## OREGON COUNTRY FAIR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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

<u>Announcements</u>: Robert Aurnague-DeSpain attended a forum on socially responsible investment possibilities. He plans to make recommendations in the near future.

Jill Heiman, our attorney, inspected the Board's revisions for the bylaws and gave us her suggestions. The bylaws are on the agenda for the next Board meeting. If you would like a copy of the proposed revisions please contact the secretary.

Open Retreat-May 11, 12, 13, at Camp White Branch in the Old McKenzie Pass. Registration cards will be mailed, but if you don't receive one and would like to attend please contact the secretary.

Coordinators-Some of you have not turned in your budgets. They are overdue.

Annual Board Meeting Update: The secretary gave a rough account of the Annual Board Meeting and a history of the handling of the ballots since the Annual Election. Many rumors were reported concerning the handling of the ballots and the gathering of evidence that led to the charge of fraud in the election of the Board of Directors this year. John Parrott and George Braddock stated the large number of ballots containing three or four votes could be confirmed by the fact that they had encouraged their supporters to only vote for three or four people if they wanted to see those three or four elected. They offered affidavids to support this claim and therefore, did not feel a fraud had occurred in the election. Brian, George and John felt most of the difficulties with the present Board could be worked out and since all had agreed to a new start and to getting along with each other, they offered this motion:

Statement of the Board of Directors concerning the election in the 1984 Annual Meeting: The Board of Directors believes that the 1984 election of Moz Wright, Mary Wagner, Brian Rohter, John Parrott, George Braddock and Jim Guthrie, was a legitimate result of the democratic process. We are however, concerned with the loose manner and style in which the ballots were distributed, collected, and handled after the votes were tallied and the results announced. We feel the necessity to insure that no doubts are ever cast on the results of one of cur elections again. We commit ourselves to improving the process and call on the Fair community to help us with this project.

A roll call vote was asked for. The Board members votes and some basic reasons for that vote are as follows: Brian Rohter, Aye; George Braddock, Aye; John Parrott, Aye; Moz Wright, Aye-I do believe a fraud was involved, we must improve our voting procedure so this kind of thing doesn't happen again. We have agreed we can all function as a Board and to get this whole mess over with and get on with the Fair I vote yes; Santos Narvaez, Aye; Mary Wagner, Opposed-Having looked at the ballots I believe a fraud was committed. I stood on a platform for members rights and even if 20% of the suspected ballots were bad, I believe the membership has a right to a fair and honest election. I would support a re-election; Robert Aurnague-DeSpain, Aye; Lucy Parker, Opposed-Something has gone array. Suspicions and mistrust often make working relations difficult. It would be fair to the membership to have a re-election; Robert Thompson, Abstain-I do not believe it is the Board's place to approve an election and since I can't support the motion I abstain; Ron Chase, Aye-With deep regrets I

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support the motion. The days when the Fair could have a non-political election based on trust are gone. I am voting for the motion only because we do not have time or money to go through another election. It is too close to Fair time and that is what I'd like to get on withthe Fair.

George Braddock's Nomination Speech: George mentioned some things in his campaign speech that he has since reconsidered and offered the following letter to apologize for and help clarify some of his misleading statements:

On Sunday, March 25, 1984, I presented a campaign speech at the Fair Annual Meeting. The address was a very emotional one. My love and concern for the Fair and its future resulted in my making some statements that I would like to clarify.

It was not my intent then or now to hurt feelings or bring up old wounds. In my address, any reference to personal problems was uncalled for. I made the statement that all but one member of the Board ignored the

will of the Fair body concerning the proposed highway. This was misleading. The intent here was to illustrate the need for greater information sharing, and not just through the minutes. A very real need for the Board to inform the body and educate them is the real issue.

The Board of Directors has not changed the bylaws at will as I said in by speech. Although the Board has on occasion suspended the bylaws or at least edited them.

My feelings on this subject are very strong and I take active issue with any bylaw change without community input and involvement. The bylaws must be binding for all of us. I hold no animosity for any one on this Board. I have for the last

I hold no animosity for any one on this Board. I have for the last two years actively and positively participated in Board meetings. It is my intent to work with this group for a better Fair.

NEXT MEETING: Sunday, April 29, 1984 at 7pm at Growers Market

Agenda

Old Business: Bylaw Revision Review-Frank Sharpy Retreat-Robert Aurnague-DeSpain Operational Management Team-Ron Chase

New Business:

Equestrian Group Representing OCF at Parades-Reggie Soto New Registration and Admissions Coordinators-Marcia O'Dell Discussion of Data Base-Peter Eberhardt, Brian Bauske Country Pig-Bonnie Ross

