

P. O. Box 2972  
Eugene, OR 97402



(503) 343-4298

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 14, 1992

Present: Dan Dillon, Thom Chambliss, Bob Durnell, Steve Gorham, Anne Henry, Paxton Hoag, Jim Sahr (alternate), Margo Schaefer, Jeanne Sharpy, Steve Wisnovsky

Absent: Kelly Campbell

5. Reggie Soto said the OCF will be represented in the Eugene Celebration Parade on Saturday, September 19. (And, this note written after the fact, indeed we won first prize in the entry with horses category.)

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## MINUTES

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*Motion: Margo moved to approve the minutes of the August 3, 1992 Board of Directors meeting as mailed. Bob seconded.*

Thom said he erred when he told us that California Yurtworks was not operating.

*Vote: The motion passed, 9 for, 0 opposed. (Paxton yet to be heard from as he was toodling down the highway on a flat tire, so we learned later.)*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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1. Margo is resigning from the Budget Committee.
2. David English said that he and others collected 31 barrels of garbage after the picnic in a massive clean-up.
3. Jim Guthrie announced a benefit for Chatauga at South Eugene High School on October 4.
4. John Doscher said the second roadside garbage pickup is scheduled for October 17 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., potluck to follow. Come out to the Fair and prepare for the Board elections by picking up trash along the highway.

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## GENERAL MANAGER

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Leslie Scott, ~~Office~~ **REPORTS** Manager, said that ~~Suzanna MacDonald has resigned as Office~~ Manager, as of September 25. Leslie read a letter of thanks from Kit Kesey, producer of the defunct Field Trip (see the newsletter for full text of Kit's letter). The Fair is not totally deconstructed and Leslie is hoping about 10 people will come out and help do this work. The Evaluation Meeting is scheduled for September 23, 7 pm at the WOW Hall. Bill Verner, Caretaker, et al have done a great job of picking up after the picnic. Thanks to Palmer Parker and John Anthony for all their errand running at the picnic. Leslie fervently thanked Wally Slocum for a great job behind the food table. Leslie visited the Veneta Economic Development Council and will be the guest speaker at their next meeting. She recommended we work with Galen Carpenter, Energy Park and member of the Veneta City Council, to help build playgrounds in Veneta.

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## TREASURER

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Nance Sledge, Treasurer, said her term is up in November and she is not interested in running for re-election. If anyone would like to take over this elected position, please write a letter of interest to the Fair office. Officers are elected by the Board of Directors at its annual November meeting. Nance thanked all coordinators who turned in their

financial data and urged those who haven't yet done so to get on it.

### CARETAKER'S REPORT

You've seen Elvis impersonators but have you ever seen a Bill Verner impersonator? In Bill's absence Leslie did her best to sound just like our caretaker, thanking all the people who helped clean up after the picnic and reminding people to come out before the rains start and pick up their wayward, orphaned refrigerators. (Leslie forgot who she was pretending to be and broke out in a chorus of "Jailhouse Rock.")

### ELECTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Jim Guthrie announced that five candidate statements have been received for the six available Board positions. Absentee ballots will be mailed out on the 28th of September.

### BOOTHPERSON MEETING REPORT

Following is Wren Davidson's report on the annual meeting of the boothpeople held on the Thursday before the Fair, July 9, 1992

#### We really appreciate:

The happy atmosphere this year. Yeah water! Smoother registration. The new bathrooms behind Shady Grove. The expanded kids' area. The OCF family spirit.

#### Problems we face:

We are severely underrepresented in the policy voicing of the Fair. We want to elect a JURY of OUR PEERS, from the Family. BoD can have a say, but let's try it just one time, folks. We want to support artisans from our region. Who is the source of encouraging expensive, high-end crafts from out-of-regioners? The Appeals process was a farce. People traveled great distances to find out that the "committee" didn't feel they could overrule the jury's original decisions. We want the jury to be known and answerable. Many feel that the Craft Committee doesn't represent the view of the majority.

