

Paxton Hoag



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I have been a part of the fair since the beginning and would like to see the Fair do at least another 50 years. I started as a crafter, doing copper enameling, worked food booths, and have done crew work since 1989. I developed Photo ID as an alternative to wristbands, and have been on and off the Board since 1991. I am creative and dedicated to the success of the Fair.

I fully support the 7th generation motion and Carbon Neutral Motion which requires us to consider how our work affects the Fair in the future. I also support the Fair as a volunteer organization. It is the volunteers, the musicians, the crafters and the food vendors that make the Fair work and contribute to the creativity and ambiance that we all seek.

We need to have a discussion of who we are putting on this Fair for, Particularly in the changing dynamics between the wristbanded and the general admission population. The Fair family attending is growing and the attending public is shrinking.

While I support the current admissions cap of 15,000 per day, my path observations this year led me to think we could do with 1000 less, a 14,000 public per day. This would mean more of the fair infrastructure costs would fall on us as we are growing more than the attending public. I think we should use the BOD work sessions or maybe a special multi meeting forum like we did in developing the OCF Goals in the 2010s for this Fair wide discussion.

We need to complete the transition to an Executive Director and a Governance Board with consideration of our culture of 3 chip interactions and consensus building. I feel there is work needed on supporting the volunteers, which are both our workforce and source of creativity.

We need to move to interactive hybrid in-person Meetings. This was passed by the BOD but not yet happened. I went to an impressive professionally run Mandatory Food Booth Meeting at the Unitarian Church that showed me we can do this. As an organization we do better with in person meetings with online participants. To me this is essential for Board meetings and I prefer it for committee meetings. The Fair has three AV meeting rooms now.

I was one of the first to recognize the Emerald Ash Borer threat and went to one of the first EAB meetings the state held. I support the work of the EAB Task Force. I believe we need a long term plan and a short term plan if an infection is found in Lane County. Ash trees are about 60% of our forest and we need to plan for their replacement. We also need to consider producing Bio-char as a way of sequestering carbon.

It is time to develop a managed forest plan for the Fair property. We will see significant changes in the next 50 years to our forested properties. The Kalapuya managed our site as an Oak Savannah with Camas and Acorn production as a food source. As we deal with the EAB threat it is time to have a discussion of what we would like the site to look like in 25 to 50 years.

I support both the Rainbow Village and the Oasis and helped them get through the path planning process. I also support reinvigorating the Diversity Committee and listening to their concerns. We need safe spaces and a renewed commitment to listen to concerns of those who attend the Fair. It is important to me that ALL feel safe and listened to at the Fair. I also support diversity training sessions similar to our Human Intervention Training at similar times.

I started Phoenix Rising and Photo ID, contributed to Elders beginnings, Xavanadu, the Two Virtual Fairs, Streaming Video, I also helped shepherd the Compost Slab and KOCF through the BOD process. I have been a plumber for Water Crew, responsible for rebuilding the pump house in 1989.

Ran two LUMP (Land Use Management Plan committee) greywater processing experiments using Mushroom filters in the mid 2010s. Have been working on greywater processing since I joined LUMP. The Fair needs to find a way to process our greywater to Oregon DEQ standards for road watering. I want to resurrect Denis Todd's LUMP request for an engineering study.

Designed the Paxton Lights, the LED lights security uses and am considering battery upgrades and the addition of Blacklights to the technology.