

OREGON COUNTRY FAIR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 11/2/98

PRESENT: Michele Sharpy, Tom Alexander, Jim Sahr, Charlie Zennache, David Liberty, Jack Makarchek, Marlene Monette-Showker, Jim Newhall, Palmer Parker, Brad Lerch, and Doug Carnie & Etienne Smith (alternates). The outgoing BoD members were also present: Daniel Dillon, Martha Evans, Charles Drew, and Charlene Tremayne (alternate).

#### MINUTES APPROVAL

Marlene moved, and Michele seconded, the BoD approve the minutes of the 10/5/98 BoD meeting. The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

#### CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sun. 11/8 The VegManECS hold their monthly work party. Meet at the Warehouse, 10am.

Sun. 11/15 The Path Planning Committee will meet at noon on Sesame Street.

Mon. 11/16 BoD work session on the land swap will be held as a joint session with the City of Veneta Council at 7pm, Veneta City Hall.

Mon. 11/30 The state legislature will hold a hearing on changes to the forfeiture law at 1pm in Salem. Call John Flanery (Community Village) for more information, 345-6822.

Mon. 12/14 The public workshop on lobbying for law reform will be held at 7pm at the EWEB Training Center.

Tues. 12/15 The BoD work session on implementing the membership survey will be held 7-9pm downstairs in the WoW Hall.

Thurs 12/17 The Craft Committee will hold its next meeting at 6:30pm at the OCF office. 442 Lawrence Street, Eugene.

#### Budget Process:

11/3-7 Budget packets mailed to coordinators.

Mon. 11/16 Deadline to return packets to Budget Committee.

Sat. 1/16/99 Coordinator potluck (time to answer questions about your crew's budget).

Tues. 1/19/99 BoD work session on the budget. Date switched from Monday to avoid overlap with MLK day.

Mon. 1/25/99 Special BoD meeting to approve the '99 budget.

Martha welcomed the new BoD members. She enjoyed the six years she served on the BoD. It will be a lot of work, a big responsibility and lots of fun!

Charlie thanked the outgoing BoD members for all their service. It's been a hard job. Even through all the disagreements you have been dedicated to the Fair.

Elli Dumdi, outgoing Lane County commissioner, expressed her appreciation of the Fair's commitment to the Veneta-Fern Ridge area. It has been an uphill battle for the Fair to become an accepted member of this community. Elli urged the Fair to continue to build that relationship. She said she was practically shouted down at a meeting at the middle school when she advocated that if the Veneta community work with the Fair they could create something very special and wonderful. Leslie added that Elli is the one who stood up at the ROCC meeting to say that the gathering was not to discuss shutting the Fair down. She said that the Oregon Country Fair is here to stay. Thank you, Elli, for all your support over the past years.

Jack appreciates Floyd Prozanski's public stand opposing the recriminalization of marijuana. Floyd is our state legislator and OCF Swimmer. Thanks, Floyd! Hooray, the medical marijuana initiative is passing in all 5 states: Oregon, Washington, Nevada, Arizona and Alaska. And Oregon defeated the marijuana recriminalization law.

John F announced that the 1999 theme for the Jill Heiman Vision Fund will be Basic Needs: Hunger, Homelessness and Housing. It was a close election as Basic Needs won by only 9 votes out of 526 ballots cast over Environmental Protection and Recovery. The committee will begin to solicit grant proposals now and would appreciate more BoD involvement.

The following committees have an opening: Craft, Endowment, and Property Acquisition Team.

Letters of introduction and interest to serve on any of them may be sent to the Fair office.

Michele thanked Norma and Leslie for their work organizing the wonderful Board Retreat last weekend. She also thanked the anonymous benefactor for the delicious catered dinner Saturday night.

## MEMBER INPUT

Kathy Coulson-Keegan (crafter) and Mike James (Security Co-coord.) announced the political potluck regarding the Friends of the Oregon Country Fair PAC. It will be held Friday, 11/6. You may contact them with questions or input via fax: 484-5828 or e-mail c/o EarthSteps@aol.com

The rest of the Member Input time was spent discussing Craft Committee and Election Results issues. Both seem to be issues with a lot of passionate interest. This scribe will do her best to summarize the discussions.