### Long Range Planning Concerns

Who are we putting this Fair on for? Is it a large family reunion to which the public is invited or is it a commercial event to serve the public at the possible cost of environmental and social/family breakdown? (Do we go the microcosm-macrocosm comparison to the culture we were originally touted for countering?) Population control. Conveyor-belt grid lock already a problem. Let's sell advanced tickets to our guests. We want the emphasis to be on family. Giving booths water barrels to regularly sprinkle the paths is a great innovation. Publicize it more. We need more booth people to register as voting Fair members. We are in full support of the whole family being able to vote on issues. How about questionnaires to sample opinions on controversial topics? (Currently we are told that there are only 1500 voting members.) We will continue to have the annual boothpeople's meeting every Thursday before the Friday opening of the Fair, from 7-9 pm and we would like to have this printed in the events calendars, please.

Thank you, thank you, thank you.

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## AGENDA

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### BOARD RETREAT

Motion: Bob moved there be a Board of Director retreat the weekend of November 7-8 and that the November Board meeting be November 9. Anne seconded.

Vote: The motion passed 9 for, 1 (Jim) opposed.

### PRINTING COORDINATOR

Motion: Steve W. moved to accept with regrets Don Reynolds' resignation as Printing Coordinator and accept his recommendation of Mike Harris as his successor. Bob seconded.

Background. Don Reynolds resigned as Printing Coordinator as of September 15, 1992. He will continue as Busses Coordina-



tor. He recommends Mike Harris, who has been working Don for three years, as his successor.

Discussion: Leslie thanks Don for a job well done, especially notable because he has also been bus coordinator. She also thanks him for the beautiful art he created for the Fair thank you cards.

Vote: *The motion passed, 10 for. (Paxton showed up, looking for a jack to change his flat. If he were in England he'd be looking for a flat to change his jack.)*

### CARETAKER RESIDENCE

(This was a looooooong one, folks.)

Background: Deviating from our usual format (let it never be said we're stuck in a rut) we're starting with background.

The Board had previously voted to purchase a yurt for the caretaker's residence and directed the building committee to formulate a purchase and finance proposal, and present these ideas to the Board for approval.

Bob Durnell reported that the Committee had two different viewpoints, the "majority" plan and a "minority" plan. Bob presented the majority prospectus, which, in summary includes: Purchasing a 1106 sq. ft. yurt from Oregon Yurtworks at a base price of \$27,365 and hiring an on site construction manager. The proposal includes a Russian style stove, a passive cooling system, a solar powered 12 volt lighting system, and a deck. Financing would include a \$10,000 down payment and the rest financed with a "Shareback loan" from OUR Credit Union. The overall budget would be \$62,940, including \$27,365 for the yurt, \$22,400 to finish to final inspection and occupancy; \$8,500 for masonry stove, cooling system, solar lighting and deck, \$675 for appliances, \$4,000 for an office with bath to be built by construction off the warehouse. Costs includes all labor. A finishing date goal of January 1993 was proposed.

Kirk Schultz presented the "minority" proposal, which is: that the Board approve the temporary rental of a 2 bedroom, 1 bath single wide trailer or buy a used single wide mobile home, and run an ad in the Fair newsletter for a design competition for a permanent 2 bedroom, 1 bath home no bigger than 1,000 square feet. A project manager needs to be hired. The goal would be to finish by early May. The "minority" would like to give Fair family an opportunity to design and construct the residence.

Both Bob and Kirk stressed that there was no rift among Committee members, only a difference of opinion.

Public Discussion: Cory Sullivan, Entertainment Coordinator, was concerned about the location of the new residence and wanted to make sure it would not displace Entertainers Camp. Charlene Tremayne said the Long Range Planning Committee agrees with the "majority" proposal. Frank Sharpy feels \$63,000 is too much to pay for a house which is on land we already own. Leslie Scott is concerned that the structure may not be finished in time for next year's Fair and will be delayed by more urgent projects. She also does not like the idea of spending money on a rental trailer. Palmer Parker, on the other hand, thinks it is necessary that we rent a trailer now, no matter what plan we adopt, as the present residence is uninhabitable.

