

Path Planning Committee
Date: February 19, 2012
Time: Noon to 3 PM
Location: Alice's Wonderland

Introductions

Justin Honea, Colleen Bauman, Chewie Burgess, Chris Browne, Jay Hogen, Deane Morrow, Sylvia Fireman, Michael Richard, Dennis Todd, Susanna DeFazio, Tom Churchill, Cathy Coulson-Keegan, Bill Wright, Sue Moore, Laura Stuart, DJ Rogers, Howard McCartney, Susan Bryan, Peggy Day Fitzgerald, Elizabeth Mudmom(on-line).

Announcements

We have a new baby Path Planner, called Nova for short.
FrontOfFair board working session was held and well attended.

Approval of minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. Passed with no opposition.

Public comments

Susanna DF attended FOF and reports it was an awesome meeting. Many PP members attended and felt it was very educational and productive, even exciting.

Agenda review/amend/approve The question was asked, "Do we want the new area name discussed this week?" No time this meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda. Passed with no opposition.

Staff reports

Charlie:

The BOD passed the Barter Fair motion with minor tweaks. We understand the BF will be held as usual in 2012 but all will change in 2013 with the year between to be used for planning. Capital projects recommendations have been completed including a sizable placeholder for GW. The projects are now waiting for BOD approval. The Survey crew will focus this year on CL and Piggie's specifically to set up for camping crew. He suggests we put together a time-line with milestones that can be back-filled as we go with our decision points. Question. Since the many surveys taken about staff on south end came from mostly crafters and we need more input from staff, could the survey please include more staff? We will do our best. Last year the focus was crafters but this year it will be physical counts of demographic data. We are asking PP to help refine the survey.

FOF board work session was held. Trying to accomplish prioritization of stakeholders. Where are the limits, what does it include? There was lot of buy-in from bigger crews and a powerful group of people attended. It points out the need for more meetings ...how have we changed through the years? How can we rethink the aging systems? There will be several operations subgroups put together after our larger overview. Recycling is amenable to moving. We need to be able to alter anything but for some things it won't work to be altered and those are being noted. There was a good sense of participation. Everyone needs to pull together for the greater good.

Question: GW what elements will be there? Child care and what should be involved according to ops. Wildlife? This year's deployment is kept simple and the whole project is huge and will take time to manage. Maybe next year will include the outreach of other groups with capital projects submitted

then. We need to have a sense of what is going to work. Every piece of the puzzle should have the underlying assumption of easier.

Booth Registration:

Lots of changes this year. Price changes happening where booth and camping passes are separated. The packet is being redesigned to add a subset to ask for voluntary information of email/phone number/place they live. This is the first run of filling in information to allow giving information. Keep people informed on a larger scale. This includes all participants.

Guest: Renee from Water Crew. Water is going to be monitored. Population will be associated to understand how many trucks etc will be needed to service the population. This will help safety-wise. We have been lucky to not run over anyone but the population is increasing and truck turnaround is tricky with the foot traffic. Hand-washing and drinking will have their own water line and it has already been dug. She is here for input on needs. The cap line is about 40 ft away and will need to have Child Care work to get the lines extended into Child Care. All new building will require close working with water crew to have the proper lines/fountains/hand washing. The main impact will be the CL rebuild. There will need to be a way to increase the pressure to left bank. A new pump is in the reservoir that should handle all the new lines. A request for the water line maps for Path Planning was made. For instance, what impact would there be it adding food courts but not food booths. No much unless current booths increase their water consumption. Not back flow but positive pressure is used. We appreciate the hard work of the water crew. There are now 68 members, up from 20.

BOD Liaison report

We should craft the statement better than last time. A big picture recommendation and back-fill with operations on the details. Better to have a scattered gun approach for CL.

Subcommittee reports

Work Plan review/amend

Old Business

Refine Crafts Lot maps, report and presentation

1. A motion was made and seconded to make a recommendation for moving Kid's Loop for 2013 fair. Passed with no opposition.