RE Craft Committee: The last meeting Raimon Franck (crafter) attended was exceedingly hostile with claims and misquotations flying fast. It seems that many of the Craft Committee members have served for many years. It would be good to have a breath of fresh air. He also wondered how many other committees have long-term seated members. Jeff Allen (crafter) stated that he was told again that he could not look at papers the Craft Committee were using and experienced the same hostility.

RE Election Results. This heated discussion began with Raimon saying that he's accepted the fact that he did not make it onto the BoD. However, he was upset that no one from the Election Committee had returned his call for results. He questioned whether it was a "secret" result. Steve Gorham, aka Grumpy, (Treasurer) apologized for not getting back to Raimon. Hilary stated that only Heidi Doscher (Membership Secretary), Grumpy and she knew the final counts. Heidi read off the numbers, Hilary put them into the calculator and Grumpy verified the results. Not even the rest of the Election Committee knows the results. While calling out the numbers Heidi, a kindergarten teacher, said the low tallies was her main reason for not wanting to publish the results out of consideration to the Fair family. The BoD alternates were listed in rank order to determine who holds the one and two-year positions. Steffan Webb (Security and '98 BoD candidate) stated that he ran in public and wasn't ashamed to lose in public. That's part of the price of holding a public office. He's been a union organizer and was blown away that the count results were not published. He threatened that a vote recount may be necessary. Jeff Allen agreed that closed accounting is ludicrous and similar to practices used by the KKK.

Other members of the Peach Gallery thanked the Election Committee for all their hard work preparing for the election and staying up 'til 11pm tallying the results. Steve Wisnovsky (Site Manager) said that when he was elected to the BoD in '91 after the year of great unpleasantness the feeling then was to end the divisiveness. That sentiment is still in order. Palmer stated that when he ran elections, prior to absentee ballots, he, too, did not publish the counts. He has worked as a counter since then (except this year) and there is no room for anyone to manipulate the count. The results and the Elections Committee's intentions come from a very clean place. Anne Morris (VegManECS Co-coord.) has also worked as a counter. It is hard work and she resents the insinuation that the Election Committee is acting without the highest degree of integrity. She appreciates that they considered publication of election counts from a family perspective rather than a corporate point of view. Etienne thanked all who voted for her so she may serve on the BoD. She said that compared to the big picture, this is not an issue.

Martha Evans (NRTs Coord.) suggested the BoD create a policy and not leave it up to the Elections Committee. Paxton Hoag (Photo ID) agreed. More openness is a good barometer of information and beneficial to the Fair.

norma recommended that everyone take this same high energy to the polls tomorrow where it belongs.

Vince LaRochelle, (crafter) stated that it is a matter of perception. In order to avoid the perception of impropriety it would be better to release the vote counts. Jack stated that regardless whether the results are published or not, anybody's idea of whether they trust what is going on will not change. Such accusations already belie the undercurrent of mistrust.

## STAFF AND OFFICER REPORTS

General Manager. Happy Dia de los Muertos and full moon! In order to begin researching the Y2K problem, Leslie dressed as the Millennium Bug. Marshall and norma are working closely together to prepare the Fair for Y2K. Thanks to the Election Committee for their hard work. Thanks to all the Path Planning participants who are making great progress on the Sesame & Pike Streets fix. And

thanks to the 30th Anniversary group which has some great ideas in store. Susannah DeFazio has resigned from the Endowment Committee. She is a resident in the Fern Ridge area and active in environmental educational issues. Leslie hopes that someone from Fern Ridge will apply to the Endowment Committee. The interest earned from the Endowment this year is approximately \$8500 - \$8600. The committee will present its annual report at the December BoD meeting. The Fair wrote two checks totaling \$10,854.02 for the Jill Heiman Vision Fund to the Oregon League of Conservation Voters Education Fund (which has been used in this year's election) and to Northwest Coalition Against Pesticides to plant indigenous plants at South Eugene High School as a demonstration to eradicate pesticide use on school yards. The property tax on the Fair site is up by \$1382.21 which is more than a 25% increase. Pending BoD approval, Leslie will file an appeal before the end of December deadline. The hearing will actually happen in April 99, at which time the BoD must appoint a corporate representative. The town office taxes came within \$26 of the budgeted expense! Thanks again to the outgoing BoD members and to everyone for their hard work and festive spirit at the retreat.

