

OREGON COUNTRY FAIR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 9/8/98

PRESENT: Charles Drew, Paxton Hoag, Jim Sahr, Daniel Dillon, Michele Sharpy, Martha Evans, Tom Alexander, Jack Makarchek, Charlie Zennache, and Marlene Showker & Charlene Tremayne (alternates)

NOT: David Liberty

MINUTES APPROVAL

Charlene moved, and Michele seconded the minutes of the 7/5/98 BoD meeting be approved. The motion passed 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Michele moved, and Charlene seconded, the minutes of the 8/3/98 BoD meeting be approved. Peach Gallery: David Hoffman (Community Village) corrected that he is tired of being the janitor for "crews", not "crew".

The motion passed as corrected. 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CALENDAR

Sun. 9/13 '98 Fair Evaluation meeting using the Open Space process will be held on site. The agenda topics will be determined by those present. Meet at 10am at the fire pit by the warehouse.

Mon. 9/14 Personnel evaluation by the Board of all 4 employees. Central Presbyterian Church, 7-9pm. New process will be initiated.

Fri. 9/18 Meet at the Fair office, approximately noon, to decorate the new truck, which Andyman will drive, for the Eugene Celebration parade. Then ...

Sat. 9/19 Come join the parade. Gather at 8am; parade starts at 9. Look for entry #52. Or you may help set up the OCF Law Reform display at 7am, staff the table anytime during the weekend, or tear it down Sunday early evening.

Thurs. 9/24 "How to raise Forfeiture Laws as a Political Issue During this Election Year" workshop with Floyd Prozanski and Shaun McCrea will be held at the Eugene City Hall, Council Chambers, 7-9pm. Sponsored by the OCF law reform group.

Tues. 9/29 Long Tom Watershed Council meeting/celebration, 6:30pm at Willamette High School. Fair vendors will provide food and music will be arranged by the Fair.

Sat. 10/17 The Annual Meeting will be held at the WOW Hall (8th & Lincoln, Eugene), 6:30 pm.

Sun. 10/18 Fair site pre-flood clean-up party. Meet 10am at the warehouse.

Mon. 10/19 Board work session regarding an attendance cap as it relates to financial planning for the 1999 Fair. All members are invited to participate.

(Catch the pattern? Yes, more juggling -- of people and schedules. Come for the Annual Meeting and stay through the work session. Your input is valuable. Unable to attend, fax or e-mail your thoughts to the Fair.)

Mon. 12/14 "What You Can Do to Lobby Your Legislators" workshop, especially concerning civil forfeiture laws, will be held at EWEB, Training Center, 7-9pm. This is sponsored by the law reform group. Hopefully, folks from many districts will participate.

Land Use Management Committee (LUMP) and the Property Acquisition Team (PAT) seek new members. Letters of interest and introduction may be sent to the Fair office.

Jack thanked Frank Sharpy for his service to the Personnel Committee from which he resigned last month.

Michele responded to Jim's question last month. Admissions collected a total of \$11,826.81 (no one can explain the 81 cents!) from paid parking on site. Their jobs remain secure.

Andyman just returned from Burning Man where he was part of a quasi-OCF embassy. He has lots of ideas for next year and encourages folks to attend this incredible event that is so different from ours. There is much to learn and experience. Thanks to Arrow for caretaking his position while away.

Steve Simmons (CV) thanked all the folks who cooked (on the grills) at the Teddy Bear Picnic last month.

STAFF AND OFFICER REPORTS

General Manager. norma read Leslie's notes. She is away on vacation. Special thanks to the picnic organizers: Steve W, Andyman and norma (even 'tho it embarrasses norma to thank herself). Thank you, also, to all who participated in the 30th anniversary brainstorming sessions. Leslie expects to have a land swap proposal for the October BoD meeting.

