

Board members present: Robert Aurnague-DeSpain, Ron Chase, Robert Thompson, Santos Narvaez, Mary Wagner, Moz Wright, John Parrott, George Braddock, Brian Rohter, Jim Guthrie, Frank Sharpy.

Election of Officers: The Board elected the following officers whose term is one year. President: Robert Aurnague-DeSpain, Secretary: Kay C Renfro, Treasurer: Anya Montgomery.

Sunday Meetings?: Concerns expressed at the Annual Meeting over the Sunday night Board meetings and where they were held was discussed. No alternatives to Sunday could be reached as Sunday really seems to be the best night for the majority. The problem of jobs, kids and school is the same every other night of the week unless one wants to give up their weekends. However, as is customary after the Annual Meeting, meetings will be held at Growers Market up until a month before the Fair when they will be moved to the Fair Site. Meetings held during the winter months when attendance is poor will continue to be held at private homes where it is more relaxed and warm. If you are ever in doubt as to a meeting schedule please call the secretary at 747-5830. The secretary's number may also be acquired through Switchboard.

Attorney Retainer: Robert Aurnague-DeSpain presented a draft of a retainer agreement between the Fair and our attorney, Jill Heiman. Mary Wagner moved we accept the retainer as written, but with an additional clause enabling us to terminate the agreement at any time and making provisions for the attorney's appearance at Executive Board meetings. Authorized representatives requesting the attorney's services are: Robert Aurnague-DeSpain, Anya Montgomery, Mary Wagner and Ron Chase. Motion seconded and passed unanimously.

Poster Selection Committee: Our poster maker, Ananda August, who has done so well for us in the past years will not be able to this year. Robert Aurnague-DeSpain suggested we appoint a panel to select our poster for this year from sketches of several artists. Next year we will have a poster contest. It was moved that Barbara Stern, Marcia O'Dell, Patti Lomont, Marshall Landman and Laurie McClain be accepted as our poster committee. Motion seconded and passed unanimously.

Information Coordinator: Mary Wagner nominated Norah Roberts for Information Coordinator. It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously that Norah Roberts be our new Information Coordinator.

Highway Committee: Jim Guthrie requested the Highway Committee meet one last time since there was a lot of concern over the highway situation at the Annual Meeting. Several members expressed a desire to make an appeal to the Historical Landmark Commission about possible excavation of the archeological dig that made it necessary to move the route of the highway onto Fair property. The archeological digs were registered as such on a federal level and moving them may not be feasible, but if any members wish to make a last ditch effort in this area your energies are welcome as the Board's energy has been exhausted. All members have had access to all the highway information and recommendations made by the Board, but if you feel strongly about a possible alternative-Robert Thompson moved the Board direct the Highway Committee to meet one more time and report back at the April 29, 1984, Board meeting. Motion seconded and passed.

Bronze Plaque: Jim Guthrie presented a clay mold of the Fair Logo which he would like to bronze and display at the entrance to the Fair with an appropriate statement to be inscribed in the space provided. Robert Thompson moved the Board approve of Jim's plaque and form a committee to select an appropriate statement or quotation for the plaque. Motion seconded and passed unanimously. Norah Roberts, Robert Thompson, Moz Wright, and Gregory Howard volunteered to be the plaque committee.

Discussion of Election Speeches: The nomination speeches by George Braddock and John Parrott made some serious misrepresentations and accusations against the Board. The Board felt these issues should be examined so that the parties involved would be properly informed and a clarification or explanation could be presented to the membership at large. The areas of the speeches causing concern, along with clarification is as follows:

Nomination speeches: This is the first time we have had controversial issues raised in a simple nomination speech. Allegations were made misrepresenting the Board that they did not have a chance to challenge, refute or defend. Candidates need to make sure all information presented to the membership is accurate.

