

Attendance: sue theolass, Ken Kirby, Vince LaRoche, James Nason, Kim Allen, Diane McWhorter, John Govsky (arrived late), Excused: Lucy Kingsley, Arna Shaw Scribe: Diane McWhorter

Other Participants: Adam Budd, Johnny Whiddon, Vanessa Roy, Doug Quirke, Paxton Hoag, Corona, Melissa Schierle, Jay Shuster, Dani Derrick

Introductions and Announcements: Vanessa announced that the donated crafts made more than \$5000 for Culture Jam at the Spring Fling.

Agenda: ***Motion: Approve the agenda (Ken/Diane) 5-0-0

Minutes: ***Motion: Approve the minutes (Sue/James) 6-0-0

Guest Concerns: Johnny Whiddon, one of the Childcare Coordinators, was asking for networking for a new space on the MoonPath in Xavanadu, which didn't get any funding in the budget process. They want to make it an active family (adults and children) craft space. They are looking for artists who would like to lead kid-friendly craft workshops or activities, for which materials will be provided. Suggestions were to contact the Kid Crafter booth (Sandra) or Craft Demo space (Artis Calhoun or Robin Marks-Fife at OCFcraftdemo@oregoncountryfair.org) and Diane offered to list it on the Saturday Market members Facebook group to see if anyone is interested. Community Village also has an Arts Booth and some of those folks may be interested, as they have a very small space. The opportunity is not offered with wristbands but once needs are assessed that is a possibility. Can email coordinators@ocfchildcare.org

Board Liaison Report: sue reported that a Board Worksession on the Code of Conduct will be held on May 15th from 7-9. The Bylaws motion did not pass. There is a motion coming up to raise the age of application to the Elders program from 55 to 60 (gradually over 10 years time.) Best Practices is releasing some guidelines for committees soon. Craft Committee is an operational committee and may not be required to follow all things which apply to other Board committees. Reminder that if you are doing booth repairs please fill out the form on the .net site. There will be LTD service.

Coordinators Reports: Booth Registration: Doug reported that they are deep into the One-year-only siting process. The next email will be sent soon to Booth Reps. Their crew is still figuring out some of the details lost in the coordinator transitions. One suggestion was to ask crafters about neighboring booths which may have gotten into the OYO listing without enough information about their camping spaces, etc. Some booths have been removed for safety considerations. The guidelines now show that popups are allowed under certain circumstances.

Adam arrived and there was a short discussion about alternate ways to jury for items not easily photographed. Maybe a short video could be used in some cases.

Staff Report: Vanessa reported that a contract was signed with LTD for full service on Saturday and Sunday and every 30 minutes on Friday. Office staff will transition to site in June so call the office if you expect to find staff in town. Ticket sales have leveled out after a strong start. There will be a poster pre-sale on the website. Please check the Booth Rep page on the .net site for all communications and links needed to register. The Wait/Share list is posted and the Peach Pit is on track.

Old Business: Booth Rep Transfer: The guidelines language is still confusing regarding the required amount of years in a booth to qualify for a transfer. The pandemic affected some plans and made it harder for people already in the process (two letters were received.) This should go on a fall (September) agenda.

A related issue is Permanent Placement. Many crafters are left out of the process despite many years of participation, when they don't jury or don't get high scores in the jury. Five years participation is required, which doesn't seem like a hard requirement, but no credit is given for more years of participation in the OYO system or as an approved but non-Booth Rep crafter.

One of the guideline details was left out of the 2023 version: the option for a crafter to return from Elder status to sell again within two years.

There is an error in the printed guidelines that has been corrected in the online version, which says that absence from the 2022 event will not be counted as a Leave of Absence. (The printed version says 2023.)

Some other guideline language adjustments were made by Adam.

New Business: Town Hall: Most present are interested in a discussion of the Booth Rep system but the framing is important. How do people really feel about it, and what are reasonable fixes that can be made? Suggestions include "The Myth of Booth Succession" and "Transforming the Booth Rep System." A survey in advance would help clarify the main issues.

Booth Reps are still integral to the system to maintain the booths and organize the other crafters who don't have their own booths. It may be possible to divide up some booths so that a few more people are put in the Booth Rep position. Some booth responsibilities can be (and are) shared by other crafters in the booth. It could be a goal to have each crafter be responsible for their own registration even if that means that some reduction in crafter numbers needs to be made. Moving to a system of re-jurying everyone every few years would switch things up.

The investment people make in their structures has to be acknowledged at the same time as the exclusive nature of passing booths to members already on the inside is recognized. Maybe maintaining these wooden booths is something that needs to be changed with some new models of less permanent structures requiring less investment and maintenance.

The Town Hall could be a place for personal stories (which will be shared regardless, if previous Town Halls are a model) but the space has to be safe for people to talk about if their Booth Reps are present. A survey may be better at gathering info safely. We could ask Survey Crew to help.

A google doc form can be set up (by Vanessa.) A forum site such as was used in the recall can be set up if a monitor is assigned. The goal is to communicate well and promote community so the culture can be changed over time with a minimum of distress. John might be willing to moderate a forum. Maybe include brainstorming in the description. Probably going to be a long discussion or even a series of Town Halls. A lot of listening will be necessary, and post-Fair there is not as much information to share, so longer discussions could work. Online would be best.

Early October?

Temporary Booth Rep status needs a look as well so it isn't a way to bypass the formal system of transferring Booth Rep status.

Food Committee would like to have a joint meeting. Some booth issues are common to both groups.

Next meeting August 9. Thanks to the guests and participants and to sue for the good facilitating. Be kind.