Administrative Assistant. norma added her thanks to the picnic organizers and volunteers: to Wally Slocum for manning the potluck table, Steve W & Andyman for making the setting up the site so beautifully, to the handsome Dick Stewart for clean up, Marshall Landman for beverage-meister and odds & ends, Brad Lerch who picked up the corn, Bob Fennessey who did a fantastic job organizing the entertainment -- four bands and a bellydancer!, Daniel Dillon -- grilled chicken strawboss, and all those who helped cook/grill. You all did a terrific job. Thanks Tom and Etienne who do such a good job watering and mowing the office yard. Thanks Miho Hosaka, Nick Lougee and Matt Tepley who looked after the office for a week while she was not very far away on vacation.

Site Manager. Steve demonstrated the current site chant. Please, Rain. Please, Rain. The site is really crispy. The natural fire danger is enhanced by the dry lumber in the booths and the tons of straw left on site. Steve will sleep easier once we've had our first and second rain. Thanks again for a great picnic. There a couple of special lost and found kids' items. One is a Mickey Mouse backpack with clothes and camera. The other is a Winnie the Pooh watch. Call the Fair site to claim them. Thanks, also, to Arrow Anders (Traffic) for caretaking the site so Steve could take a couple of days off as well.

Treasurers. Hilary stated that the financial statement is similar to last month. We are currently paying expenses out of the rainy day fund which before the Fair totaled approximately \$300,000. This approximates one Saturday's revenue. All figures will be determined by the Annual Meeting and the BoD work session in October, 10/19. Steve Gorham encouraged Fair family to participate in this work session that will discuss population caps and how they relate to financial planning for the '99 Fair. We need everyone's involvement, not just Financial Planning's.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Land Use Management Planning (LUMP). Dennis Todd reported that the wetland restoration project got a late start. The replanting and seed bed preparation will happen next year. Both, Dennis & Leslie have been meeting with the city manager and city engineer of Veneta to discuss the land swap. The city's original projection of their needs 20 years from now, 41 acres, would take up most of the Far Side camping area. The results of the soil percolation test that Dennis requested show the soil has five times greater absorbency than assumed. Thus the city engineer now projects their needs at 30 acres. This leaves all our prime camping area available. We seek a shared use agreement to take effect in October of 2017. The Fair and the city agree in principle and are working cooperatively. Jack questioned the city's intentions to spray or use drip irrigation. The Fair will insist that all areas the OCF or the public uses will use drip irrigation. Effluent from the upgraded water treatment system renders the applied areas safe after 24 hours.

LUMP seeks new members. Anyone with interest and experience in geography, land use management, natural resources, etc. is encouraged to apply. Send a letter of introduction/interest to the Fair office.

Election Committee. Jen-Lin stated that the Annual Meeting will be held Saturday, 10/17/98 at 6:30pm at the WOW Hall. Meeting invitations have been sent to members today. We have fourteen candidates for seven positions; it should be an interesting campaign. The deadline to request an absentee ballot is Friday, September 18, 5 pm, at the Fair office or in the Fair's PO Box. No absentee ballots will be available at the Fair office. Absentee ballots must be returned to the Fair office or PO Box no later than 5pm, Friday, 10/17.

OLD BUSINESS

VEHICLE SHED

Steve W stated that there is no current motion. \$5,000 has already been allocated for this capital project. He believes we can begin building a somewhat scaled back version of the original plans via old barn raising work parties. The calls will soon go out to those construction types. They eliminated the repair bay slab and plan for only 7, not 8, bays. He hopes he can find additional monies yet unspent

in the Site Manager's budget. However, he may need an additional \$2 - \$3,000 at the tail end of the project. He contends that we need to start building now before the rains come to protect our assets. Hilary expressed concern about a possible 40 percent increase that could be forced at the end to complete the project. Jack confirmed with Steve that the vehicle shed the total budget approved by the Board for the vehicle shed is \$5,000.