Administrative Assistant. norma thanked the Election Committee for their service. She said she has enormous respect for their dedication and integrity. Welcome to the new BoD members. She knows you will find it exciting and challenging. After the Annual Meeting, norma prepared logistics and orientation materials for the BoD retreat. The retreat was very fun and productive. She continues to work closely with Marshall who is anticipating/troubleshooting any problems the Fair may experience re Y2K. The 30th Anniversary committee has lots of fun ideas including a special poster, banners, flowers, entertainment to celebrate ourselves celebrating for 30 years. The chosen theme is "kaleidoscope!" An adhoc group to revamp advertising and media programs has formed. And the new contact list will be mailed to coordinators this week. Thanks, also, to Bella the office fairy, Tom & Etienne the town office groundskeepers. And, Happy Thanksgiving!

Site Manager. Steve welcomed the new BoD members and thanked the outgoing BoD members, especially Paxton, Martha and Daniel who stuck it out far longer than he. Thanks to the VegManECS who have been preparing for a La Nina winter: building erosion control dams and wrapping young trees to save them from hungry beavers. Thanks to David Hoffman who is there practically every weekend, rain or shine. Thanks to Mike VanPelt (Site Crew) who monitors the ODOT pond replanting project. Thanks to Randy Nowell (VegManECS) for continued mowing. Thanks to Arrow for baby-sitting the Fair so that both Andyman and Steve could attend the BoD retreat. Thanks to the "Erection Crew" (Arrow, Tim Wolden, Bob Durnell, Andyman, and Dave Peek) who set the BIG poles for the vehicle shed on Oct 10. Arrow added that they completed the job in 4 hours and 20 minutes! Further work parties on the vehicle shed is postponed until further notice due to permit delays with the County. Thus, the trucks have been tarped (a new word for the dictionary!) in preparation for winter. Thanks to Michael Bishop (Traffic) for another quick tractor welding repair -- the shed posts, pressure-treated 8"x 8" x 18 foot long, were heavy enough to bed the tractor's forklift frame. Steve is starting to prepare a number of capital projects request for the budget committee to chew on this winter. If there are nay crews or individuals with ideas for site-related capital improvements, talk to me, and we'll work together.

The grass on the paths, essential for erosion control, is doing well albeit wet. Paths are closed to all vehicles. Tread lightly, preferably not at all, on the new grass. Anyone who would like to come out and take a stroll with the Fair's gas-powered backpack blower (obnoxiously noisy but very effective) would score big points on their karma card. Thanks to everyone who came out for the pre-flood work party after the Annual Meeting. While much was accomplished, there's still lots left on the list. Any weekend help would be greatly appreciated. It's been a mellow fall onsite -- no hard freezes yet have made for a beautiful autumn color display. The egrets seen at Fern Ridge Reservoir have extended their range to the Fair -- a pretty sight along the river. Chickadee Gate is open all weekends and most weekdays for Fair Family to visit and enjoy. If you're interested in seeing the Fair site in flood this winter, call the site phone, 935-7846. He'll try to update the message machine. Generally, any storm that dumps 2.5+ inches of rain in 24 hours will flood the lots, more than that and we'll be canoeing the paths. Now that it's raining, the fungi are everywhere! Steve brought a 5-inch Shaggy Mane fungus to the meeting. Believe it or not, this specimen rose out of the hardpack ground between the warehouse and the pump house.

Treasurers. As you can see by the calendar above, the budget process has begun again. The process should be easier this year as we are in the second year of a two-year budget cycle. Basically, crew budgets will be approved automatically, unless, you are asking for more or less than what was requested for '99 last year. Some crews due to restructuring may need less than in '98. Budget Committee will be meeting once and twice a week over the next months.

