisis Team, CAHOOTS, Chrysalis, and IMPACT. In 1995 Wren became co-coordinator of White Bird's Rock Medicine Program and of the OCF Medical Crew.

He earned his master's degree in 2007 and took a job at Peace Health Hospital, providing crisis and mental health assessment in the emergency room. Wren stayed connected to White Bird during that time by serving on its Board of Directors. Today Wren is semi-retired, but still coordinates the Rock Medicine program as a fund-raiser for the agency.

White Bird Rising to 2020 Challenges

by Suzi Prozanski, Fair Family News

This year, like many other nonprofits and medical providers during the COVID-19 pandemic, White Bird faces challenges with procuring funding and personal protective gear, forcing a reduction in the clinic's extensive services.

The timing couldn't be worse because White Bird had recently spent substantial resources expanding several programs that had to be closed down for the pandemic. For example, the Dental Clinic opened its new building to great fanfare but was soon forced to close its doors due to the virus. The 24-hour crisis program at the new facility on Seventh Avenue now only offers assistance by phone, halting walk-in services for the first time at White Bird in 50 years.

"But White Bird has a lot of different programs and a lot of diversified funding streams," White Bird volunteer Wren Arrington says. "And we have the spirit of volunteerism — we have that in common with the Country Fair — so we will get through it."

In conjunction with the city of Eugene, White Bird has set up sites around town to distribute sleeping bags and tents and to provide basic first aid and medical assessment to those without housing. At the sites, White Bird staffers refer people to respite locations the city has established to help unhoused folks shelter in place.

The CAHOOTS program (Crisis Assistance Helping Out on the Streets) — today's version of the original Bummer Squad — remains in full operation during this health crisis, but some procedures have changed in order to keep both staff and clients safe during the pandemic.

Crisis workers used to often sit in the back of the CAHOOTS van with



© Lacey McCarley

a client to talk things through in an intervention. "But now staff is less inclined to do that," Wren says. "They're paying a lot of attention to PPE (personal protective equipment). ... We still have a need for contributions of that kind of stuff."

The Medical Clinic and Chrysalis substance treatment have switched to telemedicine. White Bird is working on a plan to create telehealth stations, somewhat like old-fashioned telephone booths, for folks who have no access to wifi or computers or smart phones, Wren says.

"We serve a lot of folks who are either unhoused or who come from a lifestyle that reflects the digital divide. They could come to a booth in the parking lot of our medical clinic, for instance, and check in with somebody and do a telehealth conference."

The clinic is working on partnering with McKenzie Willamette Hospital to provide drive-through testing stations, plus a walk-up testing station.

"But there's a lot of uncertainty about whether supply lines will be maintained," Wren says. "For example, for the testing booth we can't really tell how long tests will be available or what form they will be in. Will it suddenly change? Or will the funding for these kinds of things dry up? There's a lot of uncertainty, but we just work on it every day."

"White Bird has always been about filling in the cracks in our service system and helping those who fall through those cracks and who others have given up on," Wren adds. "That will never change."

To donate, volunteer, or learn more about the work White Bird is doing, go to www.whitebirdclinic.org or White Bird's page on Facebook.

Divine Balance Fruit Salad

by Jef Jalof, Divine Balance booth

Divine Balance is the only food booth at the Oregon Country Fair that I know with no schedules, no assignments, no monetary compensations, only the obligation to be present, helpful, fun and happy. For that privilege, approximately 40 high-grade hippies — young, old, sons, daughters and best friends — get together and commune with the dragon.

Paul and Judy have been the respectful force that coordinates this unique effort. Someone once asked about having a genuine work schedule. "Tried it once in '85 or '86, definitely didn't work out."

Our children have stepped up to take on more and more of the dance. Those beautiful folks washing, cutting, building salads, letting Paul read jokes from a Froggy book and of course spinning the mystical Wheel

of Balance.

Up at 5 am trying each morning to beat Paul to the sauna. (I'm always late). Strolling back to the booth for a coffee to help tidy up and get the show on the road for another day of the magic. Looks like it might be a scorcher! Sunday morning, still trying to beat him to the Ritz ... not gonna happen.

The kidz are all out at the front counter watching the morning roll by. I mention to Zach as I step out into the street, "You folks are sure up early." His response with a definite twinkle in his eye, "JJ, looks like yer just up late!!"

Ahhh, what a beautiful thing.

Respectfully and still a person of service, Jef aka: not hayj



FAMILY LETTERS



This newsletter is for the Oregon Country Fair Family and all material is volunteered from the membership.

Opinions expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Fair or the FFN.

Letters must be limited to 300 words. They will be edited for length and clarity. Please include name, Fair Affiliation and a method of communication (i.e. phone number or e-mail).



OCF Should Not Borrow Funds

Dear Fair Family News,

I was dismayed and rather embarrassed to learn that the OCF applied for and received money from the SBA Payroll Protection Plan (PPP). This plan is intended to be a bridge fund for small businesses to retain employees and to help businesses weather the worst of the pandemic. It provides two months of payroll. A wonderful thing — but not for our rich organization! I understand that the Fair currently has (April BoD minutes) \$1.3 million in the bank. Additionally, the Fair owns a significant amount of property. Surely, a line of credit from our local bank could have kept key staff on payroll for the next two months.

Accepting this money from the federal government is antithetical to our deeply held beliefs in the importance of caring, building, and giving back to the community. That the Fair with all of its resources took this money means that somewhere, a small business with no access to bridge funding will go without.

With all due respect to the Board and Management, this decision is especially galling given that the job duties of our primary paid managers are to oversee and manage our beloved three-day event — an event which is not happening in 2020. Perhaps the PPP is to buy the Fair time to finish essential business before furloughs and layoffs begin. Well done, I guess. If we have money in the bank, let's not take money away from those who have none.

Respectfully,
Kathryn Madden
Elder, Fair Central



Dear Fair Family,

I want to question the use of Whirled Pies as a site for the Spring Fling. It was intended to be there this spring, and I was relieved that it was canceled/postponed.

While I love that location for certain quieter things, for loud events I find it painful and chaotic with nowhere to get away from the loudness. (At 75, I still have most of my hearing intact.) I wasn't able to attend most of the 2019 Spring Fling, but I did come late, and found it very unpleasant. The noise level made it hard to focus on things like the silent auction, or talking to friends. That

Box It Up For Now

Dear Fair Family,

Our efforts to put on a virtual Fair — facilitating the ability of crafters and artists to share their works with the world via an alternative format and enable them to offset some lost income — is a noble and worthy cause. Once that experiment is complete, we might even continue to offer these virtual venues.

After the virtual Fair, however, by and large, we should box it up. Box the FAIR up, not our community; not the family; just the party planning machine.

In the past, we have had to come together to protect the Fair from outside forces. We need to put that same spirit to work now. This time, we do this by conserving the Fair's resources. The Fair

has the distinction of being able to be boxed up and put on hold with very low fixed costs. We do not know how long this will last, but with so much in the bank, we do not need to raise funds for the next party while people are losing their homes, unable to pay medical bills, and losing their lives.

Instead, we should conserve what we have for when the partying can resume.

