

OREGON COUNTRY FAIR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 2/2/98

PRESENT: Daniel Dillon, Michele Sharpy, Charlie Zennache, Martha Evans, Charles Drew, David Liberty & Charlene Tremayne (alternate). Jack Makarchek, David Liberty & Jim Sahr arrived during "Announcements". Marlene Showker was later appointed as the new alternate.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Michele moved, and Martha seconded, the BoD approve the minutes of the Jan. 5, 1998, BoD meeting.

The motion passed: 6 in favor and 0 opposed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sat., 5/9 Spring Fling at the WoW Hall!

Tues., 2/3 Craft Committee meeting, 6:30 pm at the Ferry St. office

Mon., 2/16 Evaluation Feedback forms for the General Manager are due. Call the office for a copy or mail feedback to the Fair, PO Box 2972, Eugene, OR 97402. Mark envelopes, "Attention: Personnel Committee."

The following BoD work sessions are held at Central Presbyterian Church, 7-9pm, on the third Monday of the month. All are invited to participate.

2/16 Communication & Info During the Fair and Year Round

3/16 Drug Law Reform

4/20 Fair Neighborhoods

Stay tuned for an Open Space gathering during the weekend of the Teddy Bear Picnic to discuss Youth & Elder issues.

Jack thanked everyone for their thoughts these past weeks. It's helped a lot.

MEMBER INPUT

Raimon Franck (booth 530 rep) is concerned that the Crafts Lot is filling up faster each year and there is less space for craft people coming long-distance. Two years ago it was full by Thursday noon; last year it was full by Wednesday evening. He proposed a Guideline change that Craft Lot become more exclusive with first dibs to crafters, especially since new booth members cannot camp in their booths. He asked that we distinguish between crafts person and booth person.

STAFF & OFFICER REPORTS

General Manager Many thanks to the Budget Committee, the Treasurers, and to Norma for preparing the budget packets. Thanks to all the coordinators who worked so hard and helped us move to a two-year budget cycle.

Leslie attended a Respect our Community's Concerns (ROCC) meeting last month. In addition to community members, three sheriffs, one state police officer and Elli Dumdi (County Commissioner) also attended. They talked about the helicopter and various neighborhood campground issues. The people of Veneta continue to feel that last year's Fair was very successful and all are willing to continue changes implemented last year. They made no additional requests of the Fair. Zumwalt has been reserved. Last year, ODoT forced drivers to make a right turn upon leaving the Fair site. The sheriffs said this nearly caused several bad accidents as folks tried to make U-turns in the middle of the highway further on. The sheriffs will address their concerns directly to the Oregon Department of Transportation.

A winner has been selected for the poster contest. The new poster will be presented at the Spring Fling. Staff shirts have been ordered. Endowment and JHVF proposals have been received. 30th Anniversary planning has begun. The BoD requested a \$4,000 budget for this in 1999. She hopes to meet with party planners over the Spring Fling weekend.

Leslie had a long session with Bill Kloos, Russell Poppe and the County to discuss Chela Mela. This issue should be resolved soon. They are trying to ensure that an area for booth relocation will be established so we don't have to go back to the County every time the floods or the Long Tom alter our landscape.

We can finally proceed to move in to our new office at 442 Lawrence. Legal options continue to be discussed.

We received the grant from Cascade R,C, & D to begin our wetlands consolidation. This will be used to leverage a grant from GWEB. We hope to proceed with the work this spring.

Administrative Assistant Now that we have the go ahead to move normal will begin packing again. Application season continues. 4/1 is the deadline to jury new crafts and 4/7 is the entertainment deadline. We've received 20+ proposals to the JHVF. Bella, the office fairy, has been helping convert the files from '97 to '98. norma thanked Steve W for a lovely canoe ride through the Fair parking lots. She also had a great mid-winter mini vacation at Disneyland. Our Fair is better!

Site Manager The canoe trip was a staff meeting to thank norma for scrounging the necessary odd parts to put together a site printer! January continued the El Nino patter: no deep freezes, no major storms, no floods into the Fair paths but enough rainfall to occasionally flood the lots, making for good waterfowl habitat and pleasant canoeing, one of the unlisted benefits the job offers. Yesterday, Feb 1, the VegManECs and Steve added a small erosion control dam at the Pike Street river crossing; we still have the potential for damaging floods this winter. We're planning to do some major path rebuilding in this area as soon as we can get on it in early spring to augment whatever grass survives the winter. The challenge then becomes minimizing vehicle traffic pre-Fair and planning for post-Fair recovery.

John Doscher ends his year as Caretaker this week. If you need access to the site call Steve at 935-7846 to make arrangements ahead of time.

