

ELDERS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – Approved at the 6/19/25 meeting

DATE: Thursday, May 22, 2025

LOCATIONS: Online and OCF Office

MEETING TIME: 6 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT ONLINE: Diane Albino, Ann Bennett-Rogers

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN-PERSON: Nancy Hafner, Kay Kintzley, Michael James-Long, Heather Kent, Eric Nicholson

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Jain Elliott, Robert “Mouseman” McCarthy

PRIMARY BOARD LIAISON PRESENT ONLINE: Kevin Levy

OTHERS PRESENT ON-LINE: Roberta Austin, Maida Belove, Anna Brown, Chewie Burgess, Amber Coates, Darlene Colborn, Paul Compton, Lisa Cooley, Kehn “mambo” Gibson, Carolyn Gsell – scribe, Deb Heatherstone, Annemarie Hirsch, Spirit Leatherwood, Roy Lisi, Cathy Piazza, Jorjan Plimmer, Jane Robin, Jon Steinhart, Jenny Wilson

OTHERS PRESENT IN-PERSON: Synnove Abrahamsen, Steven “Fire DIC” Berkson, Tom Boyatt – Facilitator, Katie Cousins, Chris Howe

The meeting started at 6:04 p.m.

A quorum of 7 of 9 committee members were present at the opening of the meeting; thus, a quorum was established.

Agenda:

- **Approve agenda**
- **Announcements**
- **Member Input**
- **Approve April minutes**
- **Approve Spring Retreat minutes**
- **Elder Camp at the Hub/Geezer Pleezer - Anna B.**
- **Events Subcommittee Update - Kay K.**
- **SLR Storage Box - Carolyn**
- **Letter addressed to "Elders Council" - Tom B.**
- **Wrap-up/meeting evaluation**

Approve Agenda: Done

Announcements: There were no announcements

Member Input: The committee received a report prior to the meeting from three attendees of the spring Elders retreat. Due to the sensitivity of the subject matter, those at the meeting who wished to speak about the matter were given a maximum of 3 minutes to speak. The purpose of the discussion was to allow those who wished to speak to be heard. The committee’s position was that the meeting is a place to do business, and that while complaints are welcome to be heard, the committee is not the place to resolve interpersonal issues. The Oregon Country Fair has established a Fair Community Support Group to help Fair family members work through conflict: <https://oregoncountryfair.net/oregon-country-fair-community-support-process/>.

Approve April meeting Minutes

Carolyn pointed out an attendance error on draft 2 of the April meeting minutes. Attendee Tom Conlin was listed as a committee member present in person, which is an error. Tom Conlin should have been listed as “others” present in person.

Heather made a motion to approve draft 2 of the April minutes as amended by Carolyn. Nancy seconded. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Approve May Retreat Minutes

Kay made a motion to approve draft 2 of the May retreat minutes. Eric seconded. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Elder Camp at the Hub/Geezer Pleezer - Anna B.

Only a couple of people made it to the last camp cleanup. There is a lot of underbrush. She will meet with Alexis to get it taken care of.

Anna received an email from Peggy Burgess of 4A requesting more electric access and some camping space. The space is already occupied, and the charging area is already heavily used. Anna is checking in here to make sure Elders agree with turning down the request. There is already a waiting list for Elder Camp at the Hub.

Cathy P. We thought we had a second GP Coordinator but that didn't work out. They are still looking for another onsite GP Coordinator. Cathy will send a group email to her list of drivers to see if anyone will step up. Maybe we could recruit someone from the OCF Elders website. Cathy camps at Elder Camp and can lend a hand during the Fair, but it is really a two-person job.

Anna B. The next camp cleanup is Sunday, June 8m from 10 a.m. – 2.m.

There was a question about where the Geezer Pleezer job description is posted. Lisa C. knows of someone who may be interested.

Events Subcommittee Update - Kay K. The NeverEver Band and Radar Angels will be performing at the Meet and Greet event. The subcommittee is still talking with the WOW Hall as a possible location for our Winter Holiday Party.

The next committee meeting is the annual in-person meeting with potluck at Kay's in Pleasant Hill. Arrive at 4 p.m. to help setup. Arrive by 5 p.m. for the potluck. The meeting will start after dinner, sometime between 6 and 7 p.m.

No Dogs please, and if walking on the property, watch for poison oak. There will be a designated area for the clothing and camping gear exchange. The Events Subcommittee will serve ice cream treats and is requesting donations to cover costs for the Meet & Greet.

Directions to Kay's: Do NOT use Google Maps, or you will end up in the wrong place. Here are the specific instructions:

Kay's address: 84674 Hill Top Drive, Pleasant Hill.

DON'T ask Google; it will take you to the wrong house.

From Eugene: Highway 58 to the 7-mile marker turn left on Hill Top, come one mile, left at Kay's driveway which will be marked.

From Springfield: come down Parkway to Wheeler Road, turn left and stay on Wheeler until you come to the railroad trestle and turn right on Hill Top Drive, three mailboxes up, Kay's driveway will be on the right, and it will be marked.

SLR Storage Box – Carolyn

A work party is in process of getting scheduled sometime the week of June 16 organizing storage box clean out. There will be some décor giveaways for Elder Camps and/or Events.

Eric agrees that the storage box needs to be sorted out. Eric has been taking responsibility for flagging down someone with a forklift to move the box to the SLR site. Jerry suggested to Eric that we get the storage box out sooner rather than later (but not too soon). Eric is only available during weekends.

Letter addressed to "Elders Council" - Tom B.

A hand-written letter was sent to the "Elders Council". Tom requested that someone from the committee read this letter and determine if any action is required. The letter was handed over to Michael James-Long.

Wrap-up/meeting evaluation

Nancy reminded the group that Sunday, May 25 is the last day to turn in PRFs.

There were some additional comments to follow up with member input. Some people were satisfied with what had been said, and some were not.

A question was asked about who oversees the parking area near the hub during move-in camp days. Eric responded that there is enough parking for 4 – 5 vehicles, and that people come in, unload, and then leave.

Jon Steinhart has been working with the Membership Secretary to determine what is going on with people in their 40's who have Elder Status. Consensus is that this is likely a data entry problem, possibly an incorrect birthdate entry. Tom B. requested to get the list of people Jon is referring to, and he will investigate it.

Michael James-Long mentioned that he sent documentation via the ECOCF listserv that describes the original purpose and description of the original Elders Council, which no longer exists as an entity.

Jon Steinhart - The Fair Cares (Fair Community Support) has trained professionals who deal with difficult issues. If you are not happy with how things are working out here, you can work with trained professionals.

The meeting ended at 7:12 p.m.

Upcoming Meeting Reminders:

- In person committee meeting and potluck at Kay's in Pleasant Hill, Thursday, June 19. Setup starts at 4 p.m., Potluck starts at 5 p.m. The meeting will begin after dinner, sometime between 6 and 7 p.m.