



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING NOVEMBER 10, 1992

Present: Kelly Campbell, Dan Dillon, Bob Durnell, Martha Evans (alternate), Steve Gorham, Anne Henry, Jack Makarchek, Paxton Hoag, Jim Sahr (alternate), Jeanne Sharpy, Steve Wisnovsky

Sorely Missed: Margo Schaefer

MINUTES

Motion: Bob moved to approve the October 1992 Board of Directors meeting minutes as corrected. Steve W. seconded.

Background: Anne pointed out there was a missing piece on the motion about posters that should have read: "Background: The poster committee would like to offer the winner of the contest to design the 1993 poster \$800. Each of two semi-finalists will be awarded \$100."

Under "Budget Committee Report," it was mistakenly written the Budget Committee had recommended a year-round financial management committee. Rather, they had recommended there be a long-range financial planning process. (Come on Sax, get it together.)

Jim Sahr did not vote against money for the front end loader on the tractor; Jeanne Sharpy did.

The comment by Margo under the Measure 9 was a quote from the Community Village guidelines.

The secretary hangs her head in shame for all her errors.

Vote: The motion passed 10 for, 0 opposed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Board of Directors is planning to hold working sessions dealing with a specific topic each month. The first session will be November 16, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Central Presbyterian Church, 15th and Ferry. The topic will be short-term goals.

REPORTS

GENERAL MANAGER - Leslie Scott, General Manager, said now that the Annual Meeting and the Evaluation Meeting are over, she is concentrating on reorganizing and restructuring certain areas of the Fair. The first information forum will be November 18, Studio One at the Hult Center in Eugene, 7:30 p.m. Topic: non-profits. The second forum will be on Endowments and will be held December 10, same time, same place. We have our Macintosh now - yeah!! Leslie plans to start working on a policy and procedures manual and will be asking for help from the rest of the Family on this project. The budget restructuring process is underway and again, will need input from the Fair Family. Leslie asked that anyone holding Fair property (other than old papers), please let her know what you have. The new yurt will arrive Thursday, much to the delight of...

CARETAKER - Bill Verner, Caretaker, thanked the volunteers who have been coming out to help him keep our property so beautiful. He has been reseeding, raking, and fertilizing. A lot of new seed coming up. Bill and John Doscher have been scattering our grass along the paths to "let the seedhead fall back on the site. It's coming up and it's filling in." Bill and the VegManECs have set up straw barricades for the upcoming floods. We lost a maple tree by Shady Grove to beaver (and Eddie Haskell is headed for the Blue Moon Stage. As is the Secretary if she ever finishes these minutes. Let's hear it for a day off in the middle of the week and a chance to visit the site on a Wednesday afternoon). Bill said a lot of people have the same idea as the Secretary

and have been coming out to visit, which he wholeheartedly encourages. Bill has also been doing some road leveling. The biggest portion of the pipeline in Miss Piggy's lot has been removed and the trench filled in.

ENTERTAINMENT - Cory Sullivan, Entertainment Coordinator, reported that two long-time Fair entertainers have moved to Oklahoma and won't be at the Fair next year. Best wishes to Frank and Kathy Wilkins.

Cory also presented to us, on behalf of Sky Walkinstik-Man Alone, a sacred flute that Sky crafted. Sky performed at Shady Grove this past Fair and was so moved he decided to give this flute to the Fair archives. It is made of aromatic cedar and is about 18 inches long. Sky carved a tiny wolf to sit howling on one end of the flute and a green and yellow duck's bill on the other to call out the sweet sounds. See the newsletter article for more info. (The flute is quite wonderful, if the secretary can add her opinion. So what else is new?) The secretary thought it really belongs at the Fair so she made a unilateral decision to give it to the Caretaker as a housewarming present for the new yurt. (That if she can stand to part with it. Don't you think she'd better finish these minutes so she can get out there before she gets even more attached and changes her mind?) Thank you, Sky, for this most precious gift. It's sitting on the Secretary's lap as she types these words.

FEEDBACK - Anne made copies of individual Feedback forms that came in and gave pertinent forms to each Coordinator. All the original feedback forms are in a non-circulating notebook everyone is invited to read in the Fair office. Leslie said the report from the Evaluation Meeting is also available to anyone who requests it.

UPDATES

A new agenda item...

1. Grievance Procedure - Steve G. said Howard Leighty is in the process of writing a grievance process proposal to present to the Board.

AGENDA

ELECTION RATIFICATION

Motion: Steve G. moved to ratify the results of the election of the Board of Directors held October 18, 1992. Elected to two year terms were Daniel Dillon, Bob Durnell, Paxton Hoag, Jack Makarchek, Jeanne Sharpey, and Martha Evans as alternate. Anne seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion passed, 10 for, 0 opposed.

Motion: Steve G. moved to publish the vote count for the Board of Directors election. Bob seconded.

Background. Traditionally, we have not published the number of votes received by each candidate. Nobody can figure out why. Whoever comes up with the best story - either plausible or im - will have it printed in the newsletter.

