

ELDERS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – Approved at the 5/25/23 meeting

DATE: Thursday, April 27, 2023

LOCATION: Online (Zoom)

MEETING TIME: 7:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Diane Albino, Jain Elliott, Nancy Hafner, Heather Kent, Robert “Mouseman” McCarthy, Ann Rogers

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Michael JamesLong, Kay Kintzley, Eric Nicholson

BOARD LIAISONS PRESENT: Ann Rogers-Bennett

BOARD LIAISONS ABSENT: Kevin Levy

OTHERS PRESENT: Roberta Austin, Maida Belove, Chewie Burgess, Amber Coates, Alan Cohn, Darlene Colburn (facilitator), Peggy Day, Jeff Eichen, Carolyn Gsell (scribe), Chris Harrison, Percy Hilo, Annemarie Hirsch, Jon Pincus, Jenny Wilson

The meeting started at 7:08 p.m. 6 of 9 committee members present constitutes a quorum.

Agenda:

- Announcements
- Approve March minutes - Committee
- April 16 Coordinator Meeting update – Carolyn
- Elder Camping Updates – Annemarie
- Elder Volunteers Updates – Annemarie
- SLR Light-Up display (Jerry J. 2019) – Carolyn
- Late Night Trips – Carolyn
- May retreat info – Carolyn/Darlene, standing in for Kay/Lisa

Announcements & Introductions

- Diane reminded us that Spring Fling is Saturday, May 6, when we are holding our retreat. Many attendees will attend Spring Fling after the meeting on Saturday. The Coronation is also occurring that day.
- Carolyn reminded the group that Sierra McComas is our staff Liaison. Ann will invite Sierra to our retreat.
- Jeff Eichen informed the group that Patch Adams had a foot amputated, and that he is in good spirits. There was a general outpouring of love and goodwill from meeting attendees for the famous clown doctor. (Jeff’s announcement came towards the later part of the meeting, but it is included here for better information flow).

Approve March Minutes

Jain made a motion to approve the March minutes. Nancy seconded. **The motion passed 5 – 0. Ann abstained.**

Coordinator meeting update: Nancy, Diane, Carolyn

- 4A will have additional parking at Miss Piggy’s or Kermit’s. Unsure if these areas will accommodate vehicle camping. There is limited RV camping at Scoff Lot. Fair Family parking will be at the Winery (Outtasite Parking Stickers)
- 15,000 public cap per day
- Eric Nesbaum is taking over (wristband) Inventory. Contact him inventoryyurt@oregoncountryfair.org.
- Next coordinator meeting is Sunday, June 4, at Alices.

- Likely no LTD buses to the Fair. LTD doesn't have enough staff. This is not personal. They are also not providing transportation for the Oregon Duck games. There will be school buses for the worker day pass folks. The matter of LTD buses has not been settled. The Late Night Bus program is not affected.
- No 4th of July festivities this year due to proximity to Fair dates.
- Honey Bucket contract tripled in price for this year. This was part of the reason for the increase cost in tickets this year.

Elder Camping Update – Annemarie

We have a second location in South Woods. At this time, we don't know how many campsites our new area will accommodate. We have two people who have stepped up to host the new Elder camp. David Brooks and Kelly Daugherty, formerly of Sweep Crew, will be a super addition to the Elders Team. They plan to attend the retreat.

For Elder Camping at the Hub, the deadline for folks to let us know if they plan to return is June 1st. Camp Cleanup Day is May 20th. This year we've been offered sawdust instead of wood chips.

Annemarie was asked about provisions for RV Camping for Elders. As far as she knows, only the SCOF Lot has that option. It is first come, first serve.

There was a discussion about Ash trees and the Emerald Ash Borer risk in the South Woods camp area.

Elder Volunteers Update – Annemarie

Last year Annemarie and Carolyn worked on a volunteer survey. We have 148 people on our volunteer spreadsheet.

Geezer Pleezer Update: Annemarie thanked Jon Beer for his service as Geezer Pleezer pre-fair coordinating over the past two years. Cathy Piazza is taking on the role this year.

Carolyn is contacting primary folks involved with the Still Living Room (SLR).

There's a question about the potted plants. Last year we didn't get them from Linda Robertson because the pots were too heavy for one person to pick up. We should discuss this at the retreat. Annemarie thanked Michelle Thorne for volunteering to decorate the Geezer Pleezer over the past years. We have two new volunteer GP decorators - Karen Perkins and Ani Sinclair.

Diane McWhorter sent an email asking us about Elder Fair T-shirts. Annemarie, Carolyn, and the Wristband Subcommittee feel that it's too late to initiate this program. While Diane is happy to design and produce shirts, there's the logistics of placing an order, collecting money and distribution. It's late in the game to collect money for T-shirts.

Jeff Eichen offered to investigate coordinating Elder T-Shirts. He figured out it would take about 3 emails to determine if this is doable. Annemarie will send him an email with Diane McWhorter's info and Nancy's email address. (Nancy handles the Elders' Budget).

SLR Light-Up Display -Carolyn

Jerry Joffe would like to hand over the light-up display that was in the SLR for the 50th Anniversary celebration. Would someone be willing to take on the storage and setup of the item? The display requires a deep cycle battery to run the LED lights. Carolyn will bring this up again at the retreat.

Late Night Trips – Carolyn

This is Jerry Joffe's last year for coordinating Late Night Trips. Jerry is retiring from the position but already has a replacement person who will work with him this year. However, additional volunteers are needed to help. This will be brought up again at the Retreat.

May retreat info – Carolyn and Darlene standing in for Kay and Lisa C.

The dates are May **5,6,7**. The meeting is on Saturday May 6 and begins at 10 a.m. Folks showing up for the day are encouraged to arrive early for social time. The hosts are Kay, Lisa, and Mollie. They have a small budget for food, and the lunch is a potluck. People are welcome to arrive on Friday at 5 p.m. for an overnight stay, and people are welcome to stay over Saturday night as well. The building needs to be cleared by Noon on Sunday for the next group. The Spring Fling begins at 6 p.m. at the WOW Hall. Elder business needs to be completed by 5 p.m. so folks can get to the Spring Fling

Jeff Eichen – Has been attending Fair for 46 or 47 years, and he has a huge photo collection that he is willing to share. Someone suggested our Facebook page “Elders of the Oregon Country Fair.”

Wrap-up / Other Comments

Nancy will be available to collect Elders Pass Request Forms with payment at the retreat.
Darlene welcomed Jeff Eichen and Amber Coates as first-time attendees to the meeting.

The next meet is the Elders Retreat, to be held in-person at Alices, **Saturday, May 6**. Meeting start time is **10 a.m.**

The next regular committee meeting will be online **Thursday, May 25, 2023, at 7 p.m.** (same date as the deadline for submitting Pass Request Forms and payment).

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Carolyn Gsell