

ELDERS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 04/23/26 DRAFT 1 – Approved at the 5/28/26 meeting

DATE: Thursday, April 23, 2026

LOCATIONS: Online via Zoom, and OCF Office

MEETING TIME: 6:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT ONLINE: Diane Albino, Anna Brown, Lisa Cooley, Heather Kent, Eric Nicholson

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN-PERSON: Synnove Abrahamsen, Jain Elliott, Nancy Hafner, Mike James-Long, Kay Kintzley, Robert “Mouseman” McCarthy, Ann Rogers

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT ONLINE: Sandra Bauer

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT ONLINE: Alex Zabala

OTHERS PRESENT IN-PERSON: Katie Cousins-facilitator, David Gizara, Travis Honea, Chris Howe

OTHERS PRESENT ONLINE: Georgia Bartlett, Steven Berkson, Sally C., Paul Compton, Jeannine Emery-Scribe, Kehn “mambo” Gibson, Carolyn Gsell, John Higby, Annemarie Hirsch, Jerry Joffe, Jerry Schultz, Jenny Wilson, Elaine (Nanna) last name not given.

AGENDA

- Approve Agenda
- Quorum
- Announcements
- Board Liaison Report (Sandra Bauer)
- T-Shirt Organizers (Travis & Justin)
- Approve March 3/26/26 Minutes Draft 3
- Spring Retreat (Kay)
- Annual Report to the Board of Directors (Lisa)
- Magical History Tour Theatre (Jerry)
- Counterculture Coalition (Jerry)
- Late Night Trips (Jerry)
- Meeting Review

QUORUM: All 12 Elder Committee Members present.

AGENDA REVIEW: The committee approved the agenda by unanimous consent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Guidelines are available in the fair office on the table and in the box.
- George Braddock memorial was this past weekend. I've known him for many years and learned a lot about him at his celebration of life. He was a wonderful human being.
- There will be a map that is separate from the guidelines and there will be tons of them.
- There will be an email sent to Elders with information about the next work party for Durables.
- Elaine introduced herself as a new Elder as of 2025. She has worked many crews and looks forward to being a part of the Elders' activities.
- Travis introduced herself from the office and has worked at fair for 32 years. Travis and Justin are taking on the T-Shirts project, and she will be talking about T-Shirts in this meeting.
- The Dragon Bench project for the restoration will be done by the fair. Mouseman and John will be going next weekend to see it.

BOARD LIAISON REPORT: (SANDRA BAUER)

- Sandra Bauer is the Board Representative tonight filling in for John Davis the Elders Board Liaison.
- The Board is working on refining online voting. That requires a bylaws amendment. The next two meetings, it will be new business at the next meeting, and a vote in the June Board meeting.
- The Board is also working on philanthropy and refining the process.
- Kirsten will email the guidelines to everyone using the Sunshine system. Everyone will have their own copy by the end of June.
- Teresa will be starting a new thing this year for the Still Living Room. She wants to make luminaries for the people who have passed that we will hang in the Still Living Room.
- Luminaries will be made at Sandra Bauers house on June 29th and 30th and there's room for 6 people.

BOARD MEMBER Q & A

- Question: What is a luminary? Answer: They are like papier mache, and you put them on a stick and they light up. Rachelle Potter is going to guide us in making them.

- Question: A tree is down in Sweats. Who is the contact to remove it? Answer: Tree Crew has their own inbox now and you can email Tree Crew at oregoncountryfair.org

T-SHIRT ORGANIZERS: (TRAVIS & JUSTIN) Travis has been with registration for 32 years along with her husband Justin Honea. They have taken over the T-Shirts for Elders and will be working with Jeffrey Eichen. There will be an email address created for the T-Shirts orders and questions. The design will be on vinyl not screen printing. Peggy passed away and didn't leave any information for the T-Shirts sales and distribution. Travis has experience and confidence that they can get it done.

COMMENTS:

- Possibilities for T-Shirts to be distributed on Tuesday during wrist banding and at The Hub at Fair.
- The word Elders needs to be larger, larger on the design.
- Every color in the world is in the design.
- The design is posted in the Chat.
- There will be at least one shirt available to see and touch at the retreat.
- We are looking for some new items to purchase this year and not just shirts.
- The shirts that are not picked up will be available at the Fair Office.
- The shirts will be purchased in advance and the money collected by the Elders (Travis and Justin) not by the Fair Office.

APPROVE DRAFT 3 MARCH MINUTES: The Elders Committee Meeting Minutes for March were approved by unanimous consent.