Vote: The motion passed, 9 for, 1 (Anne) abstained.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Motion: Kelly moved to elect Daniel Dillon as President of the Oregon Country Fair. Anne seconded.

Public Discussion: Charlene Tremayne said she thinks the President should not be a member of the Board; others expressed the opposite viewpoint.

Board Discussion: Anne is honored that Daniel is willing to further his commitment by taking on this job. Jack pointed out that interest in the officers' jobs seem to be low and encouraged the membership to become more involved.

Vote: The motion passed, 10 for, 0 opposed.

TREASURER

Motion: Bob Durnell moved to elect Hilary Anthony as Treasurer of the Oregon Country Fair. Paxton seconded.

Vote: The motion passed, 10 for, 0 opposed.

SECRETARY

Motion: Anne moved to elect Norma Sax as Secretary of the Oregon Country Fair. Jim seconded.

Public Discussion: Bill Verner said (the secretary quotes verbatim): "Norma in the past has done a great job. She adds a lot of humor to the minutes. I totally support her."

Board Discussion: Jim Sahr said (the Secretary again quotes verbatim): "I remember a year ago when we were sort of between Secretaries, I helped encourage Norma to take this job and there hasn't

been anyone connected with the Fair ever that's been more dedicated and has put more time and effort and put her own personal life second more than Norma Sax has."

(So who writes your material, guys? Tell them the checks are in the mail.)

Vote: *The motion passed, 10 for, 0 opposed.*

(Are these people masochists or what?)

In all seriousness, the Oregon Country Fair has given me a very honored and treasured gift by asking me to be your Secretary. I get much, much more than I give. Thank you.)

The Board wholeheartedly and with much enthusiasm thanked JR Robinson, Nance Sledge, and Thom Chambliss for their fine and dedicated work as past President, Treasurer, and Board member, respectively. They are three jewels who will be very missed.

CARETAKER RESIDENCE CONSTRUCTION MANAGER HIRING

Motion: *Bob moved to hire Barney Sullivan as instruction manager for the new caretaker's residence. Steve W. seconded.*

Background: The Caretaker's Residence committee (or whatever they call themselves) recommends the hiring of Barney Sullivan to coordinate and supervise the construction of the yurt to be built as a new residence for the Caretaker.

Open Discussion: The Caretaker, Bill Clinton, (oops, wrong Bill. He got a different job, didn't he?) Anyway, Bill Verner said he is very much looking forward to working with Barney (otherwise known as Bear).

Vote: *The motion passed, 10 for, 0 opposed.*

OFFICE REORGANIZATION

Motion: *Steve G. moved the Computer crew be reorganized into an Office crew with Heidi Doscher as the Coordinator. Bob seconded.*

Background: Heidi has been maintaining the mailing and membership lists, a task listed in the by-laws as that of the Secretary.

Public Discussion: Heidi said we need to change the by-laws description of the secretary's job so that much responsibility doesn't fall on one person. Leslie said it is time to recognize Heidi for her work and that this reorganization has needed to happen for a long time. The Computer crew was set up to

equip the office with computers and get them running; now it is up to the users to be the overseers. Norma said the Fair owes Heidi a great debt of gratitude for her incredible energy and work. Heidi received a well deserved and long overdue round of applause (Those of you at home, clap your hands three times and say "I do believe in Mailing List Coordinators, I do believe in Mailing List Coordinators.")

Board Discussion: Kelly said she thinks this is a good idea but she would like to see systems and guidelines in place for creating new crews. She doesn't see it as reorganization, as this crew will be doing different things than the computer crew did. Jim does see this as reorganization and Steve G sees it as evolutionary process. Paxton said this is a reorganization of a crew which was ill designed in the first place.

Vote: *The motion passed, 9 for, 1 (Kelly) abstained.*

BUDGET REVISITED

BOARD EMERGENCY FUND

Motion: *Steve G. moved to establish a Board Emergency Fund of \$5,000 for the year November 1992 to November 1993. Any other expenditures must go through the budget process. Daniel seconded the motion.*

Background: The Board is concerned it is spending too much money in a willy-nilly fashion and wants to establish a process for dispensing funds outside the regular budget process.

Open Discussion: Nance said \$5,000 is a workable amount and she feels this is an excellent idea. The Board will always have to look at their budget before dispersing money. Thom Chambliss thinks \$5,000 is a lot. Leslie thinks it is a good idea and will keep the Budget and Endowment Committees from having to deal with every funding request that comes in. (The secretary thinks \$5,00 can buy a great Tahitian vacation and plans to hit up the Board at the first available opportunity.)

Board Discussion: Jeanne said this fund will keep the Board in check (or in checks) and will make them be careful in their spending. She hopes if a funding request can wait, it can go through the budget process.

Bob enumerated three categories of Board spending: (1) internal spending (e.g., water truck), (2) outside community requests (e.g. Whiteaker Thanksgiving dinner), (3) what the Board perceives

to be emergencies (e.g., support of No on 9). Bob would like to see this motion address which categories will be covered by this \$5,000. Steve W. said this gives the Board the ability to respond to situations which they agree have a clear need. Kelly is concerned that there are no limitations and that the motion is too vague as to where the money would go. She said this motion does not avoid unnecessary 11th hour requests and the Board will go through the \$5,000 very quickly without a process in place.

