

Path Planning Committee
Stakeholders Meeting
Puzzle Pieces
March 17, 2013 1-4 pm
Hilyard Community Center

Co-Chair & Facilitator: Colleen Bauman

Committee Members Present: Colleen Bauman, Tom Churchill, Deane Morrow, Dean Middleton, D.J. Rogers, Ann Rogers, Dennis Todd, Paxton Hoag, Steve Wisnovsky, Chris Browne, Susanna DeFazio, Jay Hogan, David Tipton, Kirk Shultz, Jon Pincus, Michael Richard, Amanda Moore (scribe)

Guest Speakers: Gina Graham (Dunbaya Dance Troupe), Sue Theolass (Community Village & one-year-only booths), Jana & Bud Chase (Stage Left), Oso Harper (Internal Security), Gaelen (Energy Park), Maribeth Zanone, Seven Root (Decon), Chloe (Chela Mela Assistant), Katrina Wynne (Mothership), Noah Mickens (Wanderlust Circus), Crow Sykora, Susanna DeFazio (Crafter), Jon Pincus (Elder), Kathee Lavine (Food Booth), Tommy Ponce (Garden Coordinator), Sally Edmunds (via Go To Meeting).

Welcome

Colleen asks the group: Why are we here today?

She then reads the statement of intent posted for all:

"To Present the Maximum Flexibility Map and Concept to Stakeholders and gain their input to aid further refinement at the April 14th Committee Meeting."

Colleen welcomes everyone to the meeting and directs everyone to the oregoncountryfair.net website Path Planning link to be familiar with path planning, stay current with progress and stay connected.

Thanks to the committee for 5 years of service to get this far.

Please Sign Up to Speak and try to keep it under 5 minutes.

Welcome to the new Path Planning Scribe, Amanda Moore.

Introductions

To start the meeting, please keep it simple with your name and fair affiliation.

Agenda Review

Please send comments and feedback to the PP committee by email.

Charlie Ruff, GM:

Crafts lot is a singular space within the OCF that is like no other place on the property which is now 446 acres. This space can accommodate a significant amount of people that still feels like Fair, not a parking lot. This is one of the last areas to work within the non-conforming land use verification with Lane County. We have limited public areas to work with under this permit. Currently, management is working with media to for our 2013 event. We always try to communicate what is new about the fair, and it is YOU, the public and fair family returning every year creating the OCF experience. The Crafts Lot will allow us to create and dream big, do something new and different within the fair year after year. We see larger artwork installations,

different than in the 8. We have outgrown the 8. The river is moving- we actively have a relation to our land and the river. We have to peacefully work with the river path and we won't change its course. OCF has a mandate to cover five replacement booths every year due to erosion and change along the river path. Path crowding is an issue, the people numbers are increasing within our event of fair family folks which are taking up more of the pathway than the public whose attendance numbers are basically the same. Crafts Lot will give us more room to breathe and grow for our fair. Essentially to recreate a new space every year. The Crafts Lot can humanely and safely accommodate up to 4-5 thousand people. It will be a flexible venue, which will allow yearly change.

The new Special Use Permit (SUP) will allow us to rethink and do things outside of the OCF event/organization that will allow us to use the land year round. A series or just one event in the summer may be part of the SUP and vision for Crafts Lot. A small series of outdoor concerts that relates to the Fair which will allow us to generate revenue as the OCF has its limits; which we are reaching in some areas. We envision a healthy vibrant event for our future.

Dennis T.: A brief history of OCF

1969: Some hippies have the first event and had so much fun; they eventually purchased land.

1970's-1980's: Public Ticket Sales grew

1988: 22,000 tickets sold at the gate onsite. This made it feel like a "cattle chute". We had no Left Bank and we realized OCF needed to grow. We acquired the Far Side developed the Left Bank and Chela Mela. Expansion was discussed as necessary during these times.

Public tickets sales leveled out but internal population continues to grow. Our internal population doubles every ten years. Our population has more than doubled since Chela Mela opened.

Path Planning would like to regain public space and address congestion and crowding; which has been a discussion for 20+ years.

Kirk S.: Plan & Map Review "Puzzle Pieces"

Map presented is the Max Use Plan Diagram Map #4 which was approved by the Board of Directors.

It was created after meetings and charettes and distilled into a blended concept.

The transition time to fully implement the Crafts Lot expansion will take more than 3 years.

Critical Mass will be in ONE year of movement.

The entrance to Crafts Lot was explained and discussed. The public will enter near the old kids' play area and through the Phun Gate at Chela Mela. This way the public will flow on all paths.

Temporary elements will set the stage for change. There is lots of flexibility and potential with the growth and change.

We want minimal disruption to folks camping in the wooded areas.

Annual art installations like Burning Man that are not permanent are envisioned in this new area.

An anchor piece that has been discussed since 1996 with the development of Chela Mela is the idea of a dance floor/ballroom area. A central space to dance, perform, interact with sound that is centered back upon itself.

Matt McKewen is an architect/designer who is helping Kirk design the dance floor.

All things are malleable and changeable.

At the northwest end of Crafts Lot, the large gate to parking lot will be used for access to emergency services only. It will be used for core crews like: Security, WhiteBird and Fire Crew.

Refer pass will remain an important connection from camping areas to access to the Fair. The path may be cleared for Gators to safely navigate through for emergency services. This will turn in to a wristband check gate to enter into Crafts Lot. There will also be a gate on Ho Road for wristband check to enter the Fair.