Now is a time to focus on the aspirational nature of our community and band together to do good works. If we raise funds, they should be to help those in need. Our efforts should go into how we can help our neighbors and those in need during this crisis that is unprecedented in our time.

Steven "FireDIC" Berkson
Fire Crew

Support Fair's Bedrock Values

Dear Fair Family News

For generations, the tobacco industry has effectively promoted tobacco use as an issue of freedom of personal choice. This propaganda scheme appeals to a broad spectrum from red-necks to hippies, all supportive of personal freedom. Tobacco use, however, is anything but personal freedom.

The great majority of people who become long-term nicotine addicts do so when they are too young and without sufficient experience to make such life-altering decisions. Children and young teens are especially susceptible to becoming strongly addicted.

More than 90 percent of people who smoke tobacco say they should never have started smoking. Think about that, please. More than three-quarters have tried many times to quit, but the greatest impediment to quitting is being around people smoking tobacco. Tobacco destroys individual lives and families. It is the single greatest preventable cause of disease and death. The aver-

age tobacco smoker loses 13 years of life.

The eight elected "leaders" recently voting to continue to normalize and glamorize tobacco smoking for attendance-loss concerns ignore the 13 more years of life every non-smoker has to attend and enjoy the Fair.

More likely to be depressed, tobacco smokers smoke primarily not for pleasure, but to avoid the discomforts of nicotine withdrawal. When the Republican-dominated Lane County Board and the Coos County Board are more progressive than the OCF, it is definitely time to reassess. The OCF must do its part to de-normalize tobacco use and help prevent our young people from deadly nicotine addiction.

Now 75 years old and a longtime, frequent Fairgoer, I am appalled that this policy, totally the opposite of what should be the Fair's bedrock values, still exists.

Research citations available on request.

Stephen Brown
Fair member, Elder

Do The Right Thing

Dear OCF,

Sometimes we have to just decide to do the right thing and then figure out how to do it.

Of course, we can also just keep deciding to do the wrong thing because doing the right thing seems so danged complicated and might hurt someone's feelings, or ask enforcers to enforce, or infringe on someone's "rights" (or any number of reasons people seem to come up with).

That seems to be the gist of the conversation around the smoking ban that led to another weird decision by the Board at the March meeting.

The "freedom" argument has loomed large in this debate. But it's immaterial here, as long as we have rules. We do have rules, and we have reasons for them.

Once upon a time we decided that drinking alcohol at the Fair was a problem. The reasons were different, but the process was the same: We saw an activity as a serious problem and we banned it. It impacted "freedom," it added some

extra responsibility to all of us to help enforce it (especially Security Crew), it added some confusion about who, where, when, etc. — but it was the right thing to do. We did it.

As for the reasons: Drinking during the Fair hurt the Fair. Belligerent, violent, unruly, uncouth people under the influence were a pain and reduced the smooth operation of our weekend. The effects were immediate and obvious — somewhat limited. With smoking, the effects are less immediate and obvious, but much more profound and far-reaching.

The reasons are at least equally valid, if not more so, to ban smoking. The Fair's continual refusal to do so seems the essence of hypocrisy.

Jeff Harrison
Craft Inventory Crew

P.S.—I'll sure miss everyone in July. Maybe see you on the Powwow Trail in August? Fingers crossed.



The WOW Hall is Ours

place is not well designed acoustically, even for music alone — the sound echoes too much. Plus, extended dancing on concrete floors hurts our bodies!

I know some of the newer staff members lobbied to be there instead of the WOW Hall, faulting the crowded entryway at WOW for sales and the raffle. I found it a sweet place to encounter friends.

If you don't, proceed to the hall with the best raised wooden dance floor in town, great for our bodies! And yes, if you want to get a beer you have to go downstairs, but that too has advantages: the "bar" provides a quieter space where people can

talk, with the music usually being piped in more softly than upstairs.

Besides, the WOW is OURS. Many of the long-time members are Country Fair folk; the Fair has been entwined with the WOW for a long time. I know that the Hall is going through some rough times, with some of us trying to bring it back to its roots. Bringing the Spring Fling back there would help.

Karen Stingle
OJ booth, Elder, performer, waste warrior, MOOPer, etc., since 1975

Lights of Solidarity

Dearest Fair Family,

Two ideas came to me the other day as I was beginning my grief process around the loss of our beloved Fair this year. I invite you to envision the following with me: Starting now, and maybe peaking when Fair would peak, those of us who will be missing Fair (in all of our respective cities and states and countries) put a green light bulb (or many) in our porch lights, or in our living room windows, somewhere visible. I would love to recognize my fellow Fair mourners by a light I saw shining in their dwellings.

Secondly (because I think it would be really fun) I propose that all of us who would be donating costumes at Fair, don them around town or wherever we are that second weekend in July in the spirit of where we all WOULD be if we COULD be.

My heart goes out to those of you who rely on our treasured event to bring in significant portions of your yearly incomes. I sincerely hope you can make it through this year to bring us your foods and crafts and entertainment when we return.

With gratitude and appreciation for all of you Fair family far and wide, wherever you are, let us recognize each other in costumes and under green lights. Don those tutus and that lime green and shine some green lights for all of us Fairies to see!!!

I already miss you and our good times tremendously. Thank you all for being.

Warmly,
Sherman Sherman
Energy Park Camp Host(ish)
stretchsherman@gmail.com



Inspire Change From Within

Dear OCF,

There have been so many people commenting on smoking at OCF that it seems we ought to do something creative with this energy. I would be happy to lead the way in honor of my mother, whom we lost to emphysema in 2013. Addiction (long sigh). She earnestly tried to quit but she was caught in a cycle of shame and coping that distorted her self-perception, which made it difficult. She died at age 62; I was 28. Her father died of the same disease when she was of similar age to me.

Having realized the pattern in my family, I vowed never to touch another cigarette. I've lost

both my parents to addiction. It's been hard going on alone, but through this I've made changes. I've learned about compassion. I've learned that shame perpetuates pain, and change emerges from a yearning within.

Many people struggle with addiction, yet we tend to focus on the perceived inadequacies of the addicted. Truthfully, all of us are learning to align our bodies and souls and can do more to help each other through the process. Today's humans have a level of consciousness that borders on the next dimension, but it's easy to get lost in the chaos. We drink, smoke, and create religious and lifestyle practices to cope with it.

However, everything we do is for the creation of life, and it's important that we work together to help each other attain peace. I believe this is why we hold festivals like OCF. So, let's creatively and lovingly support the family and the wonderful community that OCF attracts. Let's promote healthy habits, honor those we've lost by highlighting their contributions, and do clever demonstrations to get people thinking and INSPIRE CHANGE FROM WITHIN. To help, please email me: ashleyannelouise@gmail.com

Ash Robinson
Significant Other / Booth Volunteer



Banned in Stadiums, Bars and Workplaces

Dear Fair Family,

Many Oregon Country Fair attendees complain frequently that they and their families are forced away from comfortable seating under large shade trees by the arrival of tobacco smokers. Smoking areas around Community Village actually surround the water fountains. Oregon Country Fair leadership, however, continues to abet nicotine addicts' health-destroying and life-shortening addiction by providing them with special accommodations in beautiful areas.