Board Discussion: Margo urged the Board to give the caretaker a comfortable living space now. Jeanne said she resents being pushed into something too quickly, that this process is going too fast. Steve G. wants to move forward now and finds it objectionable that people scream loudly to get the Board to change its mind. He stressed that this is not a new decision; that the Board has been dealing with this issue for about a year. Thom assumed at the start of the meeting that he would be voting on what the Board had asked the Committee to work on, but now sees another selection

process. Thom feels a yurt is an example of what we mean when we talk about alternative housing. Steve W. supports the majority proposal and doesn't think this is a crisis decision. He said his fear of the minority position is that it backs us away from needing to make a decision. It could be an expensive stopgap measure which would delay finishing the project. Daniel said we needed to answer the question of whether we wanted a caretaker or a security person. The process also needed to include input from other committees. He reminded everyone he had said he would vote for the yurt as it was presented with the understanding that we were short circuiting the process of other committees. We should work as hard and quickly as possible to put the caretaker in clean, dry quarters this winter. Bob thanked everyone for their comments. He said his first choice would have been to take the time to build a new home. He'll vote for the minority project only if it includes all the "good stuff" of the yurt (stove, etc), that it be a construction led crew that builds it, and that it has approximately the same budget as the yurt. Jim says neither option has everything for everybody; he is uncomfortable with the timeline. Paxton sympathizes with the minority proposal but is not enamored with another trailer and thinks it would be two years instead of a few months. He thinks the yurt would be a nice addition to the property, but he does think things like this deserve more time.

Motion: Margo moved, Steve G seconded to purchase a tight-to-the weather 1,106 square foot yurt from Oregon Yurtworks at a base price of \$27,365, and \$22,400 to finish to final inspection and occupancy, to be financed with a \$10,000 down payment and a "Shareback Loan" from OUR Credit Union.

Public Discussion: Nance would like to see the Budget Committee investigate a more aggressive payment schedule.

Board Discussion: Bob and Steve W. opposed the motion being offered in a piecemeal fashion.

Vote: The motion failed, 4 in favor, 5 opposed (Thom, Steve W, Daniel, Jim, Bob).

Motion: Bob moved to purchase a tight-to-the-weather 1106 square foot yurt from Oregon Yurtworks at a base price of \$27,365, and hire an on site construction manager to supervise and coordinate all phases of this project from the signing of the contract to the actual turning of the key. The yurt will have a Russian style stove, a passive cooling system, a solar powered 6 volt lighting system, and a deck. The OCF will put \$10,000 down and finance the rest with a "Shareback Loan:" from OUR Credit Union. The overall budget would be \$62,940, including \$4,00 for an office with bath to be built off the warehouse by the Construction crew.

Board Discussion: Thom stated he previously had a conflict of interest but would vote on this motion because he sees it as voting on a committee report.

Vote: The motion passed, 8 for, 1 (Bob) opposed

Motion: Margo moved to direct the general manager, in concert with the caretaker and Kirk Schultz, to spend up to \$3,650 to procure a trailer to reside temporarily on the Fair site until the completion of the yurt if the caretaker, so needs and desires.

Public Discussion: Nance said it is good to have a tight timeline; perhaps we don't need another trailer. Palmer said yes, we do.

Board Discussion: Jim asked if the caretaker could tough it out for a couple of months. Steve G. thought there were cheaper ways to go than renting a trailer.

Vote: The motion failed, 3 in favor, 5 opposed (Jeanne, Steve G., Thom, Steve W, Jim); 1 abstained (Bob).

## ENDOWMENT

Motion: Steve G. moved to establish the Oregon Country Fair endowment, an instru-

ment to use earnings from separate Endowment investments to fund charitable and educational activities that: 1. Contribute to the cultural resources of West Lane County, especially the Fern Ridge community, 2. Promote the arts represented at the Fair, and 3. Support grass-roots community organizations consistent with the Fair's ideals of a peaceful, just, and environmentally-sound society. Thom seconded.

Vote: The motion passed, 8 for, 1 (Jim) abstained.

Motion: Steve G. moved to put aside in a separate banking account a yearly amount for the Endowment according to a progressive sliding scale from 5% to 25% of the excess revenues generated by the Oregon Country Fair.

Vote: The motion passed 8 for, 1 abstained (Jim).

Motion: Margo moved to define excess revenues as gross event revenues (admission, registration, sale of camping passes and memorabilia), less event expenditures (for example, in 1992, crew costs, general manager budget, kitchen, and food vouchers), and depreciation. This calculation does not include the costs of capital projects or costs not directly related to the current year's Fair. Thom seconded.

Vote: The motion passed, 7 for, 1 opposed (Steve G.), 1 abstained (Jim).