SPRING RETREAT: (KAY)

- May 8th-10th at Alice's.
- The doors will be open at 3:00pm
- Friday May 8, 5:00 pm. Bring your own dinner Friday Night.
- Meeting Saturday May 9, 10:00 am until it is over. Break for lunch and a walk.
- Potluck Saturday.
- Walk around the Fair Saturday.
- Agenda will be determined at the Retreat which is not an official Elder Committee Meeting.
- Sectioning off some ADA parking in front for people with mobility issues would be helpful.

- There was concern at the last retreat that the living room gets packed and people will be sitting in front of the sliding glass doors. Access and egress are compromised. There is a hallway, and the front door is also down a hall.
- Tenting outside to expand the seating area and clear those paths might be a good idea to prepare for an emergency or worst-case scenario.

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE BOARD: (LISA) There was a discussion about the 2026 version of the Board Report and the deadline for submission. The Best Practices committee will have a meeting on April 27th. Lisa will attend via Zoom. The committee had no objections to the submission by Lisa and thanked her for doing the work.

MAGICAL HISTORY TOUR THEATRE DISCUSSION: (JERRY) The Peach Pit has a deadline for May 1st. Jerry Joffe has volunteered to write the article for the Peach Pit. He will provide the schedule for the Elders that includes the video of how the fair began, and the 3 (three) OPB videos. These will run on a continuous loop all 3 (three) days of Fair.

STILL LIVING ROOM:

- Jerry will work with Carolyn to write the article about The Still Living Room.
- The Elders set up The Still Living Room. The date for the setting up needs to be determined.
- Kevin brings out the timelines and there are usually 3 (three) work parties before the Fair.
- Eric will continue to go out to remove the poison oak at Elders Hub Camp.

COMMENTS:

- The work party form is available online all year round.
- A week prior to the work party is requested for the forms to be submitted to the Fair office so the site calendar can be updated.
- The form is for all crews so the equipment is in order, and the office has a record of which crews are on site. One of the staff (Alexis, Corey, Jeff, or Darwin) will stop by to see that everything is going well.
- The dates of the future work parties for May and June will be determined at the Spring Retreat.
- Elders have 3 (three) camps that need to be cleaned up. 1)Del Boca Veneta 2) The Hub 3) South Woods.
- The Del Boca Veneta and The Hub camps look pretty good. The camps in the South Woods need cleaning up.

- The individual camping sites will be cleaned up by the campers assigned to the spot.
- There are no festivities at Fair on July 4th. There are many crews working on site July 4th and resources are stretched thin. Only working crews are allowed on site July 4th.
- Elders crew that submits a work party form will be allowed to be on site July 4th to set up The Still Living Room.

COUNTERCULTURE HISTORY COALITION: (JERRY) The Counterculture History Coalition is accepted for the Spoken Word stage. The panel will discuss the Counterculture, and they are still looking for Gen Zer's to participate. They are asking Elders who have grandkids between the ages of 18-25 who are interested to sign up. Contact Jerry Joffe via email.

COMMENTS:

- Gen Z is between the ages of 14-29. Born between 1997-2012.
- Two Emails for Gen Zer's to contact The Counterculture History Coalition will be posted in Chat.
- Recommended that the Gen Zer's on the panel are over the age of 18. If minors are included, then a background check procedure will most likely be required.

LATE NIGHT TRIPS: (JERRY) Late night trips are running again this year. This provides a ride back to town for people to stay after the sweep that don't want to stay the night.

- The first bus leaves at 10 pm on Thursday.
- Friday and Sunday at Midnight.
- Saturday night at 1 in the morning.
- There are two buses each night.
- The registration form and information are available on the .NET site under the News and Announcements.
- The fact sheet online will tell you everything you need to know.

COMMENTS:

- The Late-Night Trips reservations and payments will be available on Sunshine in the future. That's something they are working on.

MEETING REVIEW:

- There is an Elder Camp work party scheduled for May 30th and the forms have been sent to the office.
- Two Elder Camp work parties are tentatively scheduled for May 16th and June 6th but have not been confirmed.

- Emails will be sent with the dates for the work parties.
- There will be more work party information at the Retreat.
- There will be more Late-Night Trips information at the Retreat.
- There is a transcript of the meeting for the Scribe to have an accurate record for the minutes. This meeting was not recorded from the start of the meeting.

MOTION TO END MEETING: The motion to end the meeting was passed by unanimous consent.

The meeting ended at 7:12 pm.

MOTIONS PASSED:

- Motion passed to approve the 3/26/26 Minutes Draft 3.

UPCOMING DATES:

- Spring Retreat May 8th-10th
- Best Practices Meeting April 27th
- Work Party for Camp Clean Up May 30th
- Luminaries work party Monday, June 29th and Tuesday, June 30th