The OCF is the only large fair on the West Coast that rewards the tobacco industry's sleazy tactics by normalizing this addictive behavior for teens and children of all ages. The industry hooks a

new generation of youngsters and teens with E-cigarettes (candy-flavored and easy-to-conceal from parents and teachers). It pays local stores \$10,000 a year to allow them to advertise and place its products at a child's eye level and near candy displays. In 2018 one in four twelfth-graders nationwide said they had vaped in the last 30 days, more than tripling their use of e-cigarettes since 2013 (identified by the United States Surgeon General as an "epidemic").

It is obviously much harder to avoid tobacco when you see it everywhere. Studies show that tobacco companies sell their products in more stores (at deeper discounts) and place more ads in minority and low-income neighborhoods com-

pared to wealthier, predominantly white neighborhoods. African-Americans, Latinos, the LGBTQ community, Native Americans, plus people with less education, lower incomes, and mental illness, regardless of race or ethnicity, are the targets.

Having carefully read the minutes of the 10-2-17 meeting at which a vote on the policy was finally taken, I found the arguments favoring the policy shallow, unconvincing, and without merit. Although tobacco smoking is the most frequent complaint by Fairgoers, OCF leadership continues to defend the indefensible. Why?

Jerome Garger
Elder



Sound Bites

by Dean Middleton, Station Manager, KOCF-FM

2020 is going to be a year we won't likely forget! I wonder what it will be called. OK, I digress.

How does the COVID pandemic affect KOCF radio? For one, it has slowed everything down. Building a transmitter site has taken much more time than I ever imagined. We finally have a new location for our antenna. It's moved about 100 feet closer to Eugene. We'll be building a 40-foot-tall tower next to the 60,000-gallon water tank. The tower and footing will cost more to build than the structure we were going to construct on the tank. But we'll find a way. After all, our moto is "Yes, yes, yes!"

Last month I asked you to financially support the station with your donations. Thank you to those of you who have responded. As an incentive for those of you who are still thinking about donating to KOCF, I'm making a challenge. During the month of June I will personally match each donation that comes in up to \$500. This is my birthday gift to the station which turns five July first! So, either go to KOCF.org and donate online through PayPal, or send a check

to: KOCF, 442 Lawrence St., Eugene, OR 97401. Please include in the memo; KOCF Birthday Challenge.

This month I also want to shine the spotlight on a couple of station volunteers. Sean Cummings does a show each week called Reverb on Saturdays and Sundays at 2 pm. Sean's been doing radio since his college days when he got a start at KCSC out of Chico State. Sean is also a drummer and toured the United States and Europe for almost a decade with a couple of different bands. He recently volunteered to be the KOCF Volunteer Coordinator. If you want to help the station with your time, contact Sean at: sean.kocf@gmail.com.

Another one of KOCF's unsung heroes is Randy Painter. Randy does the show Radio Archive on Saturdays and Sundays at noon. He's got a background in audio production, Dxing — which is the art of receiving long-distance station signals — and 30 years of Control Room Operations at LCC. He has taken his skills in television automation operation and volunteered to be the KOCF Operations Director. Check out his show and drop him a line at; randy@kocf.org.

Be safe out there.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MAY 4, 2020

Zoom remote online and live streamed on YouTube

(subject to approval by the Board at the June 1, 2020, meeting)

Board Directors present: Aaron Kenton, Cynthia "Peaches" Peachey, George Braddock (Vice President 1), Jack Makarchek (President, alternate), Lily Harmon-Gross, (Vice President 2), Lisa Cooley, Lisa Parker, Palmer Parker (alternate) Paxton Hoag, Sandra Bauer, Spirit Leatherwood and Sue Theolass. **Board Officers present:** Hilary Anthony, Kimberly "Kimmo" Howard, Laurie "Heidi" Doscher and Lynda Gingerich. **Staff present:** Crystalyn Frank, Shane Harvey, and Wally Bomgaars, plus 30 members on Zoom. Sam Rutledge facilitated the meeting.

This Board of Directors meeting is being recorded and will be available to the Fair family on the OCF YouTube channel for those wanting to watch the proceedings. To get links for this and all Board meetings, go to the Board section of oregoncountryfair.net and click on "Sign up to receive videos of monthly Board meetings." Thank you, Sean, Indigo and other technical volunteers, for helping with the online presentation.

Please note, any motions with votes at the meeting were recorded by Board members sending an email to the facilitator and recording secretary.

The following items were removed from old business:

- Safety requirements for OCF vehicles — George
- Restructuring Board giving and philanthropy — Lily

The following items were tabled from old business:

Approve and implement the Committee Best Practices Manual as presented by the Committee Best Practices Work Group. Work Group to follow up and assess progress in six months and yearly thereafter — Peaches

Expand Committee Reports segment of Board of Directors monthly meetings to include "Committee Reports, Requests and Recommendations" during which time dialogue may occur between committees and the Board — Peaches

Recommendations of Bylaws and Elections Committees — Paxton

New Business (video 10:00)

Timing of officer elections and Board retreat — Lisa Cooley

Board requests the Craft and Food Committees collaborating with involved crews, staff, and interested members in open, posted meetings to review our current timetable for guideline changes. The intent is to have the suggested guideline changes published for two months before the Board votes. Possibly, it could be posted in September or October and voted on at the December Board meeting. This would ensure time for proper vetting by those affected and discussion time for the Board. — Aaron

Revisions to operating budget — Jack

Announcements (video 13:35)

Peaches: As our carbon neutrality initiative gets under way, a team from the Institute for Sustainable Solutions (ISS) at Portland State

University will be helping us analyze a wide range of data to measure our carbon footprint and inform our decision making. ISS will also be leading a series of stakeholder interviews to gather detailed information about Fair culture and our collective commitment to become carbon neutral. A Zoom meeting was held May 9, 2020, to meet the ISS team. The meeting will be posted on the oregoncountryfair.net site.

Sue: I want to acknowledge that today is the 50th anniversary of the Kent State killings. My sincere hope is that the healing continues for everyone affected by that.

Spirit: I want to continue to commend the membership for the patience and trust they are having with the Board and Staff as we are navigating this unknown terrain. I also want to give thanks to the Board and the Staff for the patience we are having with each other, and let everyone know we are continuing to stay committed to this process. We know how to do one thing well and we are trying to figure out how to do it differently. I really appreciate everybody for your trust and patience with us.

Staff Reports (video 17:30)

Wally: We have been working for over a month with how our organization will look without an event this year — our budget, organizationally, and culturally. We have been reviewing the budget and looking at programs for staffing assistance and government programs to help with pay. There are many resources; they are complex, and it also takes a lot of time to manage and facilitate, but we are working through it.

We are posting more updates on the .net site with the intent to keep clarifying information as it continues to change. We are looking at all the ways we can come together as a community virtually, and are excited about the many ideas and possibilities that so many are bringing forward. Stay tuned for more on this soon!

The Board is moving forward with a Cultural Compact, but we are not at this time moving forward with a strategic plan.

The Behavioral Standards Group continues to meet and updates are posted on the .net site.

I love and believe in the community, and us coming together to make the months ahead and beyond still amazing, and connecting with each other. I want to thank everybody for all your input, your voices, your talent and all the gifts you bring through all this.