Steve prepared two charts: Actual Revenue, Expenses, & Excess Revenue (1981-1/1/99) and Total Admissions Revenue (1976-1998). These charts show that the Fair's basic revenue comes from admissions. It also shows that as admissions increases or decreases so goes overall revenue. They will be asking the BoD to approve a '99 projected revenue of \$808,400. Budget Committee has decided that if there are any lumps to take due to changes in admissions that they will be shared by everyone. (Patrons, crews, craft and food) \$808,400 is based upon 1) a conservative projection of admissions of 13, 15, 15 thousand, 2) a small increase in Registration (up \$25,000). They will be talking with Registration, Craft and Food about this to work together, and 3) the Fair will no longer absorb the Fasttix processing fee (\$1 or \$1.50 per ticket)

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Endowment. The following is excerpted from a letter presented by Clare Feighan of the Endowment Committee.

The OCF Endowment Committee is excited about the opportunity to focus this year's endowment funding on a very special project: creating a permanent OCF-sponsored presence in the new Fern Ridge Library.

The Fern Ridge Library has been developed as a project to serve the needs of the entire area. Creating a welcoming space in the new building depends on including art within the structure and on installing environmentally-appropriate projects on the library grounds. But, there is no funding for these projects.

So, we are looking to ask all OCF endowment applicants for the 1998-1999 funding cycle to focus their proposals on creating art for the library building or towards developing the library's wetlands bioswale with native plant life on the property.

The results of this one-time focus will include: The library will have art and landscaping that would otherwise not happen. The resultant art and bioswale will reflect the local community and ecosystem. Children will want to come to "their" library - after all, their work is on permanent exhibit there. The Fair will make a significant contribution to this much loved, long-term community project.

We hope you will join us in our enthusiasm for this special endowment focus.

Personnel. Charlie announced that the employee evaluations have been completed and summaries have been presented to the employees and BoD members.

Craft. Charlene announced that the last meeting date was set and then changed in direct violation of the Craft Committee motion passed last month. The contention on the committee continues and needs to be addressed by the BoD.

Elections. Heidi Doscher (Membership Secretary) sends apologies that the Election Report is not complete. The last two weeks have been very busy. It will be ready soon, though.

Many thanks to Dana's Cheesecake, Edible Improv, and Ritta's Burritos for their delicious donations which made the task of counting all the more palatable for the counters. Thanks to Gypsy for delivering their donations to the Annual Meeting. Thanks, also, to everyone (28 fairies) who stayed after the meeting to help count the ballots. I apologize that I did not record your names at the time to thank each of you now.

Jen-lin (Election Committee member) clarified that she polled each member of the Election Committee prior to the Annual Meeting. Agreement was instant and unanimous; none of the members wanted to publish the vote counts. Our reasons were twofold: 1) out of consideration for those candidates receiving very low counts and 2) the election is not a popularity contest and does not give any one BoD member a mandate greater than another. Each BoD member has one vote and works together with the other BoD members with the best intentions for the good of the Fair. (At least that's the standard this scribe holds for the BoD and Fair Family.) She looked for guidance on this issue in the Bylaws and found none. The committee agreed this was an operational issue and would follow their agreed upon policy until directed by the BoD to do otherwise. Jen-lin stated that she tries not to

influence the minutes with her own politics and thus does not comment on motions during member input. However, this is a process issue about which she is passionate. She expressed her great appall that rumors, especially negative ones, fly faster than truth in the Fair. She also resents that anyone would question the integrity of any member of the Election Committee.

But, more importantly, the results. The survey measure passed overwhelmingly. And the BoD members elected to a new two-year term are (listed alphabetically): Brad Lerch, Jack Makarchek, Jim Newhall, Marlene Monette-Showker, and Palmer Parker. Doug Carnie is the two-year alternate and Etienne Smith holds the one-year alternate position. Welcome to the Board!

#### OLD BUSINESS

##### ELECTION RESULTS RATIFIED

Charlie moved, and Jim seconded, the BoD confirm the results of the election.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed. This was the final vote by the old board (thank you) and the new BoD members took their seats at the table to continue the meeting.

