

OREGON COUNTRY FAIR
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING

November 2, 1986

Agenda

Announcements
Fair Dates
WOW Hall
Elections
Long Range Planning
Poster Selection
Committee Reports
Budget Committee Report

Present: Frank Sharpy (facilitating), Robert Aurnague-DeSpain, Marshall Landman, Wally Slocum, Lucy Lynch, Moz Wright, Zachariah Schwartz, Patti Lomont, Don Hathaway, Anne Henry, John Winslow and Tom Wenk alternates.

Announcements

Community Village is having a general meeting November 19, 1986 at Growers Market, 7:00 PM.

It was moved that the minutes from the meeting of September 21, 1986 be approved. Marshall Landman moved and Patti Lomont seconded. It was approved unanimously.

The Current Board of Directors, including those newly elected were introduced. Tom Wenk (alternate), John Winslow (alternate), Don Hathaway, Anne Henry, Lucy Lynch, Moz Wright, Marshall Landman, Wally Slocum, Frank Sharpy, Patti Lomont, Robert Aurnague-DeSpain and Zachariah Schwartz.

The date for the 1987 Oregon Country Fair was set at July 10, 11, 12, 1987.

Robert Aurnague-DeSpain moved that the date for the fair be set for the next five (5) years, so that folks who needed to plan ahead could do so. Patti Lomont seconded. It was suggested that the Long Range planning committee set those dates and bring them back to the BOD for approval. The motion passed unanimously.

+++ Zacharia Schwartz moved that a Long Range Planning Committee be formed and that those interested in participating should be at a meeting on November 23, 1986 at 6:30 PM at 1400 High Street. Lucy Lynch seconded. Passed Unanimously.

Anne Henry announced that folks had turned in copies of the "Wish List", which had been passed around at the Annual Meeting, and that 63 had turned those lists in with results being quite varied as to what folks thought was important for the Fair to spend surplus on. Each suggestion will be evaluated.

Crews were asked to turn in their "wants" prior to January 12, 1987, so that they can be used when budgets are set.

The cost of several items was discussed as well as the cost of a "6-pack" being \$1,500.

WOW Hall

The WOW Hall needs to pay off a \$15,000.00 mortgage with an additional \$10,000 needed for operations.

Jon Pincus, Director of the WOW Hall, indicated that the note was a debt consolidation loan taken out in 1979 and it is a trust deed, not a mortgage. The loan was actually due on November 7, 1985, but they were given an extension of one (1) year to come up with the money. Now it's one (1) year later and they need the money and don't have it.

Much lengthy discussion ensued, with most present sensing that the WOW Hall really needed the money and the Country Fair wanted to help, but since it was such a pressing problem and the decision needed time, it should be put off.

Jon Pincus pointed out that the date was approaching and there was no time.

Much more discussion took place, with suggestions being given as to having a title search and offering a trust deed that was repayable after a certain period of time, on demand.

Most people wanted to make certain that if the OCF did help the WOW Hall, that the OCF would be covered in case of unforeseen events that can always pop up.

Many were curious as to how all of this came up so quickly and had had so much research readied.

Anya Montgomery, OCF Treasurer, indicated that she had received telephone calls from Board of Director members and had looked into ramifications pretty seriously. The time had to be now because of the WOW Hall's need.

Many people felt pushed by the article that had been printed in the Eugene Register Guard and the U of O paper the Emerald. Folks were wanting to make it clear that the OCF had planned to carefully research ways to use any excess revenues to help the Fair move forward and be on a better footing.

Jon Pincus said that the WOW Hall had a need now and was letting the community know that they needed help right away if their organization were going to survive.

Many questions arose concerning the number of financial organizations that had been contacted to give loans for the repayment of this \$15,000.00 loan. Jon Pincus indicated that he had talked to SBA and several local (city/county) governmental agencies that might be able to give grants, etc. However the picture was that these were pretty far down the road to give relief to the situation now.

Jon also indicated that the WOW was probably getting its maximum support from the local community who was the target market for its services. The picture remains that monies need to be brought in from something other than gate revenues.

It was explained that the loan was second in line after a loan from the city for some renovations, and that loan was only due if the building were to be sold.

Marshall Landman questioned the OCF's ability to deal with a bad year if so much capital was laid out on this project. Marshall said that he wanted to make sure that the Country Fair was on good footing for the future, as well making certain the WOW Hall had a place in the community.