We're sorry to say that our traditional gathering on the Fair site in July will not be taking place. It is important that you do not plan on it happening.

The health and safety of the public and local communities are paramount to the Oregon Country Fair. The organization will follow all state and federal recommendations regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, including Governor Brown's statement today on event and gathering limits. As we stay committed to this, we are also working to protect our ability to hold the Fair in the future. The Fair operates under legacy "nonconforming use" rights that could potentially be lost if we do not exercise these rights by holding an event this summer. We are working with and through all the appropriate government bodies to find a solution that preserves our property rights without risking further spread of COVID-19 in the community. We will continue to keep everyone updated on the matter.

Crystalyn: Things have been very busy. As Spirit said, we know how to do what we do pretty well, but we are definitely working hard with everyone who is engaged to figure out how to do something different this year. I continue to be blown away by the people who are reaching out and offering to help as we navigate through this time. It's truly been inspirational.

We are making adjustments to the budget, and are pleased we received the Payroll Protec-

tion Program loan. Thank you to Shane and Mary, who helped me figure out utilities in preparation for our application. A huge thank you to Hilary as well! Hilary has been going above and beyond, as usual, to help us review the budget.

We are trying to develop what a virtual event would look like. There are a lot of moving parts and roles that are necessary with different skill sets. We have developed a survey to gather your ideas to stay connected — please help us spread the following survey link to as many of our Fair Family as possible: <https://forms.gle/RoJ6KmYHZ68bmAsy8>

We are still having monthly coordinator meetings. Many committees have already agreed to continue to meet throughout the summer. We are hoping to get some things done this year when it will not be "business as usual." We had an excellent entertainment coordinator meeting, and will continue to find ways to support our artisans, food booths and world-class entertainers.

Thank you to everyone who has reached out and is trying to stay connected!

Shane: I also want to thank the Board and Staff during this crazy time. I particularly want to thank Hilary — it's amazing how hard she works for this organization and I admire her dedication, which gives me motivation and strength.

I am realizing it will be harder work not having an event, but it has been interesting and I am learning a lot.

We are creating a plan to open up the Fair site for visitors. The weather has been nice, so we are mowing the fields, getting ready to irrigate and having to move our site schedule work ahead. Staff has been writing up work plans and how to proceed when we have this opportunity when we are not planning for a major event. There is still much work to be done and we have identified many projects we hope to complete.

I am also communicating with crews about their needs for projects to be completed this summer. We hope to start small work parties and build up to larger work parties so we can continue to have a sense of community, get people out on the land, and help to improve our infrastructure for the next event.

Committee and Working Group Reports (video 28:30)

Committee Best Practices Work Group: We are finalizing the Best Practices Manual and hope to get it approved by the Board soon. It will be posted on the .net site before it comes to a vote.

LUMP: This committee is taking time off and will meet again in October.

Path Planning: This committee will continue to meet throughout the year because there is a lot to do.

KOCF: Dean's report — The KOCF Advisory Group met last week. I provided the group with our Financial and Budget Reports. I sent copies of those reports earlier today to each of you via email.

Our cash position has shown (in rounded off numbers) the \$3,000 we have spent. So far this year, we have only been able to offset that spending with \$1,000 in income.

We anticipated in our budget that we would spend more than we're able to bring in. This is primarily due to the Bolton Hill Transmitter Project. This deficit spending has been compounded by the loss in income from not being able to do fund-raisers and in person "live events," which usually account for about 25 percent of our income. This is all due to the COVID-19 virus conditions.

Regardless, we currently have enough reserves to complete the Bolton Hill project, as long as a few pieces fall into place. They are donations of and/or highly discounted exca-

vation work digging trenches for low-power conduit, volunteer labor to help build transmitter site and lay conduit, donations of parts and batteries for our uninterrupted power supply (UPS), and we come up with a source of funding to offset the loss of capital projects monies. We realize the current world situation has created a great deal of uncertainty; however, the Advisory Group agreed that between the members of this Board, the OCF staff, and the Advisory Group itself we would be able to acquire these funds when needed. I believe it is understood the importance and value of completion of this project to the radio station and the Oregon Country Fair.

Diversity Committee: We are continuing to meet via GoToMeeting, and met a couple of times last month. We are working on a demographic survey census of the Fair family. We are probably going to test it with selected individuals over the next few weeks and hone down the questions. We are also working to put together a list of online resources for people interested in diversity, equity and inclusion issues so they can go online and learn more. If you would like to attend our next meeting, email diversity@oregoncountryfair.org and we will send you a GoToMeeting link.

Member Input (video 35:20)

*Some member input received via email was read by Indigo and Dean,
and some members spoke on their own behalf.*

Kelly H.: Long-time Recycle Crew member here. I do not speak for the entire Recycling Crew, but I can tell you that if there is an in-person event, Recycling Crew will not show up to work. Even under ideal circumstances, we are 150-plus peeps working in VERY close quarters, with sketchy hygiene, handling objects touched by tens of thousands of people from around the world. Hope to hug you soon (but not THAT soon).

Jon P.: You are trying a limited live member input format for this meeting. That is better than last meeting. However, the format you are offering is so limited that it eliminates the ability of members to provide meaningful comment on the individual agenda items. With the technology you possess there is no reason member input can't be facilitated in the normal way. Speakers can be recognized in queue by using the chat box. Returning to the normal format is important to preserving real participation of the membership in the governance processes of the OCF. The pandemic shutdown cannot be an excuse to further limit direct member participation.

Nancy L.: She (Crystalyn) mentioned a survey. She mentioned having sent around a survey asking for help. Is the survey for general membership? If not, for whom? Where do I find a copy of it, and where do I send it?

Response: We wanted to reach out and collect ideas on how to maintain our sense of Fair Family, even during times when we physically cannot gather. Please know that we may not be able to implement all of the wonderful ideas that people have, but we are very grateful for your input and help and we will move forward with as much as we possibly can. Ideas for Fair Family Connection survey link: <https://forms.gle/RoJ6KmYHZ68bmAsy8> You can also email Crystalyn at crystalyn@oregoncountryfair.org.

Jon S. comments on Old Business Agenda Items: An agenda is "a list of items to be discussed at a formal meeting." The Board agenda has morphed into a list of repeatedly tabled items so that no one really knows what will be discussed at a meeting. The May Old Business agenda includes recommendations to be submitted that could have been made available for review by posting in the .net site's "Board Working Documents" section. Since advance email is the only current option for member

input, the practical result is to diminish the effectiveness and meaningfulness of that input. Please reform your agenda setting and posting process.

Jon S. comments on General member input: The Fair's COVID-19 existential challenges also present opportunities. Chief among these is putting the toxic divisiveness of the past behind us and working together to preserve the community we cherish. We have time to examine and reinvent the ways by which we communicate, participate, and make decisions, not only addressing our immediate needs but also building for the future. We can forge new means of mutual support. We can attend to our deferred maintenance, our database projects, our archives, long-range planning, and much more. When we revise our budget, let's set some specific objectives to accomplish.

Chewie: Thanks for everything you are doing. I would like to see us address staffing, and I know you are working on it. I'm not saying anybody should be cut, but I would like to see it more realistic given that we wasted \$750,000 due to some processes that were not followed through well when we brought the winery property.