Steve would like the BoD's, the Budget Committee's and Financial Planning Committee's advice and consent to create some sort of "Land Fund." Folks want to contribute to tree-planting efforts. And he's booked two wedding reservations for post-Fair by folks who want to pay a fee that will somehow benefit the site.

He participated in a risk management work shop for volunteer organizations put on by the Extension Service on Jan. 27. Steve is pulling together material from this and other sources and plans to have a document/program ready for our crews as we gear up this spring. Excerpted from the Site Manager's 2/98 written and oral report.

Treasurers Steve Gorham announced to the Peach Gallery that the BoD passed the '98 Operating Budgets. They are happy that the budgets are still in the black. Next month the BoD will vote on the Capital Projects budget. The approved crew budgets will be mailed out by month's end. Again, thanks to all the coordinators for their cooperation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel Martha stated that the Site Manager's evaluation is finished and copies will be given to the BoD. Charles added that a Caretaker Hiring Committee will be created at the March BoD meeting. Interested folks must send a letter of interest to the BoD. The GM's evaluation is next. Send your comments or get a form from the office.

OLD BUSINESS

DONATION - FIRST NIGHT EUGENE

Charlene moved, and David seconded, the BoD donate \$500 to First Night Eugene.

Background: Ellen Mitchell said that First Night Eugene is completely volunteer driven and community sponsored. They would like to keep it from becoming a corporate sponsored event. This alternative, alcohol-free New Year's eve community celebration of the arts ties in well with the Fair. Bill Goldsmith added that this is also a plea for Fair family members participation on the First Night Eugene Steering Committee. The human power is more necessary than the green power. The Steering Committee meets once a month, traditionally Thursday mornings at 8:30 a.m.

Peach Gallery: Leslie & norma spoke in support of this motion. First Night Eugene is a sister event to the Fair. It is a positive, alcohol-free, community celebration.

BoD Discussion: Martha agreed with Leslie & norma. She also appreciated their foresight to request help now rather than at the last minute. Charlie, yet new to BoD traditions, said he'd oppose this motion because he disagrees with the current donation process. He would prefer the BoD entertain all donation requests at one time. David & Martha responded that though this is an imperfect process it has served the BoD for many years.

The motion passed: 8 in favor and 1 opposed (Charlie).

ARCHAEOLOGY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Jim moved, and David seconded, the BoD appoint Ann Rogers to the Archaeology Committee. Martha added a friendly amendment to also appoint Janet Little to the Archaeology Committee. *Peach Gallery:* Bill Burwell (Archaeology Committee) spoke in support of these candidates. Janet Little is an expert on the Cascade's lithic technology. Their expertise will be an addition to the committee. He hopes the Fair will support the U of O's proposal to continue a geomorphic study of the soils. The OCF site is the largest source of radio carbon dated coloscene material, approximately 9,000 to 7,000 years ago. They are doing a non-intrusive archaeological survey along the riverbanks. The motion passed, 9 in favor and 0 opposed.

BOARD VACANCY FILLED

Michele moved, and Charlie seconded, the BoD appoint whoever was next in line (Marlene Showker) to step up as an alternate and the current alternate (Jim Sahr) would assume a full BoD position.

Peach Gallery: Candy Simmons (Community Village) and Etienne (Security) wanted the membership to have time to respond to this proposal. Etienne wanted the vote tallies for the other candidates published. Palmer disagrees. The BoD used this same rationale and process the last time a vacancy occurred. Fair family have had two months to consider Niels' passing and give feedback how they'd like the BoD to proceed.

BoD Discussion: Jim said he was the first of many to encourage Niels to run for the BoD. He believes that Niels cannot be replaced and the seat should remain open. We should also honor the membership that voted Jim as an alternate and not to a full BoD position. A 9-member BoD will remain effective. Martha and Daniel wanted time to consider this specific proposal. Charlie read the process to fill a BoD vacancy as stated in the Bylaws. The BoD may fill a vacancy by offering the position to the first alternate and then to the second alternate if the first declines. The position is held until the end of its term. The Bylaws are silent about filling the alternate position. The new appointed alternated would hold the position only until the next election. He agreed that Niels cannot be replaced. He honors Niels before each meeting by reading his candidate statement. Jack argued that we've got to move on. Niels never held anybody down and would not want his seat to remain open. The person who received the next highest amount of votes should be up on the BoD. Michele state that there are many ways to honor Niels; his seat should be filled.

Martha moved, and Daniel seconded, to table this motion.

