

ELDERS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – Draft 4 Pending final approval at July meeting

June 24, 2020

LOCATION: Online (GoToMeeting)

MEETING TIME: 7 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Alan Cohn, Katie Cousins, Jain Elliott, Robert Jacobs, Heather Kent, Michael James Long, Robert “Mouseman” McCarthy, Eric Nicholson, Ann Rogers

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Diane Albino, Kay Kintzley, Patricia Van Esso

OTHERS PRESENT: Roberta Austin, Kehn “mambo” Gibson, Carolyn Gsell (scribe), Annemarie Hirsch, Chris Howe, Karly Kygar, Licia Schultz, Spirit Leatherwood

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Diversity Task Force has a proposal to put before the board, to be reviewed on Sunday. Michael James Long will send it to the Elders Committee listserv.

AGENDA:

- Approve Meeting Minutes
- Volunteer Update – Annemarie
- Elder Eligibility in 2020 No-Fair year - mambo
- Elder Website - Annemarie
- Virtual Fair – Eric
- Elder Facebook Page - Licia
- Elders 2020 T-Shirt – Licia
- Fall retreat date change – Ann
- July meeting – Licia
- Elder Budget – Katie
- New Diversity and Inclusion statement - Mouseman

APPROVE APRIL 2020 MINUTES: Jain made a motion to approve. Alan seconded. Motion approved 9-0.

APPROVE MAY 2020 MINUTES: Alan made a motion to approve. Robert seconded. Motion approved 9--0

VOLUNTEER UPDATE – Annemarie

Roberta Austin is willing to help with the Elder Applications. Karly Kygar and Janice Medvin would also like to be involved.

Carolyn and Annemarie are putting together a Survey to gather information from Elders who volunteer. Some people have already sent in information.

ELDER ELIGIBILITY GIVEN 2020 NO-FAIR

Mambo asked if the 2020 No Fair Year could be counted as one of the twenty years that makes a person qualified to join Elders.

Michael James Long said that likely this should be considered on a case by case basis.

Jain said that a lot of people are putting in time to create the Virtual Fair. There are also ongoing committees that will be working through the year.

Ann told us that someone contacted her about just turning 55 and this would be her 20th fair. Ann encouraged her to find a way to participate.

Mambo showed appreciation for how members of our group are thinking through this issue. He’d like to remain involved in future elder eligibility discussions. Robert Jacobs added that if a person who is on their 20th year for 2020 is actively participating in some way without the ability to attend, then that would likely count as a year of volunteer service.

ELDER WEBSITE – Annemarie

There are new website builders that are relatively simple to use. Annemarie and Carolyn are looking at using Weebly. Wix is another possibility. With Robin not at the office (while furloughed), there won't be anyone to upload our info to the .net website.

Carolyn talked a bit more about setting up the site, ease of Weebly to build the site, and postponing request for funding until she and Annemarie have had a chance to more fully scope things out. There is a free version that can be used for test driving and establishing a general design layout.

Michael James Long said that he is in favor of anything that improves communication with elders, as long as we have the volunteer energy to set up and maintain things. Robert Jacobs seconded that idea.

Ann mentioned that a Best Practices Handbook is forthcoming.

Robert Jacobs mentioned that he still has \$53 in cash that he and Michael James Long raised by passing the hat at an Elders meeting some time ago. He suggests that we put that towards the website.

Alan is supportive and says we could rustle up someone on the Wonderful OCF Elders site who has tech expertise and could help.

VIRTUAL FAIR – Eric wants to know more

Ann contacted Jerry Joffe about using the display Timelines for the virtual fair, but apparently the original PDFs are "compromised".

Mouseman – To participate there is a signup process. It is not a free-for-all (One needs permission to set up a "room" or "store" on the virtual site).

It was suggested that if someone wishes to participate, they should contact the Fair office.

Heather – There was a link posted on Facebook for trying it out. Apparently, the Fair is using DISCORD.

It was expressed many people will have no interest to participate in a virtual fair – it's nothing like the real Fair.

Alicia mentioned that as a crafter it is an opportunity to sell items as it is the only opportunity of the year for many crafters to sell their wares.

ELDERS FACE BOOK PAGE –Licia

Alicia gave a shout out to Peggy Isaacs for setting up the page.

The official Elders FB Page name is [Elders of the Oregon Country Fair](#)

The other page which is not managed by or under the control of Elders is [OCF ELDERS](#)

ELDERS 2020 T-SHIRT – Licia

Licia asked the group if there is interest in a 2020 Fair Elders T-Shirt. There was a general expression of interest.

Jain pointed out that 2020 Fair shirts can be purchased on the Fair's .org website.

Spirit texted Mambo (during this discussion) to let us know that the Fair could print something for Elders on the back of the 2020 Fair shirts that are already being offered.

FALL RETREAT DATE CHANGE – Ann

Originally set for Oct. 24, but now the membership meeting is for that same weekend. Ann said that we should ask to reserve Alice's for October 17.

Everyone on the committee agreed to change the date to Oct. 17. (Per email from Ann on 6/29/20, Alice's is not available for weekend of Oct. 17/18. Oct. 10/11 is available, so Ann booked it.)

JULY MEETING? – Licia

Annemarie suggested we could meet at Elders camp for the July meeting. Jain said very doubtful. There are no toilets available on the Fair site. It was decided to continue meeting online in July.

ELDERS BUDGET – Katie C. – We have some money in the bank – around \$560. Licia asked about using Fair funds to fund the website. Katie said that there is a “ban’ on fair spending right now. It was agreed that we could manage the funding on our own.

DIVERSITY COMMITTEE PROPOSAL – Mouseman

Mouseman asked us to review the recent proposals drafted by the Diversity Committee. The board is meeting on Sunday and the proposals are on the agenda. Concerns are that the proposals will be swiftly moved from new business to old business at the meeting so that they can be voted on that night. Mouseman expressed concerns about allowing time for member input, and that the proposals should move to old business on the regular schedule, which would be at the next (August) meeting. (3 days later, at the 6/28/20 board meeting, it turned out that only one portion of the Diversity Committee’s recommendations were asked to be moved from new to old business)

Heather said that one of the proposals requests funding an additional staff member in a diversity position.

Mambo - words matter.

Ann referred to a family friend whose son Matthew Burroughs was murdered by police.

Heather has attended a couple of diversity meetings and stated it feels like is a fraught situation. it has become very scary to speak up. The committee is asking for these proposals to be moved from new to old business so they can be voted on at the Sunday meeting. The proposal includes hiring a person during a year when there is no event, and a reduction in staff hours.

Roberta added that as a Cherokee newly certified, she has never had any problems or seen anything at the Fair, as our Native American groups at the Fair were very welcomed. “As far as black people we have always as far as my perception always welcomed, especially in our area of the Fair by Main Stage.”

JULY MEETING – The next Elders Committee Meeting will be held online Thursday, July 23 at 7 p.m. Ann will send a meeting link.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.