Jen-Lin: The Bylaws and Elections Committees are postponing the Work Assembly that was scheduled for May and hopes to reschedule in June. We are still getting clarification from our attorney on questions we have.

Lily: There is more work to be done to clarify if we will have a Board Work Assembly in June. Keep checking the .net site for updates.

FireDIC: In recent times, we've had to make sacrifices in society that are very different from the kinds of sacrifices that had to be made back at the early part of the 20th century. In the past, the Fair family has had to come together, make sacrifices and do things to protect the Fair from external threats. Right now, we need to come together and protect the Fair in a different way. That is going to involve conserving our resources, and being prepared to keep the resources available until the Fair can be held again.

Jon P.: The WOW Hall held a Board meeting on May 5 to consider the Payroll Protection Program and how to go forward after this period, given that the time before the shutdown the WOW Hall was in extreme financial difficulty.

Nancy: Thanks for having an online meeting, as I live in California and have never been able to attend before. I have been Fair family since 1978. I don't recognize many faces, but I do recognize your names from the Fair Family News. I am in the Fighting Instruments, and have done other Vaudeville roles at the Fair. I know it is going to be crazy to not have the event this year, but I am voting for greater transparency and continued access from the membership to all of the goings on. This online thing is a great way to start.

Spirit: Regarding the online meetings, thank you to Aaron, Indigo, Sam, Dean, Jamie, Sean, and Paxton for all the work to get us to this point. We continue to evolve, and technology is a little scary for some of us. Kudos to those who have supported us, even though it has been hard.

Jen-Lin, comments on the agenda item to canvas the membership regarding voting age: The Bylaws and Elections Committees have already been working on a survey that will be posted on the .net site to get member input. It is an integral piece of our committees' work on the bylaws, and hope the motion is tabled.

Jon S. spoke to Aaron's upcoming agenda item on closed session recording and minutes:

1. Has this been discussed with an attorney? How does it affect attorney/client privilege, especially if the meeting is recorded? Are a recording or minutes subject to a subpoena?

2. What about sensitive matters concerning personnel, members, crafters, booth folks, volunteers, etc.? Are minutes available to any of

these folks who might be in attendance? Again, are they subject to a subpoena?

3. Who has access to the minutes? Future Board members? Former Board members who were on the Board at the time the session occurred? Other attendees?

4. Is there a difference in what is included in minutes intended as an internal record from those intended to keep members informed? Should two types of minutes be kept?

5. How does this relate to the bylaws and shouldn't any provisions be included?

6. What should be included?

a. Date and time, duration of session?

b. Attendance?

c. General purpose or subject matter?

d. Key actions taken or decisions made?

Grumpy: Anything done can be subpoenaed.

Treasurer Report and Budget Items (video 54:45)

Hilary: This has been a crazy couple of months, and I am still amazed that we are finding ourselves here. For an organization that has gotten used to moving slow as molasses, that is not what we are doing right now. We are pivoting quickly and the budget is one part of that.

In April, the Board moved to suspend a lot of categories of the budget, like the crew and capital expenses. The motion included a provision to have the rest of the operating budgets revised and presented this month. We have done a lot of work and the Board is getting a chance to review it, but the membership hasn't yet. By pushing it out another month, membership and the Board will have the opportunity to get more questions answered.

Much of the work has been revising staff budgets. They have gone in detail to analyze each account, and thinking about what will be happening in the next year, which is tedious work. There is a Google Docs sheet that will be made available to the members which shows what we have, how much we have already spent, and proposals for going forward.

Budget Committee members have been invited to weigh in, but the bulk of the work has been done by staff. A cash analysis will also be released with the proposed budget. Basically, right now we have just shy of \$1.3 million dollars in the bank. If we have to go until 2022 with no or very little income, and we go with this scenario, we can roll into the beginning of 2022 with \$200,000 - \$400,00 in the bank. It is not a luxurious trip that we would be taking, but it is possible. We have options along the way, and there is so much unknown at this point.

We don't know if there will be a vaccine, legal restrictions on our activities, more stimulus programs, grants and fundraising. We don't know how successful we will be in seeking funding for KOCF and Culture Jam, and getting help with our composting project. This new mode means we are moving faster to be able to pivot as those things become clear to us.

Let's give a big shout-out to Staff! Crystalyn acted very quickly on the PPP loan that could be our biggest source of income for us this year, and motivated other staff as well. There were a lot of documents Crystalyn had to submit and she got it all together.

To give an idea of the scale of our budget, our original budget expenses were over three million dollars. We have already spent a third of the years' worth of money, but the revised budget is less than 30 percent of the original budget. While the first quarter of this year was at normal spending, we are still getting the budget down significantly.

To review the proposed budget, we will put links on the .net site to the Google Docs where explanations will be, and printable information. I know it's hard to read someone else's spreadsheet with dense information, but we are trying to make it clear. We will also have an online Open House on Sunday, May 17, 2020, from

4:30-6 pm. Members are invited and we will put the online links on the .net site. The proposed budget will go to the Board in June for a vote.

Lynda: Thank you Hilary, for your hard work, and I miss you.

Sandra: The only reason we are able to weather this crisis, in as good a shape as we are, is because of many years of good budget management and putting money away for a rainy day. Thanks to all the hard work of the Budget Committee and Hilary, who has been a great leader. It's going to be rough, but we do have the means to do what we need to do.

Lisa C.: I cannot say how much thankfulness I have for Hilary, Lynda, Staff, volunteers, membership and everybody who has put their heart and soul out into this. It is going to take a lot of work and we've got to get to it.

Crystalyn: I want to echo the gratitude of the work done in past decades as a nonprofit where our primary fundraiser is our event. It is amazing the position we are in. Other event-based organizations are potentially never going to be able to have an event again. I want to give a huge thank you to our past and current treasurers, especially Grumpy, Hilary and Lynda. I have seen them advocate for some unpopular but now seeming very necessary financial budgetary decisions, and I am so grateful.

Old Business (video 1:07:00)

Sue moved and Lily seconded to approve the April 6, 2020, Board meeting minutes.

Motion passed: 10-0.

Aaron: Closed session recording and minutes has been on the agenda for a long time, and during that time the laws have changed. The State of Oregon passed a law that says that the Board will keep minutes for all of their meetings. So, at this particular point, the motion has changed a little bit for us to be in accordance with state law. I have sent the law to the Board members multiple times, and the law went into effect almost a year ago.

Aaron moved and Lisa C. seconded the Board will keep minutes of all of their meetings, including closed sessions to be in accordance with the Chapter 174 Oregon law amending ORS 65.01 through 65.990 effective May 24, 2019. So, the Board of Directors requests the Recording Secretary to work with the Board to devise a system for archiving essential portions of the meetings, making them available to designated persons.

Note: The Oregon Law referred to in Aaron's motion can be found at the following web address: oregonlaws.org/ors/65.771.