##### ELECTION OF OFFICERS -- PRESIDENT

Jim moved, and Jack seconded, the BoD continue for one more year the highly successful presidency of Jack Daniels (Jack Makarchek and Daniel Dillon).

Peach Gallery: Charlene especially supports this idea because she expects that Daniel, being off the BoD, will hear more of what the general membership has to say. Many folks supported the co-presidency. Martha said that each man is strong, smart and capable; together they are a gift. Leslie added that she prefers this team approach and deeply believes this is the best choice. The continuity of continuing negotiations with ROCC and the land swap is important. Daniel accepted the nomination and said he and Jack have learned to work well together.

BoD: Charlie spoke for many BoD members when he said that he's given this issue a lot of thought this past week. He respects the strengths of each man. Last year, he thought the co-presidency would be for a transition year. And 'though he's still unsure, he also believes that no one voice speaks for the Fair and so a co-presidency would express that. David and Tom supported the extension of the Jack Daniels team for continuing negotiations on legal and property issues. The combination of each man's attributes has a quantum effect. David added that BoD members serve the whole membership, not their own personal agenda. The OCF is bigger than the sum of its parts. Etienne supported a co-presidency as it shows the OCF can share power. Some new BoD members were dismayed that this, their first vote, was difficult and possibly contentious. Brad said that after reading the BoD orientation packet his understanding of the level of commitment to and liability for the organization that each BoD member must hold strengthened his resolve that the presidency should be held by one person. Palmer agreed. Dr. Jim said that he believes that it is time for a change and prefers Jack to lead solely. Michele and Marlene said they appreciate Daniel's service and dedication to the Fair, however, Jack represents the vision they have for the Fair more. Michele said that it's time for Daniel to step down and for Jack to lead on his own. Jack said, "Ego is such a bizarre driving force. Sharing power is a radical notion that challenges the dominant culture's paradigm of one." That's why he agreed to a co-presidency last year. There is no dilution of power in a co-presidency. Consider that it took the membership's vote to seat each BoD member and then it takes ten BoD members to decide the issue. Power is shared and the fact that it may be visible at the top of the organization is a cool statement. He said he also had the radical thought that it would be just as simple to ask the BoD to extend the co-presidency for one more year.

The motion failed: 5 in favor (Jack, Tom, David, Charlie & Jim) and 5 opposed (Michele, Dr Jim, Brad, Marlene, and Palmer).

Michele moved, and Dr Jim seconded, the BoD appoint Jack Makarchek as President of the Oregon Country Fair.

Peach Gallery: Daniel said, "Jack will make a great president!" Paxton added that Jack is not one to hoard power; it will be shared anyway. Wren Davidson (crafter) said it is nice to be somewhere where you like both people that you have to choose from.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

##### ELECTION OF OFFICERS -- TREASURER

Charlie moved, and Palmer seconded, the BoD appoint Hilary Anthony and Steve Gorham as Co-treasurers.

Peach Gallery: Dennis and Paxton said they are a great combination together and a treasure (pun intended, Dennis?) for the Fair. Raimon asked for greater access to the budget. He suggested the budget could be printed in the Fair Family News, posted on the internet, or at least have more copies available at BoD meetings.

BoD: Michele thanked Steve and Hilary for the great job they have been doing these past years. She appreciates Hilary's thoughtful considerations to the BoD, especially when Hilary thinks the BoD has made a bad budget decision and rationally points out the reasons. Palmer agreed. He added, however, that the Treasurers might pass out reading glasses also so the aging BoD members can read the fine print on the budgets! Marlene requested a lesson in reading and understanding balance sheets may benefit BoD members.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS -- SECRETARY

Charlie moved, and Jim seconded, the BoD appoint Jen-lin Hodgden as Recording Secretary and Heidi Doscher as Membership Secretary.

Peach Gallery: Charlene said she is glad Heidi is getting this recognition. She does an admirable job. norma said both women do fabulous work and the Fair is privileged to have them both. Grumpy said he is amazed at the accuracy of the minutes and that Jen-lin keeps her opinions out of them.