Peach Gallery: David Hoffman (CV) said this is a working board not an honorary board. Steve Simmons (CV) said that not following the proposed process would dishonor the membership that voted last October. Anne Morris (VegManECs) said Niels was a new voice about change. Tabling this motion silences another new voice. Andy Strickland (Construction) stated that it is the alternate's responsibility to serve in the absence of the BoD member. norma was perplexed that people have not had time to consider filling the BoD vacancy. Niels has been dead for two months.

BoD Discussion: Martha said that she has heard a lot of varied opinions but no formal proposals. Jim's instincts say the next highest vote should fill the BoD vacancy. Daniel said he has thought a lot about this. His overriding concern is that Niels represented a constituency that has not had strong representation in the past. It would be better to fill the seat at the October election. Jack disagreed. The honor to the position does not come by representing a constituency but, rather, the courage to do so. He honors anyone who has the courage to put their name out and to say what they think. Serving on the BoD is not fun or easy at times. Jack honors Marlene's willingness to serve on the BoD. The motion to table failed: 3 in favor and 6 opposed (Jack, Michele, Charlie, Charles, Jim & Charlene).

Charlie read the process as stated in the Bylaws again. Technically, the BoD must first agree to fill the position. Michele moved, and Charlie seconded, the vacancy on the BoD be filled.

The motion passed: 6 in favor and 2 opposed (Jim & Daniel) and 1 abstention (Martha).

Charlie then asked Jim, "Will you say I do?" and Jim accepted.

Charlie moved, and Michele seconded, the BoD fill the vacant alternate position with the next highest vote receiver.

The motion passed unanimously, 9 in favor and 0 opposed.

Marlene was then told to bring her chair and sit on the other side of the table.

GUIDELINE CHANGES

David moved, and Daniel seconded, the BoD approve the Guideline changes as published in the January 5, minutes.

Peach Gallery: Steve W noted the BoD would have to choose between the two vehicle operation proposals. Palmer received a call from Robert Painter (Recycling) that a limit of 5 drivers poses difficulty for their crew to do their job. Norma noted that the drivers would have to be approved by our insurance carrier. The maximum number of drivers could be negotiated. David H (CV) humorously added that according to DMV and OSHA, all drivers of the Peach truck are required to wear their bathrobes!

Thom Chamblis (Craft Committee) said they could agree with member feedback to change the word "consumer" to "customer" each time it appears in the new section "Craft-Related Customer Complaints."

He continued that the statement regarding paraphernalia which was approved at a prior BoD meeting is not a new section. Rather, it should appear in bold text as an addition to the introduction under the heading "Craft Jurying." Leslie added that it should also be added to Section 6 under "Controlled Substances & Drug Paraphernalia." Thus it will appear twice in the Guidelines.

Regarding the change in Section 46 under "Logo Items", Craft Committee prefers, "Use of the logo (the Peach and/ or the words *Oregon Country Fair*) for sale, trade, or display during public hours must be approved by a logo jury appointed by the Board of Directors." The changed words are underlined.

Raimon pointed out that the text in Section 16 "Camping Before the Fair" says nothing specifically about crafters, only those who have "traditionally camped here." He requests that camping in Crafts Lot be reserved for crafters or certified crafters who must be at the site. Preference will be given to those coming long distance. Leslie said this motion has enormous operational implications and should definitely not be voted on without a lot more background.

David H (CV) responded to the issue of after hours sales of legal items and blanket vendors, Section 41. He disagrees with the proposed guideline change. This is contrary to many Fair families philosophy; it is part of our traditional after hours village. For the event we have quality guidelines; amongst ourselves craft guidelines do not apply. If family members wish to sell or trade legal items after hours or in non-public places it is not the Fair's business. Does this mean that some craft booths can no longer sell non-juried items after hours? David wanted to know what problem is trying to be resolved. Leslie said the BoD received a letter from Sandra Bauer who is also concerned about this language. Leslie would like to return to this issue in March. There is a growing problem at Main Stage which needs to be addressed without ruining the traditional, nighttime village and ambiance. Thom C states that the new language would give Security the ability to do their job. The problem is people who are not vendors at the Fair who show up at Main Stage with their blankets as soon as it's dark.

Palmer expressed concern about shielding propane lanterns. This could create more fire hazards.

Leslie said we need to add text to Section 18 "Transportation & Parking" regarding paid parking. Fair-going public arriving in any vehicle other than human-powered will be charged for parking. The cost is \$3/vehicle/day with purchase of an advance sales ticket or \$5/vehicle/day if purchased on site. Remember, patrons must have an admission ticket to come on site no matter what form of transportation is chosen.

BoD Discussion: Charlene remembered that the Crafts Lot camping was originally intended for crafters who needed close and frequent access to their stock. Over time it has come to be used for additional purposes. Also, the blanket vendors were originally for juried crafts people who did not have a booth. She supports seeking a resolution to these current problems.