VAUDEVILLE CO-COORDINATOR APPOINTMENT

Paxton moved, and Charlene seconded, the BoD appoint Shelly Winship as the Vaudeville Co-coordinator.

BoD Discussion: Paxton said this was requested by vaudeville crew in their letter dated 6/26/98. Charlene said that Cory Sullivan (Ambiance Entertainment Coordinator) is supportive of this appointment. She said that Shelly is a strong person and will be able to work well with the other co-coordinator, Mick Westrick. Jack thanked Tim Miller who is resigning as Vaudeville Coordinator. The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

'98 ELECTION COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Paxton moved, and Daniel seconded, the BoD appoint/reaffirm the '98 Election Committee of Heidi Doscher, Merrill Levine, Tina Edwards, Jen-Lin, and Steve Gorham.

Peach Gallery: norma said this is the same great crew as last year. They've already begun to meet and are doing a fabulous job. Etienne requested that the number of votes each candidate receives be published.

BoD Discussion: Martha thanked the Election Committee for sitting in the basement tallying the results. It doesn't seem like a very fun job. (Nah, we have fun!)

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

NEW DIRECTIONS FOR P.A.T.

Tom moved, and Paxton seconded, the BoD direct the Property Acquisition Team (PAT) to investigate the Fair's real estate options regarding the Swanson and/or Hubbard properties should they become available.

Background: Both properties are above the flood plain and are contiguous to Fair property along Chickadee Road. The Swanson property has a house and other buildings for storage.

Peach Gallery: Many spoke enthusiastically in favor of owning the Swanson property. Palmer wondered if this motion was necessary and whether the Fair wanted to make its intentions known publicly at this time. However, David H. (CV) thought the neighbors must know the value their land has for the Fair. David Helton (Registration) urged the Fair to employ a commercial real estate appraiser based upon our experience purchasing the Fair office. Anne Morris (VegManECS) wondered how the Fair could purchase property while we have financial concerns. Andyman said that Veneta is a growing community; property values will continue to increase. Etienne proposed making the house on the Swanson property a volunteer work house.

BoD Discussion: Martha wondered who the current members of PAT are. The motion that created PAT stated that its members would rotate every three to four months. (Seems as if that aspect has lapsed.) She also remembered that the same motion charged PAT to take similar action as stated above. This motion is redundant. Michele concurred. Tom stated that in discussion with Steve W it wasn't clear whether the investigative process was continuing. He raised this specific topic to stimulate discussion and to avoid complaints that the Fair acts in a secretive manner. Steve W, also, told Marlene recently that the Swansons were approached a year ago and they had no desire to sell. She wondered if the price was right they may be willing. Paxton thought they may be more interested if we could offer specific terms. Jack said neither property is an absolute must. The Swanson property, 5 acres, could be valued at \$100,000. That could strap the Fair to balloon payments which would come out of our operating budget. Charles expressed similar concerns about the financial picture even though he supports purchasing these properties. Tom stated that it would be in the Fair's best interest to facilitate the group that does purchase the property. Martha echoed Tom's statement. She remembers past discussions about the Fair holding land temporarily and writing covenants on its resale.

PAT should be reconvened. Letters of introduction and interest to serve on the Property Acquisition Team will be accepted at the Fair office.

The motion passed: 8 in favor, 1 opposed (Michele) and 1 abstention (Martha).

Land Swap is tabled until the October BoD meeting and Cap Reduction is tabled til the November BoD meeting.

The next BoD meeting will be held Monday, October 5, at EWEB, 7pm. The agenda, subject to change, may include: Land swap, Craft Committee (Paxton), Consider forming Crew Services Crew (Charlie), Donation to Saturday Academy. Appointments: Youth Stage Coordinator, Chela Mela Area Coordinator (Charlie), Create Co-Secretary position (Marlene), New Traffic Co-coordinator (Steve G), Admissions Coordinator (Michele), LUMP and PAT members.

See you at the Annual Meeting
Jen-Lin