BoD: Marlene agreed. She would also like to see that Heidi be included in all Secretary-related items, such as receiving monthly BoD packets and invitations to BoD retreats and coordinator potlucks. Ron Pike appreciates the insertion of the occasional humorous quip. The Fair should be fun!

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

#### CARETAKER CONTRACT

Charlie introduced this topic and then tabled it until the December meeting. The Personnel Committee recommends that the Caretaker position be made into a paid position with compensation of living in the yurt rent-free, a \$500 monthly stipend, and the same health and insurance benefits as our other employees. Charlie asked the Treasurers for their input on the financial impact this motion will have.

(David Liberty left the meeting at this point. Etienne continued to vote in his absence.)

#### DONATION -- WHITEAKER THANKSGIVING

Michele moved, and Jim seconded, the Fair donate \$500 to the Whiteaker Thanksgiving Dinner.

Peach Gallery: All members who spoke were enthusiastically supportive. However, there ensued a great discussion whether this should be a permanent donation or not. norma sided with the permanents especially as the Fair is now a resident of the Whiteaker neighborhood. Raimon, president of the Whiteaker Community Council, agreed. He added that other donations are also appreciated. Now's a good time to clean out your closets and donate the clothes, especially sweaters, coats, and blankets. And this is also an early reminder for the Valentine's Dinner next February. Ron Pike, a coordinator with WTD, said the Fair has been very supportive in the past. Many Fair family volunteer for the WTD; we are all part of the same community. Any money the Fair donates purchases clothes, blankets, tents, socks, etc. at greatly discounted prices. Wren told the story how a few years back some purple Peruvian potatoes had been donated. She overheard the following conversation. "Do you think they dyed the potatoes purple? Well, you know a lot of the volunteers come from the Oregon Country Fair!..."

BoD Discussion: Michele said this dinner is not about politics, but, rather it is about feeding and caring directly for people. Michele told the story how two years ago, Hyundai donated \$1000 to WTD. Then a Hyundai executive and his family came early Thursday morning to help cook. At the doorway stood a man in the pouring rain waiting for the doors to open. The executive asked him why he was there so early. The man responded that he wore size 13 shoes and hoped to check the donations piles early for a pair of whole shoes. When the executive and his family left the man was still standing, waiting. The executive then took off his pair of size 13 shoes, gave them to the man, and walked to his car in his stocking feet in the pouring rain. Etienne, Brad, and Marlene encouraged more Fair family to participate in the Whiteaker Thanksgiving Dinner. Palmer suggested that we consider this a permanent voluntary property tax.

Jack issued a friendly amendment, accepted by the original proposers, that the donation be increased by \$100 for a total of \$600. This is known from past years as the "sock amendment" when Jack first realized that the money could be used to buy new wool socks for 25 cents a pair. The amended motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

#### CRAFT COMMITTEE LIAISON APPOINTMENT

Jim moved, and Marlene seconded, the BoD appoint a liaison to the Craft Committee.

Peach Gallery: Paxton said it is good for each BoD member to adopt at least one committee. Charlene agreed. Wren Davidson said this is a very fractious committee. Crafters need a committee to be their advocate and speak to the BoD for them.

Instead they feel unwelcome and rumors fly rampant. This committee needs the BoD's attention now.

Anne and Arrow thought this motion was out of process order. The posted agenda item was Craft Committee Appointment. Raimon was opposed to a liaison if it filled one of the committee's vacant positions. However, it was explained that the liaison would be an adjunct position. Jeff Allen and Steffan Webb disagreed whether the vacancy only should be filled by a crafter. Jeff proposed that only another crafter understand the unique experience of crafters. Steffan proposed that a non-crafter might be able to see the crafter's experience as it relates to the whole of the Fair more clearly. Leslie stated that this committee is in large part about the various relationships between the Fair and crafters, and so needs both vendors and operational folks. She also thinks a strong BoD liaison would be a very good idea at this time.

Michele moved, and Dr Jim seconded, to table the discussion. The motion to table passed: 7 in favor and 3 opposed (Palmer, Jim and Brad).