Discussion:

Kid Loop...does it go away? Or stay? Because of proximity to Stage Left should leave in. Move in phases, mellow space is tied in. Seems like portable jungle gym could be moved and tear out the stage. Leave some structures for the kids to play on with no staff. There needs to be some supervision.

We need information from the people who were moved in the area with certain promises and we should find out what would benefit them.

We need to put an anchor in that area that would benefit the people that moved there.

Leave in mellow space for now.

Go or stay, it should still have something for kids in that area.

A clearing in the woods would have a real vegetation problem and damage.

Take care of the Strawberry Lane people.

Is there not a way to move the full Kids Loop to the new Kids Loop?

Focus more on the long-term and not the details. The goal is to have a better area with no dead-end. It is OK to have small areas of kid friendly things throughout the fair.

Remove the play structure.

Get a play structure in the new Kid Loop and have open meadow.

Child Care is it gone? A moot point since it is addressed.

Motion withdrawn. For maximum flexibility, design to keep the center of CL open. Possible food booths clustered by old Child Loop, other booths could be clustered on the South West side of the lot. A dozen crafts booths could be scattered in the woods.

Is this time to design in a new way?

Stay focused on the boundaries.

Approach the design with the infrastructure first.

Consider using a path for the booths because it is better for sales and traffic flow.

Remember early Chela Mela with the wonderful open space but it is getting cluttered now.

Feels the woods should not be claimed by permanent booths.

Number 1 priority should be keeping the public interested. A good reason for keeping it open and flexible.

Will this create a dead end space again? Need to have a loop.

Keep a path of booths with a high traffic corridor and a cluster of food booths on south side.

Arch park would like to have the Oak trees for their booths and it would be typical place.

The original area had oak savannah.

Board mandate for Path Planning is to have plans for 5 booths replacement booths if necessary.

Updating original maps is important but getting into specifics has created problems.

We need to advise the BOD in these areas of growth and we also need to advise operations.

Our focus, based on the work plan, is not happening. What are we prepared to share with the BOD on the meeting. Discuss with the board on March meeting all the details.

2nd weekend event has a lot of potential but should be an operational decisions for many reasons.

Need to keep CL as flexible as possible. What does the public need? Maybe 20 permanent booths would be needed there. That would mitigate the need of service road on the periphery. Ho road you do not want a lot of traffic. It should be kept for emergencies and minimize the traffic on the road.

Campers would be needed to be moved from the South side. Using the ditch to designate between campers that need to move and campers that would stay is not a good choice. Is it appropriate for camping or not? We should try to open the whole space up and gradually add the attractions. We do not need to have the ditch limit. PP needs to work closely with camping crew. This will be a slow process and we need to find a way to relocate the campers before we can go ahead with the plan.

Change or amend designs

South service road, leave in? Heard a bad thought of putting a road through the trees in near Hoarse Chorale near the ditch. It is wet on the dry years.

Ditch, public or camping? Not currently serving the function of drainage so should we get rid of it?

Is it a de facto dividing line? Ditch the ditch but still respect the line. There is a line that separates the crafters from crew. Let's go for progress and avoid a ship-storm. From an ops standpoint it will not be easy to beautify because it does not follow the flow of the meadow. It that is a line that will be fought over, then let's work around it and do a redesign. Question about the camping crew, will we be getting information on the progress? They are coming up with a time-line this year as a start. It is a dynamic plan at the moment. Need the survey of the demographics to go further with design. They have a group of 56 people working on the crew. It is in the planning stage and it will be a work in progress.

Everything should be submitted and will be reviewed and all will be considered. Including moving crew if needed. All the projects we speak of should start from a point of setting priorities and let that govern what options to implement. What are our needs? We need new public pathways, new booth space, new infrastructure. We won't get everything so we need to set priorities. It is clear the CL is the

last open space available to the fair for expansion. It is the last space with the proper ambiance. Infrastructure needs to be on the peripheral and leave the open space. We should have templates to overlay with different layers. Base layer as infrastructure with options as overlays. What are the big milestones on the time-line? A concept for PP to recommend to the BOD with recommendations for what not to do. Probably not by April 1st.

