

ELDERS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – Pending final approval at June Meeting

May 28, 2020

LOCATION: Online (GoToMeeting)

MEETING TIME: 7 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Alan Cohn, Jain Elliott, Robert Jacobs, Eric Nicholson, Ann Rogers-Bennett (facilitator)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Diane Albino, Katie Cousins, Heather Kent, Kay Kintzley, Michael James Long, Robert “Mouseman” McCarthy, Patricia Van Esso

OTHERS PRESENT: Peggy Day, Chris Howe, Carolyn Gsell (scribe), Annemarie Hirsch, Jonathan Pincus,

Announcements:

- Ann has reserved Alice’s for weekend of Oct. 24 for Elder Retreat. Tentative based on Covid-19 Situation.
- Jon Pincus:
 - On June 28 there will be a special membership meeting of the WOW Hall to discuss the financial situation. There will be a notice on the WOW Hall website with link to online mtg.
 - On July 12 will be the Annual Membership meeting where new budget will be approved, and new board will be elected.
 - On Weds. **June ? (date?)** Friends will meet to discuss ways to deal with WOW Hall budget shortfall. Email Jon Pincus jpincus24@gmail.com for online meeting link

APPROVE APRIL MEETING MINUTES – No quorum to approve minutes

AGENDA:

- Volunteer Coordinator update – Annemarie
- Thank you - Annemarie
- New Elder Volunteer List – Annemarie & Carolyn
- Path Planning Report - Jon
- Elder Committee discussion – all
- Other stuff

Volunteer Coordinator Update – Annemarie

Annemarie and Carolyn will now be co-coordinators for the Elder Volunteer sub-committee. One of their big projects is working on an Elder Volunteers Listing. More on that later in the meeting. Since two people will be managing the work, there is a new email address to contact Elders about volunteer work. New email is: eldervolunteers@gmail.com.

Thank you – Annemarie

Annemarie announced that Patty Marx is stepping down as coordinator for the Elder Application subcommittee and extended her appreciation for Patty’s work. Committee members chimed in on Patty’s thoroughness and integrity in the vetting of applications. Patty will continue to stay on the committee, but a new coordinator is needed.

If anyone has an interest or can think of someone in the Elders group who could be a good fit, please contact Annemarie at the new email address eldervolunteers@gmail.com. The bulk of the work in vetting applications is done Jan. – March, based on the deadline of Feb. 1st for submitting a form. A couple of people mentioned that the job is quite fun because you get an opportunity to talk with Fair family members and you are likely to collect some interesting stories along the way.

New Elder Volunteer List – Annemarie/Carolyn

Annemarie already sent out an initial list describing Elder volunteer positions, asking volunteers in the positions to submit answers to questions. So far, she has received some good responses. The purpose of gathering information is to

build a handbook, likely digital, that describes each volunteer position, what's involved in terms of time, talent and materials, who is in that position now, or if the position is vacant, or if more volunteers are needed.

Carolyn and Annemarie will be cleaning up the initial list and sending out a new survey via email to all Elders in hopes of getting a bigger response. They will also ask volunteers to share a story about something interesting that may have happened during their volunteer time, why they enjoy the work they do, or any other reflections on their contributions to Elders. The story could be submitted in writing, or the person could request a phone interview and Carolyn would write it up.

Jon pointed out that some of the volunteer positions are self-created. Other positions are necessary to the function of having Elders at the Fair.

Carolyn talked about building a website for OCF Elders using a simple web building program such as Weebly. We would have to buy a domain and make a payment annually or biannually for the domain name, as well as pay an annual subscription to the provider.

Several members expressed liking the idea. Chris mentioned that with Covid-19 it would be beneficial to have more online access to Elder information.

Ann asked if Annemarie and Carolyn would present a website budget report for the next meeting.

Peggy Day offered to provide advice, having recently retired as a professional website developer. Someone suggested that Dean Middleton could also be of help.

Path Planning report - Jon Pincus

Path Planning has broken down the fair paths into segments. Ann said that part of the intention of the project is to show the changes to the path over time. Ann recently walked the fair with Wally, and they reminisced how the Fair used to be laid out.

Jon encouraged people to start thinking about the project and bring to the project any stories and photos that document the changes.

There was also a discussion of bringing in the stories of how Elders got started.

Elder Committee Discussion - all

There was a discussion of bringing Carolyn and Annemarie on the committee. Carolyn mentioned that we should find out from current committee members if they still want to be on the committee and noted that in a previous meeting the committee decided to keep to twelve members.

Ann stated we cannot get things done when there is no quorum. We should ask committee members up front what their situation is with regards to online meetings, possibly get members who cannot attend online to at least approve the minutes prior. We can check with committee members to find out if they still want to be on the committee. Eric said that we are only into the second online meeting, and it takes a while to figure things out. We just need to imagine that we are all still here, and we should not worry too much about attendance at this point. We are all still here!

Jon suggested that meeting minutes could be sent out directly before the meeting, along with information around other agenda items. That could make online meetings go smoother. Carolyn said she would resend the latest meeting minutes out a day before the next meeting.

Kay's place for a June meeting was mentioned. Chris also brought up the phone tree list. Most people feel better about meeting physically in July rather than June. Alan said he would be willing to contact Kay about a live meeting in July. It would not be potluck (bring your own food).

Other stuff

Ann described what is happening with an online fair. One project is a map of the Fair with links to crafters' websites. There could also be links to exhibits. Ann talked about displaying our SLR Timelines digitally.

Crystalyn expressed her concern to Ann that Elders stay connected.

Ann agreed to contact committee members who haven't been attending online meetings to find out if technology is a barrier. Carolyn will call Licia.

The next Elders Meeting will be held online on Thursday June 25 at 7:00 p.m. Ann will send out a meeting link.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.