Many people felt that the WOW Hall needs help and as responsible members of this community, the OCF should do their best to help out when and any way that is possible.

Wally Slocum said that he wants the OCF to support the WOW Hall. The two organizations were born at the same time and the whole idea of helping out organizations in need is not a new one. Originally the OCF helped out many local groups when they had needs and the OCF had the resources. The WOW Hall will probably always need help, and here is a golden opportunity to help them get a good footing on the future.

Many people suggested OCF involvement in the planning and management of the WOW Hall.

Jean Marie Aurnague-DeSpain said that she felt offended that Wally had spoken to the press about the OCF's proposed aid to the WOW Hall, before checking with others involved. She felt that the whole long range planning by the Fair was compromised by the articles in the paper.

+++ Moz Wright moved to consider granting a \$15,000.00 Loan to the WOW Hall under the conditions outlined by the OCF lawyer. Stipulations will be as follows: The OCF will be paid \$300 per month payments from the WOW Hall, money raised from fund raisers should be used to reduce the principle, and lastly, the rate of interest shall be 2%. Zachariah Schwartz seconded.

After much discussion the question was called and a roll call vote was taken. Patti Lomont - abstain; Robert Aurnague- DeSpain- For; Don Hathaway - For; Anne Henry - Opposed; Lucy Lynch - Abstain; Moz Wright - For; Marshall Landman - Opposed; Wally Slocum -For; Frank Sharpy - Opposed; Zachariah Schwartz - For. Motion Failed.

Marshall Landman asked the group to look at what we could do to help the WOW Hall and make a proposal that was acceptable.

Palmer Parker who was present asked that the OCF and the WOW Hall have a board to board meeting to iron out some type of proposal that would be acceptable to both OCF and the WOW Hall.

+++ Wally Slocum moved that the OCF Board of Directors desires to aid the WOW Hall, and research will be done to best aid the WOW Hall presently. Moz Wright seconded.

The question was called. It was approved unanimously.

Many people suggested that Wally Slocum's speech to the press had really been difficult to deal with. It really put the OCF Board in a compromising position.

Wally said that he had expressed his personal feelings. Others felt that he should have been very clear that he stated they were personal feelings and not the wishes of the OCF BOD. He apologized for any problems he may have caused.

Moz Wright indicated that all Board members should be very careful to remember that when they are together as a group they can speak for the OCF BOD, but when they are apart, they speak as individuals.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Secretary - Cheryl Jones, unanimously approved.

Treasurer - Anya Montgomery, unanimously approved.

President - Bedo Crafts, unanimously approved.

It was discussed that the office of president could be changed in the near future to fit with a new manner of managing the OCF. If this changes, there could be a new president later on.

The OCF Treasurer asked to have several items approved for line items on the budget. Those items were new Peach Carts, Reforestation, Wash areas, Six-Packs, and a Computer. This does not mean that all these items will be done this year, what it means is that these items can be considered and may become line items in 1987 Budget. The Board of Directors will be able to reject or accept amounts and individual items in the early part of 1987 when the final budget is approved.

+++ Zachariah Schwartz moved to add the above mentioned items to the planning for the 1987 Budget. Lucy Lynch seconded. Approved Unanimously.

The need to have a poster committee to help with the judging of the Posters that will be submitted in the contest was discussed. It was said that the committee should have varied representation and should be small.

+++ Patti Lomont moved to accept the Poster Committees suggestions with the stipulation that they come back later with suggested timelines for this coming year. Frank Sharpy seconded. Unanimously approved.

+++ Frank Sharpy moved that the Printing Coordinator and the Publicity Coordinator be appointed to handle getting out a data sheet that would clearly outline all timelines involved in the Poster Selection. Moz Wright seconded. Passed unanimously.

+++ Moz Wright moved to allow the artist to have their name printed on the poster, as well as the company that does the silk screening, as long as it is done in an artful manner. Robert Aurnague-DeSpain seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Many folks indicated a need to have the words "NO DOGS - NO CAMPING" very clear on all posters as problems still are there with people thinking it was okay to bring animals with them. Discussion continued and it was pointed out that it has always been stressed and some people still continue to bring animals when they come to the Fair.

It was brought out that it should be stressed through the GUIDELINES and not on the posters, as it was already there and by being clear in the guidelines, and the notices posted at gates, it should be a problem we can deal with.

Next meeting December 7, 1986 at 7:00 PM at the WOW Hall.