Highway: George Braddock stated "that all but one Board member ignored the will of the Fair body concerning the proposed highway." This was incorrect. The Board felt they weighed the cost of opposition (attorneys advised us our chances were not at all good) against getting positive results (such as the considerations listed in the December 1982 letter to the Department of Transportation). The Highway Committee presented the Fair body with all information concerning the highway and requested their input on all issues. Any Fair member at any time could ask the Board for approval if they found an avenue of appeal they would like to pursue concerning the highway.

Food Voucher Decision at 1983 Fair: George and John Parrott were under the impression that the workers, as employees, should have been paid first when the Fair was low on money due to the rain. As a nonprofit organization we cannot have employees--all workers are volunteers. It was the Fair's obligation to make sure our outstanding debts could be paid. We had already contracted for outside services and we had the land payment to make. What money there was in the bank would not have covered the food vouchers also. Had food vouchers been dispersed, the food booths may have ultimately been the ones to suffer. There were at least 15 people present when the decision to hold food vouchers was made. It was not an easy decision and communication through the ranks about the decision was poor. The Fair did try their best to feed the workers and we should be proud of the way we all handled a very difficult situation.

Executive Board Meetings: It is a common practice for Board of Directors of organizations to hold executive board meetings (meetings for board members only). It is not against the bylaws to hold such meetings. No decisions are made in executive board meetings. Such meetings are for the protection of the Fair and its members incase publication of information discussed at these meetings could damage the reputation of any member or harm the Fair in any way.

Changing the Bylaws: George stated the Board of Directors "changed the bylaws at whim." The Board of Directors does not change the bylaws at whim. Those changes that were made during the year only updated the bylaws to coincide with the way things were already being done. There is a major revision being considered on the bylaws now that will make it necessary to have approval of the Fair membership to change the Bylaws.

Operational Management Team: This proposal has not yet been discussed or approved by the Board. It is on the agenda for the next meeting. The OMT was proposed as an attempt to formalize an operational management system which would decentralize the control of operations while defining

the limits of that authority at the same time. In the past this responsibility was taken on by some Main Camp staff and a few key coordinators, with the final decision being left to the President. The old process created a work overload on the staff involved and sometimes led to problems in communication.

The Budget: John Parrott was under the impression that coordinators voted on approval of their own budgets. This is not correct. There is a Budget Committee that handles all budgeting of Fair expenses.

George and John apologized to the Board for their misleading statements and expressed a desire to start anew and do their best in being responsible Board members. George was willing to make a public apology for some of his statements and both were willing to clarify to the membership those areas of their speeches the Board felt were misrepresented

Election Results: Walter Renfro gave Robert Aurnague-DeSpain a letter from Jeannie Babeckos, a handwriting expert, who could testify in court that four or five people had filled out approximately fifty election ballots. The ballots came under suspicion when the Election Committee noticed a number of ballots that did not contain six votes. Robert was contacted and asked the secretary, Kay C Renfro, to tally all the ballots and count those not containing six votes. After totaling the votes and comparing them to last year's ballots it appeared there were more ballots than normal containing only three or four votes for the same candidates. Walter Renfro was authorized to take the ballots to Portland to the handwriting expert. The Board members agreed it was disheartening that such a thing could happen at a Fair election and that a better balloting procedure was necessary. John Parrott suggested getting a second professional opinion as he felt the large number of three and four votes could be explained by the fact he had encouraged his supporters to only vote for three or four if they were the three or four candidates they wanted to see elected. Ron Chase pointed out it was not illegal to vote for less than six people, but it was unethical to use twenty or thirty people to sway the votes of the majority. A re-election was also suggested. Even if one or two people cheated it wasn't fair to the membership. Robert Thompson moved the Board authorize the officers to take the ballots to another expert at a cost not to exceed \$400. John Parrott seconded. The motion was amended to reimburse Walter Renfro the \$150 he paid Jeannie Babeckos. Amendment seconded. Motion and amendment passed by majority. It was agreed the ballots should be taken to our attorney, Jill Heiman, and that further suggestions regarding the investigation of ballot fraud be considered soon, sometime before the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

NEXT MEETING: Regular Board Meeting
April 29, 1984
7pm, Growers Market