Phased development or full build., Should phase into.
Don't think a statement can be prepared by April 1st.

Jon Pincus sent a statement since he was ill.

Crafts Lot development recommendations:

1. We should develop the current Kid Loop area no later than 2013 and should develop part of it this year if replacement space is needed.
2. We should develop a second event stage for Crafts Lot with the purchase of a portable stage which can be placed where and when we need it. I think that all new amplified stages should be placed facing south because east and north will disturb neighbors and west has the sun in the eyes of the performers. Just outside the tail of the Dragon is a perfect location. I worked as a stage manager for ZimFest with a stage at this location. We used the Security fire pit area for a Back Stage area with the Photo ID compound serving as the Green Room Logistically it worked out perfectly. We can reuse this pattern with minimum investment.
3. I believe Crafts lot should be developed incrementally. First to the big tree where the Mothership camp is. That camp should be facilitated in either staying to stage two or moving all at once to Miss Piggy's. The next phase should go to the ditch and stop there leaving the existing camps south of the ditch and those in the woods, including Decon intact. After that we should wait to see how it is working before crossing the ditch.
- 4 I think that broad areas of Crafts Lot particularly interior areas should be left either open or occupied by booths that are removed every year. Booths in these areas could have permanently assigned spots but would remove their structures and return them every year. Permanent installations should be placed on the edges. I envision the open area being able to be used like mid-evil style fairgrounds or tournament grounds

Add fourth map with Second Event possibilities. Colleen filled in options on 4th map. Looking at zones and staying flexible. Portable stage option at tail of the dragon. Determined to not let it block any needs of the fair but keep it flexible. Southside would be where majority of permanent booths would go. Suggests a Plan B permanent stage. Feels that temporary booths could be not fitting the fair. Feels that volunteers should be allowed to keep their camping to be moved at another time.

Feels we should continue the plan to phase campers from CL. Come up with rough boundaries and not a detailed map. CL did not allow camping pre-fair north of the ditch. At phun gate, there are signs that camping will eventually be moved. Use the camp host who distributes the tent tags to talk to the campers. There are established camps in CL and should have a priority and then the other campers should fill in. The roads are dirty and muddy but need to be used. 3 roads.

It is as much important to be flexible for the 3-day event even if there is no 2nd event.

We are looking at 1200-1400 people campers and moving hundreds of tent campers to move. I don't think the people are aware of what is being done. It is called the Promised Land for a reason. The density is incredible. There are a lot of people who have no idea they need to be moved. Filling in the ditch would be a big deal and change the topography of the area.

Wanted to see the area defined by the tree line which includes the south side of the ditch. It feels right.

2nd event. Stage on the North by the dragon tail reminds me we should move the dragon out which would increase the area. We need to add the dragon to the CL change.

Wondered what the ditch was for because the water would immediately permeate and not carry it. Can't see a flow in the ditch.

The ditch has been there a long time. Mother nature has put up with it. She will make another adjustment if we fill it in.

It serves no purpose.

Progress is happening, we are eliminating the unusable ideas and refining the useable ones.

We need to work on our work time-line.

Engage the BOD early on. Early buy-in gives better success later.

We need to not have too finely defined. We should provide a canvas for later fill in.

We are defining the questions re ditch, open space, trees, entry/exit to the area, infrastructure, etc.

We need to look at the area more closely and more often.

Prepare for March meeting with BOD and April neighborhood workshop

Board Liaison will invite the BOD to the March meeting.

There will be maps printed out for the next meeting.

New Business: Distance attendance

Homework Review Tree spotting will be done by Susie & Jay.

Review the work plan and bring changes, Colleen and Justin.

Meeting Evaluation-Good job, much done, Colleen did a good job managing. Thanks to everyone for their ideas.

Committee members are asked to please review, and amend, the agenda at the beginning of the meeting, and then try to stay on the agenda

Confirm next meeting time/place, March 18, noon to 3:00, Alice's