Motion: Steve G. moved The Board of Directors shall decide the amount of the Endowment set-aside before each year's General Membership meeting. Thom seconded.

Vote: The motion passed 8 for, 1 abstained (Jim).

Motion: Steve G. moved to name a three-member Endowment Committee to manage Endowment investments and implement grantmaking activities that distribute funds when available. Each Committee member shall have a term of three years (except two of the three original appointees, who will have terms of one and two years, respectively). One member

will be appointed by the Board of Directors at the beginning of the calendar year. Committee members should have skills in grantmaking, financial management, and/or extensive experience with the Fair's financial system. The general manager of the Fair or her designate shall be a non-voting member of the Endowment Committee and provide staff assistance to the group.

Vote: The motion failed, 5 for, 3 opposed (Margo, Jeanne, Paxton), 1 abstained (Jim).

Motion: Steve G. moved to direct the Endowment Planning Committee, in conjunction with the Long Range Planning Committee develop and present strategies, including a timeline, for Endowment fund management and grantmaking by May, 1993. The Endowment Committee shall present a yearly report to the membership at each year's General Meeting.

Vote: The motion passed 8 for, 1 abstained (Jim).

Motion: Steve G. moved that the Board designate \$30,000 as an initial endowment. Thom seconded.

Public Discussion: Nance and Chris Bauske said we don't know what this year's excess revenue is.

Board Discussion: Steve G said we need to do something now; we have at least \$30,000 to spend.

Vote: The motion failed, 2 for, 6 opposed (Margo, Paxton, Steve W., Daniel, Jeanne, Bob), 1 abstained (Jim).

### OFFICE MANAGER HIRING

Motion: Daniel moved to appoint to enact the timeline and budget for the office manager hiring as proposed by the Personnel Committee. Bob seconded.

Background: The Personnel Committee recommended the office manager be hired by October 6, 1992. They asked for a total hiring budget of \$725 to include advertising and mailing.



~~the following names to be voted on: Peach Dust, Fair Family News, Family Flash, Peach Juice, Fair-y Tales, Better Booths and Pathways. Paxton seconded.~~

Vote: The motion passed, 9 for, 0 opposed.

Motion: Daniel moved to appoint Doe, Susanna MacDonald, Heidi Doscher, and Leslie Scott to the office manager hiring committee, in addition to the Personnel Committee. Bob seconded.

Vote: The motion passed, 9 for, 0 opposed.

**MULTI SERVICES BUILDING**

Motion: Thom moved the OCF donate \$1,000 for a multi-services building in Veneta. Steve W. seconded.

Vote: The motion passed, 9 for, 0 opposed.

**COMPUTER CREW**

Motion: Steve G. moved that the issue of the Computer Crew be put on the agenda for the October Board meeting. In the meantime, computers would be classified as office equipment under the supervision of the office manager (if there is no OM than the GM), suspend all activities of the Computer Crew except where they have direct authorization from the office manager or the general manager. Bob seconded.

Vote: The motion passed 9 for, 0 opposed.

**BOB'S MOTIONS**

Motion: Bob moved it shall be the policy of the OCF that attendance at any one day will not exceed 16,000 persons. The general manager and staff will cooperatively develop a plan and implement it to ensure this attendance cap. Thom seconded.

The motion was tabled.

Motion: Bob moved it shall be the policy of the OCF that patrons may not enter with or imbibe alcohol during the Fair. The general manager, in consultation with appropriate staff and vendors, shall propagate and promulgate such guidelines deemed necessary to regulate the use of alcohol by vendors, staff and workers. Thom seconded.

The motion was tabled.

**ELECTIONS BUDGET**

Motion: Margo moved that the Elections Committee be authorized to spend \$500 for printing and materials. Paxton seconded

Vote: The motion passed, 9 for.

**NEXT MEETING: OCTOBER 5, 1992**

Agenda: Budget revisited, Measure 9, Archaeology, Endowment funding, Budget Committee Revamping, Better investments, Tractor Front Loader, Office Restructuring, Electrification, Security childcare, Rainy Day Fund, Health Insurance.

**NAME THAT NEWSLETTER**

Motion: Steve G. moved the newsletter name vote be placed on the election ballot, with



a brush babe from hell who urges all oregonians to vote no on 9