Jim Sahr said that he is not so presumptuous as to fill Paxton and Charlene's positions. He thanked them for bringing this to the BoD's attention. He plans to attend more Craft Committee meetings and wanted to insure that he would not be kicked out. Dr Jim added that after reading Paxton's report he spoke with one committee member. He sees there is a growing crisis but does not yet fully understand the issues. He voted to table the motion to gain more information.

#### CRAFT COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Jim's motion to appoint Jeff Allen to the Craft Committee died for lack of a second. Actually, the BoD received tonight a second letter of interest to serve on the Craft Committee from Vince LaRochelle (crafter).

#### LAW REFORM MAILING

Etienne moved, and Charlie seconded, the OCF membership list be open to the Law Reform group for geographically targeted notices about lobbying opportunities for law reform.

Peach Gallery: Charlene said the Law Reform group would like to get lobbying notices out to the membership about high priority issues. John F added that people are willing to organize educational forums in the Portland area where grassroots actions can be very influential. Leslie noted that some Fair members do not want their names and addressees shared with anyone else even for the worthy efforts of law reform.

BoD: Palmer said, "No, no, no. The membership list is not open." Charlie disagreed. The membership clearly stated that they want the Fair to take an active role in this issue. Not releasing the list to ourselves is absurd.

The motion failed: 4 in favor and 6 opposed (Jack, Michele, Tom, Dr Jim, Marlene and Palmer).

#### ENDOWMENT CONTRIBUTION

Jim moved, and Palmer seconded, the BoD contribute \$25,000 toward the Endowment principal and supplement the interest by an anticipated \$1400, not to exceed \$2,000 to bring the grant award total equal to \$10,000.

Background: Steve G said it is important to continue to build upon the endowment principal. Hilary added that this is a BoD designated endowment which means that each BoD must commit to maintain the funds as an endowment. All the monies are in federally insured accounts in socially responsible banks, i.e., South Shore Bank Ecotrust and Albina Bank. The principal is not touched. The interest off these accounts fund the Endowment grants. She asked the BoD to consider how large the Endowment

should be. Given the current low interest rates \$200,000 should yield \$10,000 interest. This year's contribution would bring the endowment total to \$175,000.

Peach Gallery: Paxton opined that the endowment and other charitable donations contribute to keeping our assets out of hot water with the IRS. Leslie remembered that the original target was set at \$200,000. She also encouraged the BoD to maintain the minimum level of participation of \$10,000 in grants. The community has learned to make that amount stretch very far. Steffan said that we should set our goal higher because we are not bottom line people.

BoD: Jim agreed with Steffan. He suggests a target of \$500,000 to be extended when that goal is achieved. Soon we'll reach the point where we won't need to supplement the grants and that money could be added to the principal as well. Charlie supports this motion. He would, however, like to see the endowment serve more than the Veneta/Fern Ridge area.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

#### REVENUE FORECAST

Charlie moved, and Tom seconded, the BoD move this topic up to old business from new business so the Budget Committee can continue their work. The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

Charlie moved, and Dr Jim seconded the BoD approve the revenue forecast of \$808,400 as presented by the Budget Committee for planning purposes.

Background: Hilary noted that this decision may be reviewed in January when the total budget picture is presented. Please refer to the Treasurers report for an explanation of the revenue forecast.

The motion passed: 10 in favor and 0 opposed.

The next BoD meeting will be Monday, December 7, 7pm, at EWEB. The agenda, subject to change, will include the following tabled or postponed items. Caretaker Contract, Appointments to the Craft Committee and Property Acquisition Team, the Vehicle Shed Budget item. The following new business will be added: Renew Memberships in Children First and WoW Hall, Donation to Eugene Education Fund, Board Process, Donation Process, Legal Fund, Property Tax Appeal, Appointments -- Admissions Coordinator and BoD Budget Committee Liaison and BoD Craft Committee Liaison, and Releasing the Election /Vote Counts Policy.

"Thanks for our health.

Thanks for our hearts.

Thanks for the bounty that comes from the ground.

With our loved ones near,

we bless the year that's brought us safely round."

Chorus from "Thanksgiving Day" by Tom Chapin

Happy Thanksgiving, Jen-lin