
Oregon Country Fair

Path Planning Committee

Date: Sunday, December 13th, 2009

Time: Noon to 2:00

Location: Alice's living room

Agenda

Preliminaries:

Introductions

Announcements

The land use maps from Tom Lanfear were emailed to the committee by Deane M. Tom is making land use studies. The stage left group (vaudevillians) is organizing a meeting in Seattle to review needs on Dec 19. Planning maps for Gypsy Way and Crafts Lot are being handed out today. A wreath making area is available for anyone who is interested located at Cowpalace and plenty of green material available. January 28, 1 pm at Garden club.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of 11/15/09 with the amendments to add the prep for the camping workshop and change January to add Hillary Anthony as a speaker. Passed by acclamation.

Public Comments (including letters and e-mails)

Archaeology is considering asking for a percentage of the budget for them.

Agenda Review/Amend/Approve

Motion made and seconded to approve the agenda. Passed by acclamation.

Staff Reports

Steve says the temperature has been the most exiting weather news this month. Suggests it would be a great day for a walk in the eight. Armoring the banks is an ongoing effort. Concern was mentioned about the log jam and options available to manage it. We need to investige what changes will be within regulations and with ecological goals in mind. It was mentioned that the health of the river is measured by the woody debris. Steve discussed how this was handled in previous years.

Charlie told us the RFP is in progress and there are 5 finalists being investigated. He is hopeful for a major increase in efficiency. The path planning web page is in progress. We had to deal with a hack of the server that is creating extra work for the web meisters with an incredible amount of spam. The Friends of Path Planning minutes were discussed and the font size was too small to read. A new email will be made for the committee in order to allow the appropriate emails to be forwarded to the full committee. It was discussed that in the future, there will be a blog-type area on the new web. The object will be for the PPC to maintain its own page. A suggestion was made to have a general Path Planning discussion list. The secretary will forward the committee contact list to all the committee members.

Sub Committee Reports

Dean spoke about the web design. The secretary plans to convert all the minutes to PDF form. Chewie sent an article to the FFN to talk about the upcoming big meeting. He will send his responses to the

secretary who will forward them to the full committee.

Old Business

What path planners need to know about Archaeology (Tom) Postponed due to inclement weather.

Five replacement booths: A paper was distributed by site manager dealing with the components of Gypsy Way and will be attached to the meeting minutes. He spoke of the need to create something new. He said the outside the eight entertainment would not be a usual occurrence but that it was very successful for the 40th anniversary. He said it is important for the pp committee to have a plan in place in case of catastrophic events and that it would fall on operations to manage if there is no plan. He spoke of different areas that could be made more secure and functional. He spoke of different groups that have need for space that would include quiet, canopy & shade such as the Raptor group and others delineated in the paper. It was felt that there was a need to combine the map with the paper distributed. A study of plants in the area showed no special plants were there. Does the paper presented violate the public process? It was brought out that with the ambient project for the welcome to the fair from cabal to the dragon it should be continued to be improved and added which may require small footprint changes. It was suggested that a proposal for an acoustic stage could be included in the loop. It would not be out of the question to get started in the budget process so we can put a project into fruition for Fair 2010. Have a targeted list of improperly placed booths and give them incentive to move. It is important to manage egress and exit and look at the big picture for any new loop development. A final stage could be implemented in Dragon Plaza as a drawing out of the crowd at closing. We need a joyful entrance. Make sure we stay public with our ideas. Should we advertise in the FFN that we are considering changes for 2010 and soliciting input with the public? Does the paper submitted concern a plan for the future or something to have in place for 2010? The budget should be approved even if it is not used that year. At some point it will need the funds so it should be submitted. It was brought out that booth 481 does not have liveable space behind and there will be 2-3 booths for certain that will be moved for 2010. Kudos were given to operations for the well-thought-out paper they submitted for a Gypsy Way Loop. Is there a method to do the Loop in stages? It was suggested that the Gypsy Way Loop is thinking too small and should continue to Community Village and/or the Junction. (a modular way) It was hoped this was not an idea to vote on yet as there are more ideas to be submitted. Family were told that it would be a public process and it is hoped that will be followed. It was felt that Crafts Lot is an important area of improvement but that Crafts and Gypsy are not mutually exclusive. Dragon Plaza has room for a group of temporary booths. The dragon plaza is a bigger plan that should include the joyful entrance. Infill was pointed out as a better method for expansion. We need both shaded pathways and sunny meadows. A solution for better parking is being worked on by ops and a reconfiguration of energy park. A bicycle valet parking area is being looked at and senior and altered able parking. That whole area could be incorporated with a joyful entrance. It was pointed out that the paper put out was expected to follow the public process unless there is a catastrophic event. They can attend the public meeting in April and give their input. It is a time for more action. The PP committee has mentored the 5 one-year booths which came into fruition in 2009 and we are now planning designs to be put to the public this year and implemented next year. The 5 booth replacement is the minimum plan and there are larger plans to implement over a longer period of time.

A motion was made and seconded to add 15 minutes to the meeting and to move on to the next agenda item. Passed with acclamation

Something new for 2010

A description of a sculpture powered by bicycles and a moveable stage powered by bicycles would be something to encourage using bicycles to the fair. It would be nice to collaborate with other groups.

Last year we had a pink hippopotamus powered by bicycles that was well received. More space to park bicycles would be appreciated. A counter-culture carney ride area would be fun. A human powered carnival was seen in Europe. The joyful entrance should be a high priority and completely separate from the booth changes. Since ops is already working on a reconfiguration outside dragon plaza, it could be integrated with that.