1) *A corporation shall keep as permanent records minutes of all meetings of its members and board of directors, a record of all corporate action taken by the members or directors without a meeting, and a record of all actions taken by committees of the board of directors in place of the board of directors on behalf of the corporation.*

2) *A corporation shall maintain appropriate accounting records.*

3) *A corporation or its agent shall maintain a record of its members in a form that permits preparation of a list of the name and address of all members, in alphabetical order by class showing the number of votes each member is entitled to vote.*

4) *A corporation shall maintain its records in written form or in another form capable of conversion into written form within a reasonable time.*

5) *A corporation shall keep a copy of the following records for inspection:*

(a) *Articles or restated articles of incorporation and all amendments to them currently in effect;*

(b) *Bylaws or restated bylaws and all amendments to them currently in effect;*

(c) *Resolutions adopted by its board of directors relating to the characteristics, qualifications, rights, limitations and obligations of members of any class or category of members;*

(d) *The minutes of all meetings of members and records of all actions approved by the members for*

the past three years;

(e) *Written communications required by this chapter and those regarding general membership matters made to members within the past three years;*

(f) *A list of the names and business or home addresses of its current directors and officers;*

(g) *The last three annual financial statements, if any. The statements may be consolidated or combined statements of the corporation and one or more of its subsidiaries or affiliates, as appropriate, including a balance sheet and statement of operations, if any, for that year. If financial statements are prepared for the corporation on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles, the annual financial statements must also be prepared on that basis;*

(h) *The last three accountant's reports if annual financial statements are reported upon by a public accountant; and (i) The most recent annual report delivered to the Secretary of State under ORS 65.787 (Annual report). [1989 c.1010 §164]*

Aaron: The full law can be put in the minutes, but I want to read the pertinent paragraph about this law, relating to nonprofit corporations creating new provisions.

"A corporation shall keep as permanent records minutes of all meetings of its members and board of directors, a record of all corporate action taken by the members or directors without a meeting, and a record of all actions taken by committees of the board of directors in place of the board of directors on behalf of the corporation."

Aaron: Thank you Jon S. for bringing the things up about who is designated and what-not. That is why we would like to pursue that further, and that is why I am asking the Recording Secretary to take charge of that aspect. We need to come into compliance with state law. To speak to Grumpy, yes records can be subpoenaed if they have to be. My assumption is that the State of Oregon Corporate Division researched that and decided that it was more important that we keep minutes whether they can be subpoenaed or not.

Sandra: This is a no brainer. We have to be law compliant. I will certainly be supporting this motion.

Lily: I certainly want to be law compliant. I am not clear though that we are obligated to follow every single one of those laws if it doesn't match our bylaws. Our bylaws have to fit within what the law enables us to do and then we still have to follow what our bylaws say.

Peaches: We definitely want to be in compliance with the laws. I would like to see it looked at closer by our Bylaws Committee. We can ask our attorney about it too, and whether we need minutes or a record with the subjects, how they have to be archived, and who they are available to. There are a lot of questions we need help with.

George: I agree with those sentiments. That was a fast reading of the statute and I would like further explanation. Does this include meetings when no actions are taken? The same questions Peaches just raised should be looked at by our own internal Bylaws Committee.

Aaron: "A corporation shall keep as permanent records minutes of all meetings of its members and board of directors..." Later it mentions other meetings where there is action taken or not. We discussed talking to our attorneys about this several months ago, and I put a request up that we talk about it. I don't believe any action was taken on that. The statutes are actually clear, but I have no objection to spending money on attorneys. As far as minutes, they can be very minimalist — basically date, who is present, and general subject. We looked at what Spirit did for us on minutes recently and we are going to be posting those.

I believe the way the law works, and I could be wrong, is that we are a corporation in the state of Oregon. We are required to follow Oregon State law first, and our bylaws second. Bylaws cannot be in disagreement with the laws of the land.

Sandra: Laws change all the time and it sometimes brings you out of compliance with your bylaws. Corporations and businesses routinely have to update their bylaws to be in compliance with the laws. I also don't mind running this by an attorney, but you don't really get to choose this.

Aaron: Our bylaws do not prohibit us taking minutes.

Lisa C.: I have been taking minutes for the recent closed sessions. It is not an easy job to do. I have to give huge praise to Kimmo and the other scribes, and taking minutes does not make it able to participate well. I'm curious how we maintain confidentiality and archive it correctly. We have to follow the law, and come up with a policy or procedure so that we are following the law correctly and that the Board, members and Staff are good with it. It needs to be addressed and we need to have a discussion. I don't have a problem moving forward with a motion to vote that we have to do it, but we can decide on the rules as we go forward.

Jack: As Lisa just said, we are taking minutes.

Kimmo: I think it needs to be vetted by an attorney. I think we need more discussion on how we would keep these minutes confidential, and who would access them. On a personal note, I have not been able to attend many of the closed sessions due to my day job. So, I cannot say right now that I can commit.

Lily: In reading the law, it could be that we actually do need to keep minutes, but I have two thoughts on why we should not have the vote today. This motion has been tabled so many times, that I did not know it was actually coming up today. I have a hunch much of the membership would have had more of a chance to participate if we had known today was the day to talk about it. I'm asking if we can vote on this another time.

Also, I would feel more comfortable voting on this if we had the plans in place instead of directing the Recording Secretary to figure out about security, confidentiality, how we are going to keep these minutes and who has access. If that proposal was already here, then it would feel much different to vote on it.

Crystalyn: I agree with Lily, not knowing this motion was on deck today.

Spirit: How long do we have to be in compliance? We have started taking minutes, and one of Lisa Cooley's challenges with Kimmo missing is how much do we take minutes? To address Jon S.' and others' concerns regarding minutes, I am always an advocate for member input. However, we have to be in compliance with the law, and it's going to override our bylaws and some member input. We do have some details to work out.

I am disappointed because we do have an agenda review, and Aaron was clear on this. She has been putting it off for many months, and we have had a lot of time to discuss this. I'm not coming down on the Board, but Aaron has requested attorney input. We need to go forward and follow through with the request of a director when we are asking for attorney input. We need to be able to move this forward.

We have been taking notes the past couple months and we know we can narrow down those topics, especially if they are confidential and legally binding. What is the timeline to be compliant when a new law has been put forward?

Lisa P.: We are currently compliant, and we have been taking minutes. Our bylaws do state that we may take minutes at closed sessions. I would feel more comfortable if this went through our Bylaws Committee, and it hasn't. I agree we need to be compliant with the law, and we are, but we have a process for updating the bylaws. This has been tabled for so long, that I was not expecting it to come up tonight either.

Jack: Heidi is already in process with our attorney and doing a complete review of our bylaws. In the meantime, we are taking minutes,

and the process would be a recommendation to change our bylaws to be in compliance with state law. Maybe I misspoke at one time, or it did not come across correctly, that this is going to be changed in the bylaws to meet state ordinance.

It might be more appropriate to change this motion to direct the Bylaws Committee to review and come in compliance with state law, and will offer a friendly amendment. Heidi and the Bylaws Committee are right in the middle of this work, as well as the annual meeting, and I don't think this is going to come overnight.

Aaron: Can we have more discussion before I say if I will accept the friendly amendment? There are several points brought up that I would like to address. I also see Spirit has a friendly amendment.

Sam clarified the procedures for accepting or declining a friendly amendment.