Michele wanted to add a section under #10 "Health & Safety" that reads "No glass containers may go past Admissions during the public Fair hours."

Charlie amended, and David accepted, the BoD approve all non-contentious Guideline changes as proposed or amended during the comments. We will accept changing the word consumer to customer in the new section Craft-Related Customer Complaints. The motion excludes, driving issues, shielded lights, blanket vendors, logo items, glass containers, and Crafts Lot camping. The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed. (Marlene's first vote.)

Martha moved, and Daniel seconded, the BoD approve the second amended vehicle guideline. Fair Vehicles. Every year, the Fair insures a limited number of volunteers and staff as drivers for Fair-owned or rented vehicles, and only those on the insured drivers list can operate those vehicles. Drivers must be approved by the Fair's insurance carrier. The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Charlie moved, and David seconded, the BoD approve the After Dark Operation of Vehicles guideline. Charlie is concerned about people driving drunk through Crafts Lot or other areas during the evening parties. It is an accident waiting to happen. Jack opposed this guideline. The statement should be, No drinking and driving. The motion failed: 5 in favor and 5 opposed (Charles, Martha, Jim Daniel & Jack).

Charlie moved, and David seconded, the BoD approve the guideline to shield lights after dark. David offered the friendly amendment to add wording so the guideline reads: "Any light source having a brightness in excess of a twenty-five watt bulb must be shielded with a non-flammable materia after dark..."

BoD Discussion: Daniel has a big concern with this change especially for food booths. He has been trying to figure out the best way to shield lights aesthetically since he began at the Fair. Many booths try to work at night which cannot be accomplished with a 25-watt bulb. Charlie noted that White Bird has the best design he's seen. They use 5-gallon buckets inverted over the lantern so the work area is lit but does not blind others in the area. He is concerned about folks getting blinded as they walk down the path. Martha and Charlene agreed. They both enjoy the quiet ambjance that the dark provides. Jack likes the light. It's really just the 13th Street corridor that is lit. The rest of the Fair is still fairly dark and quiet.

The motion failed: 4 in favor, 5 opposed (Charles, Jim, Daniel, Jack & Marlene) and 1 abstention (Michele).

Michele moved, and Charlie seconded, that a new sub-section "No Glass Containers" be added to Section 10 "Information, Health & Safety." The guideline will state: "Glass containers are not allowed through Admissions."

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed. It was voted in for only one year last year. This has now become a permanent Guideline.

Charlene moved that the Section 16 "Camping Before the Fair" guideline read: "Crafts Lot camping opens at 9am Wednesday for those who are approved crafters who must be on site and close to the loops for daily access to their craft stock and for camping for those without space behind their booth.

She then asked to table this motion until March.

Martha moved, and Charles seconded, that Section 46, "Logo Items wording be changed to "...approved by a logo jury appointed by the BoD." This committee would approve logo items instead of the BoD.

Peach Gallery: Thom C offered the following group selection proposal from Craft Committee: 3 BoD members, 2 Craft Committee members, 1 Registration crew and 1 Craft Inventory crew. Thus there would be broad representation. norma noted that the new committee would have to be appointed by next month so they could perform their tasks in April.

BoD Discussion: Martha said jurying craft items is not the BoD's forte. She thought the logo jury would be a new group which may include interested BoD members. The logo could be used as broadly as possible. Daniel said the BoD does many things in an imperfect yet workable process. He would like to have more time to construct the committee and its governing guidelines. However, he likes being

involved in the jury process. Jack agreed. He looks forward to the logo juring meeting which is usually very light. Jim and David disagreed whether the Peach should be restricted or liberalized. The motion failed: 6 in favor and 4 opposed (Charlene, Jim, Daniel, & Jack).

The Southern Oregon Barter Fair Legal Defense Fund died for lack of a presenter. Charlie decided not to move ahead with a donation request for Oregonians for Personal Privacy or No on 57 Committee since the BoD allocated \$6500 for law reform. He'd like the BoD to wait until the work session to decide how best to allocate the funds. It was also determined that the Hemp Tipi proposal would best be handled by Operations as a capital project and is not a policy matter for the BoD.

The next BoD meeting will be held on Monday, March 2, 7pm at EWEB. The agenda, subject to change, includes:

Donation to Fiesta Latina; Appointments: Fire Crew Coordinator, Refer Crew Coordinator, Caretaker Hiring Committee; Capital Projects Budget; and Continuation to Approve Guideline Changes (blanket vendors & Crafts Lot camping)

Minutes by Jen-Lin