These same proposals will be revisited next month.

Prep for workshops (Review, Discuss)

Some ideas were handed out to individuals for study before next month's meeting. An idea of Southside showers was presented. The camping workshop is going to be dealing with camping issues and Chewie volunteered to manage a subcommittee dealing with that topic. Ideas from PP and LUMP are solicited.

Subcommittee assignments

Topics: To come up with some design ideas relating to:

Energy Park Annex

Jay

Dragon Plaza

Dean Middleton

Colleen

Possible new stages

Multiuse Stage...

Dance Stage

David

Wally

Jon

Theater in the Round

Chewie

New Business

From Yearly plan

Jan 17, 2010: Final plan for five replacement booths; discuss archaeology; prep for mass meeting

Finalities:

Meeting Evaluation

A good meeting that allows brainstorming without expecting immediate results. Yes, and on the verge of decisions.

Homework Review

Confirm next meeting time and place (January 17th), Alice's, Noon to 2 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm

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pathplanning@oregoncountryfair.org <<mailto:pathplanning@oregoncountryfair.org>>

Greetings to you dear, hard-working path planners,

I have had every intention of composing an email to you sooner, but I got slammed by the piggy flu in Oct and swamped by other demands (and recovery) since. Here's hoping it's not too late to put in my 2 cents on behalf of Stageleft's future at the Fair. I work on the Krewe d'Arte which designs and constructs the sets each year for Stageleft, and have done so since 1992.

In Nov. 2008 I attended a Path Planning Meeting and gave a presentation on behalf of Stageleft describing the important "things" we have where we are:

- 1) backstage vehicle access,
- 2) adjacent tent/vehicle camping, and
- 3) backstage toilets

primary among them.

I described why they were important for us to do the work we do at Stageleft: 2 shows per day, plus 2 parades, plus the midnight show parade. How vehicle access makes our stage set creation possible. How the toilets make marching in parades and immediately performing in subsequent shows possible. How having our camping right there let us safely store and maintain our costumes and props for the show, and how we all chip in to help create them (up to the last minute!). I also described how the backstage vehicle and tent camping combined has succeeding in creating something that most people claim doesn't exist at the Fair anymore: community.

These are the core qualities that I believe we can and must advocate to retain regardless of where we might move. They are not luxuries, in my opinion. As a troupe, we depend on them, in ways that some presently might take for granted or might not personally need.

The mosquitoes, we could lose. The noise of Chez Ray's stage, we could lose. The distance from showers, we could lose. Our particular location, we could lose, even though it has its pluses and minuses (see comment about mosquitoes).

I think we still want some shade and some sun. I think we'd still like some restaurant booths nearby. We'd like the option of having a fire pit, to strengthen our community. We'd love to have an even quieter evening scene, so that we could have acoustic music in our

camping area and strengthen our community even more. We'd probably like to be able to do something New and Completely Different physically with the stage, just to prod our creative juices. Not being on the earliest 5 am part of the Honey Bucket renewal route would be nice. Being in the partial shade of pines a short walk to the Ritz sounds really appealing to me - so I'm checking out that "behind the Gypsy Caravan" map with a hungry eye.

What Kirk Shultz (of Construction and Path Planning) told me last year, was that if there are 10 things we want, and we are willing to give up one of them for the good of the Fair, then we are likely to get 4 totally cool things that we hadn't begged for. I comprehend how this kind of cooperation is a win-win for everyone, especially at the fair, where making people happy by being pleasant, creative, and patient is what makes the world go around. We want to play that way! I remember that you Path Planning people responded to my last year's presentation saying you so appreciate the joy and creativity that the Circus/ Stageleft/Parade bring to the fair, and would like to help us carry on our contribution.

I understand that the realities of what we will be (possibly) offered at various times are going to be a tricky set of balls all in the air at once, and unless the very core, dare I say "non-negotiable aspects" (the 3 issues mentioned above and below) are understood as such by all, we will accidently drop one or more of those. I acknowledge that if we do not show that we care and comprehend what the greater good for the Fair is, we will set up conditions that will be antagonistic to our best possible outcome. I am not wanting to be greedy, or to diminish the overall best for the overall Fair. I have given this a fair amount of thought and I simply don't see how we can do our Stageleft/parade jobs without maintaining these 3 qualities:

- 1) backstage vehicle access before and after the fair (not during)
- 2) adjacent tent/vehicle camping directly backstage (although it or some of it could be across a road closed to the public)
- 3) toilets backstage.

This could be accomplished in our present location, even with the development of Crafts Lot, if there is a vehicle path open to us through some time on Thursday, closed during the fair, and open again on Monday. How the Honey Buckets get cleaned has to be figured into this plan, but we ourselves DON'T need vehicle access DURING the Fair.

I suspect the area behind Gypsy Caravan, and on either side of the road that passes behind it, could accommodate our large troupe, too, and give us shade without mosquitos. I don't know who camps there already. Moving onto the far side of the woods that are on the far side of Craft's Lot is obviously spacious but very sunny. That would be one way to lose the mosquitos . . . but might bring other issues such as: the public will never find us so far away, and we will fry in the sun.

I hope that we will get to consider the pros and cons of various options before being assigned anywhere.

I appreciate the efforts of the Path Planners to involve us in the design process and I will attend whenever I can.

Many thanks for listening.

Laurie Childers
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