Aaron: So, you are telling me that I cannot give you any of the information that was just brought up, whatsoever, unless I accept or decline this friendly amendment. And, I cannot speak until we get through the stack of others again? I have answers to a substantial amount of this conversation.

Sam clarified that Aaron needs to say whether she accepts or declines Jack's friendly amendment.

Aaron: Jack, would you like to give me the wording so I know whether or not I can accept it?

Jack: In addition to the motion read by Aaron, you could add at the end: "For this reason, we would direct the Bylaws Committee to bring our bylaws in compliance with current state ordinances." In the meantime, we are taking minutes.

Aaron: Our bylaws are currently not out of compliance. Our bylaws say we can take minutes. That is why I was not addressing this motion to the Bylaws Committee.

Jack: If we want specifics to the bylaws, we can direct the committee to explore how we want the minutes taken. Ultimately, if there needs to be further discussion, then I can withdraw my friendly amendment and ask to table. Then we can have more discussion in the coming weeks or months about what we want the closed session minutes to look like.

Paxton: I also think this should go to the Bylaws Committee. Rather than a friendly amendment, I would like to move to send this motion to the Bylaws Committee, to make sure our bylaws are in compliance with current state law.

Sam clarified with Paxton that an amendment to the motion was being offered, and would require a second by another director.

Paxton moved and Lisa P. seconded to direct the Bylaws Committee to make sure our bylaws are in compliance with current state law. (video 1:38:25)

Lily: I think it's a good idea. I'd like the Bylaws and Elections Committees to have a chance to look at it. I think we are currently in compliance with this law, and have been for some months. Spirit has been encouraging us to release what the law requires at a minimum, and that is coming. I'd like to give membership and everyone more time to think on this and do their research, because the law seems very dense and complex. I know that Aaron has done a ton of work, but I think there is more out there that our attorneys and Bylaws and Elections Committees could figure out whether or not this even requires a motion. I vote for more time and tabling it.

Crystalyn: I hope this get referred to our attorneys. In the research that I have done online, it appears this may not apply to us but to public institutions.

Paxton: I thought the Bylaws Committee would take this to an attorney for an opinion as a next step. I thought about adding the ver-

biage to my friendly amendment, but think it will be the normal process we go through to verify what we need to have in the bylaws. Normally, this is the kind of work the Bylaws Committee has done in the past.

George: These issues being brought up were exactly on my mind from the very beginning. To get a clear understanding, are we required to comply and does it cover all circumstances? The nuance of how and what we keep on record seems to be a decision we can make. Early on Aaron said: "As far as minutes, they can be very minimalist — basically date, who is present, and general subject." If we are doing this, we should establish the policy in our bylaws on closed sessions and what it will consist of. The Bylaws Committee should be handling this and vetted with attorneys.

Aaron: I did not choose to go the Bylaws Committee, as our bylaws already state minutes may be recorded and distributed at an appropriate time under closed sessions. So, it is not a bylaws change. It is a tradition change for this organization. When we discussed what the Bylaws Committee was working on for an upcoming Work Assembly, I was clearly told we could not bring anything to them other than the topics they were already working on in relationship to the elections motion placed last year. So, there were a couple of things that needed to be addressed.

This, of course as I said, has been around for a while. I did send information out to everybody again last month and early this week to alert you all this motion was coming up again. There has been recent substantial notice to the Board, but I also know we are dealing with a lot of emails and other pressing things. I had hoped we could get to the stage of recognizing that we have to comply with the law and assign the Recording Secretary to work with us because I did not believe it was a bylaw issue.

I have no objections whatsoever. The only objection is the one that I heard three months ago, when I requested that we vet it with our attorney. Crystalyn was looking things up under public corporations, but this statute is relating to nonprofit corporations. What I would like to do is postpone this, speak to our attorney about this specific issue and not get it all tangled up amongst the bylaw changes. We are already a year out of compliance. We are taking minutes, but we have no way to keep them safe. We do have a confidentiality issue in closed sessions, so we don't have a procedure set up that is correct, which was the point of this motion.

The point of this motion was to assign the person that we have appointed as the Recording Secretary officer to work with us, and whoever else is determined is needed, to decide what that best procedure would be. I will abide with whatever the Board wants to do at this point, as long as we recognize this is something we need to comply with. However you guys want to deal with it, I don't even really care. I just want to make sure we are in compliance.

Sam asked Aaron if she was withdrawing her motion, and wanted time to talk to an attorney.

Aaron: Some members of the Board said they felt they needed to do that, which is what I recognized that the Board would do three months ago when I asked. I am not taking my motion down at this point.

Spirit: I'm a fan of this and that, and maybe Jack nailed it in what he said. Maybe it's an amendment to the amendment that we are talking about here. I don't think we need to pull this from the table. We need to be directing the Bylaws Committee to prioritize this in communicating with the attorney as this is explored in how we can be compliant in regard to the best benefit of our organization.

We have been in compliance the last three closed sessions, but again that's even still wonky as far as how much we are doing and

releasing to the membership. But as far as the minutes go, that's a whole different story here. Can we make an amendment to the amendment that we direct the Bylaws Committee to look for the details of the closed session minutes in conjunction with an attorney? I do not want the attorney to come in after the Bylaws committee has worked on it. That is my preference.

Sam asked Paxton if he would accept a friendly amendment.

Paxton: I think it is confusing, so no. However, I would add in conjunction with an attorney to end of my motion amendment. The motion would read: to direct the Bylaws Committee to make sure our bylaws are in compliance with current state law, in consultation with an attorney.

Spirit: Because we are already in compliance with state laws, I prefer to consider exploring the details of closed session minutes or exploring the details of being in compliance with state law because that is really what we are trying to nail down. That is what we need attorney input for.

Paxton: To me it is confusing, but I would accept that.

Lisa P. was asked if she would second a friendly amendment, and asked the motion to be read again.

Paxton: To restate, the amended motion would be to direct the Bylaws Committee to make sure the details of our bylaws comply with state laws, in conjunction with consultation of our attorney.

Spirit: Lisa, I think you can fine tune this. We are close.

Paxton: I believe the consultation with an attorney is an important part of the motion.

Lisa P. was OK with another amendment.

Paxton moved and Lisa P. seconded to direct the Bylaws Committee to make sure the details of our bylaws comply with state laws, in conjunction with consultation of our Fair attorney. (video 1:49:18)

Kimmo: Again, I agree it should be vetted by an attorney and the Bylaws Committee can help with this. I do not believe it is a priority because the Bylaws and Elections Committees have been working hard on getting ready for this year's elections, which will be very different than they have been in the past. I also would encourage various Board members who support this motion to volunteer to take minutes at those closed sessions because there are a lot of directions being given, but the load is not being shared.

Jack: This is an amendment to the original motion, which explains what we are trying to do. The motion that Aaron is making is now being amended to include this. So, Aaron's motion is still part of this.

Sam asked to clarify when Paxton made his amendment, he said he wanted to amend Aaron's motion by substituting his motion for hers which is allowed.

Jack: That is not an amendment to the motion. That is another motion. The friendly amendment I offered would have been attached to Aaron's motion.