Motion: Jack moved that if the original \$5,000 is exceeded, it will only be by consensus of the Board. Kelly seconded.

Vote: The motion failed, 4 for, 6 against (Jeanne, Steve G., Jim, Daniel, Steve W., and Paxton).

Motion: Bob moved to amend the original motion to limit the Board Emergency Fund expenditures to those ordinary charitable, educational, community service, or political contributions the Board may make outside the Fair. Anne seconded.

Board Discussion: Kelly is concerned there is no process for deciding what political or charitable organizations we would support. Bob said the motion should state where the money is being spent. Steve W. said he envisions this as a fund for emergencies and the Board needs flexibility in making funding decisions.

The motion was withdrawn.

Vote on original motion: The motion passed, 7 for 3 opposed (Kelly, Bob, Jack).

BOARD EMERGENCY FUND PROCESS

Motion: Steve G. moved the Board will not spend money outside the Emergency Fund without that request going through the Budget process. Daniel seconded.

Background: Steve G. suggests that if a financial request is made to the Board, that the Board would send the request to the Budget Committee. The BC can then make a recommendation to the Board as to whether or not to fund the request.

Public Discussion: Nance pointed out that the budget process at this time is not year-round.

Board Discussion: Daniel sees this motion as a clear statement that the Board is trying to help the

Budget Committee clear up the budget process. Bob sees the matter as a philosophical issue that addresses the question: "Where does the power lie to dispense money?" Bob said the Fair has got to start thinking in terms of spending money in other ways besides putting on the Fair and that the Board should set the philosophy of where the money goes.

The motion was tabled until the December meeting.

ENDOWMENT

Motion: Steve G. moved that \$30,000 go to the Endowment. Daniel seconded.

Background: Bob emphasized that although this seems like a small amount, with interest it will build over the years. Jack suggested we use the interest from the Rainy Day Fund for the Endowment. Kelly said this raises the question of who we do the Fair for and feels we need to look at crew financial needs before funding an endowment.

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

WHITEAKER SCHOOL THANKSGIVING

Motion: Jim moved the Fair donate \$1,000 to the Whiteaker Thanksgiving Dinner project. Anne seconded.

Background: Last year the Fair contributed \$1,000 to a group that organizes a Thanksgiving dinner for homeless people in Eugene. The group gives jackets, gloves and hats to those who need them.

Public Discussion: Several Fair members were very supportive of the Fair making this donation. Thom cautioned the Board to be careful about whom it donates money.

Board Discussion: Kelly said although this seems like a good cause, she would rather see OCF money donated to year-long projects. She doesn't like the way the Board "piecemeals" out money. Jack would like to make the donation \$1,100.

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

OREGON ADVOCATE FOR THE ARTS

Motion: Steve W. moved the Board allocate a sum not to exceed \$600 from the General Manager budget to join Oregon Advocate for the Arts. Bob seconded.

Background: Steve W. explained that OAA is a statewide lobbying organization representing small and large arts organizations. This would tap us into

a network of arts organizations. and would be a way to use our organizational power on behalf of our craftspersons.

Public Discussion: Charlene pointed out that the Endowment was originally planned to help support the craftspersons and thinks this fee should come from the Endowment Fund. Thom said one of the most important things we have to look at is land use, including zoning. OAA could help us keep up to date with the land issues that come up in the Legislature.

Board Discussion: Jack is not sure giving money to a political action committee is the healthiest thing for the Fair to do.

Vote: The motion passed, 8 for, 2 opposed (Jack, Steve G.).

POPULATION CONTROL

Motion: Bob moved that it be the policy of the Oregon Country Fair that paid attendance not exceed 16,000 on any one day of the Fair. The General Manager and Staff will cooperatively develop a plan to implement and ensure this attendance cap.

The motion failed for lack of a second.

Motion: Steve G. moved that significant other passes be limited to 25% of the number of crew t-shirts per crew. Daniel seconded.

Public Discussion: A number of crew members and coordinators pointed out why this would never work for their crews.

Board Discussion: Anne said this is one way of looking at controlling the population explosion at the Fair. Steve G. said if exceptions need to be made, they can be dealt with but this is an effort to put a process in place to limit significant other passes. Bob said crew leaders may have to make tough choices, but it needs to be done.

Vote: The motion passed, 7 for, 2 opposed (Paxton, Jack), 1 abstained (Kelly).

FIELD TRIP RETURNS FROM DEAD

Motion: Jim moved to form an ad hoc Field Trip Committee, the purpose of which would be to open a dialogue with the and JR Robinson. Steve G. seconded.

Background: Jim said all the above named were asked and all are willing to serve.

Vote: The motion passed, 9 for, 1 abstained (Jeanne).

NEXT MEETING: Monday, December 7, 1992

at Pearl Harbor (no, that's not true). At EWEB Community room, Eugene. 7 p.m.

Agenda: Security childcare, Ban alcohol, KLCC, Archaeology, Emergency Fund Process, VegManEC crew