Lisa C.: I want to call a moment of clarity. Have we ever as a Board voted to say that we are following the law? It is really important that we put out a general thing that we all vote yes for saying that we are following the law and we are taking minutes in closed sessions, and put that on record. We will get to the discussion about how the rest of the process works and direct the Bylaws Committee to do what they need to do. The clarity that we are following the law is what needs to be voted on.

Lisa P.: I think this is all completely unnecessary. We are already compliant with the law. The Bylaws Committee is already reviewing the bylaws and this can be added to their list. The Board Secretary is charged with this process of taking minutes and keeping them se-

cure. We just need to let the secretary figure out a procedure and do her job.

Spirit: Kimmo has been absent at some of the meetings, but somebody has been taking up the slack. I understand the incredible difficulty of taking minutes, and Lisa C. can attest to that because she has been doing it. Especially in closed sessions, there are no real guidelines to how the minutes need to be. These are the details we need to work out with an attorney, and it needs to be prioritized.

I am so appreciative the Bylaws Committee is working on revising the bylaws. However, we need to be putting precedence upon the things that are in the laws. We are trying and somebody has been picking up the slack. Kimmo, you have been amazing. As somebody that is trying to back you up, I think we need to direct the Bylaws committee to be putting this at the forefront of their agenda. We cannot sweep this under the rug. This is Oregon law and is not unnecessary. We've been trying to have this conversation for months, and it needs to be with the guidance of an attorney while we go along, not after the fact.

Aaron: I think that we can combine the two motions. Can I make a friendly amendment to Paxton's motion? This motion would state the same thing that my original motion stated which is: The Board moves to keep minutes of all their meetings including closed sessions to be in accordance with the law (insert the law) and after that instead of directing the Recording Secretary, we direct the Bylaws Committee to explore the closed session minutes with an attorney.

Paxton said he would not accept a friendly amendment yet.

Peaches: I would like to call the vote on Paxton's motion.

Paxton re-worded his motion:

Paxton moved and Lisa P. seconded to direct the Bylaws Committee to make sure our bylaws and the details within fully comply with state laws, in consultation with an attorney. (video 2:00:10)

Motion failed: 4-6; George, Sandra, Lisa C., Spirit, Aaron and Lisa P. opposed.

Spirit: Personally, where I am at on this is that I voted no on Paxton's amendment because I felt it was a little muddy, and the wording we are throwing together. We really have had months. Aaron has been all but begging us to look at this, so it's a little frustrating that we are where we are. She asked Aaron if the motion could be tabled to get it right, but also sees Jack wanting to make an amendment and I am willing to do the work. I appreciate us doing the work with membership observing. So as many people can be frustrated, be frustrated. I am willing to cede my time to Jack.

Jack: I would like to make a friendly amendment that we direct the Bylaws Committee to have an attorney review the section on minutes for closed sessions, and have the Bylaws Committee come back with a recommendation to the Board to how we conduct those minutes.

Aaron clarified Jack's friendly amendment and was willing to accept.

Jack moved and Lisa C. seconded to amend the motion and add the following: that we direct the Bylaws Committee to have an attorney review the section on minutes for closed ses-

sions, and have the Bylaws Committee come back with a recommendation to the Board as to how we conduct those minutes. (video 2:07:33)

Spirit: Jon S. and others had a lot of important questions. I believe it's being recorded. I would like the Bylaws Committee to look at those questions, and anyone can submit their questions to them. I am concerned with it being open ended and not having a timeline in which it is concluded, and would suggest a two-month limit or to hear back by July.

Aaron suggested another friendly amendment to add a date.

Jack: Another amendment will probably make it fail.

Spirit: If it is open ended, it could go on for a year.

Jack: I understand, and we are in compliance. Sometimes the process takes a long time, and it's the right decision not to put all this weight on the officers to decide how we want to do this. We are up against how we are going to do this, and the appropriate place is to amend the bylaws regarding closed session minutes.

Lisa C.: I am wondering how long it will take the Bylaws Committee and wondering how it is going to work. We've only had three closed sessions where I have been taking the minutes. I am happy to do it, and do not want to push this onto the staff or the officers. I think it needs to be addressed and we need to prove to the State of Oregon that we are following the laws. To me, it's that simple.

Jack: In the meantime, all the closed session minutes will be in custody of the secretary.

Aaron moved and Lisa C. seconded the following: (video 2:12:07)

The Board moves to keep minutes of all of their meetings including closed sessions to be in accordance with the Chapter 174 Oregon law amending ORS 65.01 through 65.990 effective May 24, 2019. The Board directs the Bylaws Committee to have an attorney review the section on minutes for closed sessions, and have the Bylaws Committee come back with a recommendation to the Board to how we conduct those minutes.

Motion passed: 8-2; George and Lisa P. opposed.

President's Peace (video 2:16:05)

Jack: Now that we have concluded the 2020 Fair will not be held as normal due to a world pandemic, it's important we understand we are still an organization and will get through this. People will be looking toward OCF to be part of that recovery with a loving embrace when we come back. This year off the site will give time for the land and its inhabitants, who are going to have a Fair of their own, to heal. I wish them the best and know they will take us up on this opportunity. Thank you and I love you all.

Draft Agenda for the June 1, 2020, Board Meeting

Remote Online Meeting

Approve May 4, 2020, Board meeting minutes

Canvas the membership regarding voting age — Aaron

Approve and implement the Committee Best

Practices Manual as presented by the Committee Best Practices Work Group. Work Group to follow up and assess progress in six months and yearly thereafter. — Peaches

Expand Committee Reports segment of Board of Directors monthly meetings to include "Committee Reports, Requests and Recommendations" during which time dialogue may occur between committees and the Board — Peaches

Deadline for new business agenda items — Spirit

Recommendations of Bylaws and Elections Committees — Paxton

Timing of officer elections and Board retreat — Lisa Cooley

Board requests the Craft and Food Committees collaborating with involved crews, staff, and interested members in open, posted meetings to review our current timetable for guideline changes. The intent is to have the suggested guideline changes published for two months before the Board votes. Possibly, it could be posted in September or October and voted on at the December Board meeting. This would ensure time for proper vetting by those affected and discussion time for the Board. — Aaron

Revisions to operating budget — Jack
Membership and Board dialogue

Additional Message from the Board of Directors

**Due to the ever-changing nature of the current and unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, the OCF Board of Directors are meeting remotely, in closed session, more frequently to address confidential and/or time-sensitive topics. These meetings are in accordance with bylaws: VIII:9

Here are the topics of the recent closed meetings:

Closed session, April 6, 2020

- Personnel

Closed session, April 13, 2020

- Personnel
- **May Board agenda additions/motions — any pressing items to add? (specific agenda topics not discussed)
- Legal update

Closed session, April 20, 2020

- Personnel
- May Board agenda items — any pressing items to add?
- Cancellation of Board retreat reservations
- Board responsibility re: fund-raising
- Legal
- **Importance of presenting proposed draft budget adjustment to the Board and membership prior to May Board meeting

Closed session, April 27, 2020

- Personnel
- **Budget/payroll

Closed session, May 4, 2020

- Personnel
- Legal update
- Update to Membership re: OCF 2020

Closed session, May 11, 2020

- Personnel: Payroll Budget/Work Plans