Priority booth spaces have been set aside for crafters/booths that have been afflicted by erosion at Upper River Loop and Shady Grove. Trade booths will be limited. These booths will be used for wait list and fresh crafts. In the beginning, it will be one-year-only booths. Booths will be constructed to be fully removable elements so that we can accommodate a future second event. Subsections on maps have liaisons, so please contact your liaison with comments, questions or concerns if you are affected in those regions.

Food booths may be more hard-built to stay. How will this affect a second event food space booths? These food booths are envisioned along the west tree line of Crafts Lot.

Decon will have stash spots in close proximity for all moveable components. All hard-built buildings will be built to a minimum.

Colleen: We do not have details yet, just ideas which we want feedback on.

David: We will gradually add pieces as we go to this area.

Guest Speakers

Hilary Anthony, Chela Mela:

This is like deja-vu as we went through this with Chela Mela. It was several years in the making which sprouted from path planning meetings. We were brainstorming with everyone. We have a crew of 15 people to run Chela Mela and we invite 100 people every year to participate and perform to make Chela Mela what it is. We had to explore many different issues, such as car issues, camping issues, etc...

I think it is very important to have staffing on location to smooth things out for the transition and change. Staff people on the ground in good faith to troubleshoot and help make things work. Have a crew who is specifically responsible for an area. Change is stressful--alert folks that change will happen; so that they can adapt. Many changes have occurred in Chela Mela since it was first opened to the public. The river has even taken some of our land that used to be Chela Mela. Programming is helped by a theme. Play off of what is the intent and what's actually available and to find folks who are passionate about their craft to create the theme. It would be nice to serve the needs of the older youthful group in Crafts Lot. Hula Hoop and Poi? Facilitate and teach activities to define space and have gear available. Open stages really do work, unlike amphitheatres. Helps attract many people. I would like some food booths to be moved, to allow more space for Morningwood Odditorium during this transition. We could extend Chela Mela into Crafts Lot for flow. It can take awhile for folks to get comfy in new spaces. Folks are nostalgic. Consider a possible obstacle course for teens (20+ yrs. old) for group participatory actions.

Steve Wisnovsky:

Chela Mela and Far Side opened the first year Steve was site manager. Change was hard, but people loved the space and it filled in. We used to hay both Crafts Lot and Chela Mela once a year in Spring. We changed the regime and began mowing more frequently which created a lush beautiful turf in Chela Mela. Crafts Lot will be going through a new maintenance regime. We

will have to irrigate it in the early mornings and it will also become a nice lush turf like Chela Mela.

Jay Hogan:

Ambiance crew traditionally included path performers which has now expanded into hands-on activities for people. Ambiance is interested in the commons, not just about shopping and food. We want to focus on community. We need space, like pocket parks, for gathering places to sit down with shade and benches for rest and to connect with other people. We can watch the activities from these places. We will keep open space for fair family and ambiance.

Tom Churchill:

Archeology was begun in 1982 when Fair Family bought the fair land. Archeology has discovered and identified prehistoric Indian sites. There are 15 state recorded archeological sites on Fair land. In 2012, we had new findings in Energy Park. There is a history of 11,000 years of partying and food booths on our site, some of the oldest recorded sites are on our property. Known sites are at the end of South Ho Road and the south end of Chela Mela. Some findings have been at Phun Gate, Dragon Plaza and Upper Chela Mela. We have good soil, above flood levels, which reveals occupation. There is evidence of Indians harvesting hazel, camas and tarweed. Digging for Crafts Lot water lines will reveal exposure to this soil. We hope to bring in a magnetometer prior to digging. Please, don't put holes in the ground!! We will leave our footprint. We are stewards of the land.

Open Forum/Guest Speakers

Gina Graham, Dunbaya Dance Troupe: I have been attending the Fair for 21 years, 20 years as a juried-in crafter. I have participated in Barter Fairs in the Crafts Lot. I agree with the growth and expansion. The land rush concerns are dangerous and crazy for camping and she is glad this will be done. PP directed her to Camping Crew and John Kay about how to get moved and settled. She likes that Refer Pass will have wristbanded Fair entrance. She is a dancer and very supportive of the Dance Stage proposal. Loves the open stage idea.

Gaelen, Energy Park: Interested in creating fun-filled learning space in Crafts Lot. This whole process has their group reconsidering what Energy Park is. Energy Park is asking for more time to define and let their ideas meld together.

Kirk S. responds: Amount of area unknown. Please envision portable structures to promote Energy Park message. Organic agriculture makes sense in full sun to grow veggies and have solar.

Charlie R. responds: Ability to have a satellite display in this area allows flexibility and possibility.

Steve W. responds: Energy Park supports Blue Moon Stage at the tail of the Dragon with solar. Solar panels also supply shade and energy.

Bud Chase, Stage Left: Doesn't want to be surrounded by Fair. Stage Left has traditionally been on the edge. Concerns include: sound pollution from other stages. Nice to see stakeholders here. Liaison system is working and will continue.

Maribeth, Chela Mela: Ten year fair goer who started in Chela Mela. Concerns include: Fire Show and authentic place to connect. She has an Art Farm Barn on the coast which hosts dance, art, retreats and recreation for their community, Dance heals through movement. The dance pavilion would enhance Fair family community. She envisions: improve dance, Kids and parents free-form dancing to the music. The first sound is the heartbeat; we are all dancers at heart. Inspire viable communities we create at the Fair to go out and beyond.

Katrina, Mothership booth rep: The booth existed since 1997. We provide a body, mind, spirit healing oasis at the Fair. We currently have 40+ people. We are a huge booth, which may grow up to 60 people with the expansion. We are ready to grow and expand with additional space. We are a peaceful place to relax and receive healing. Concerns: Electrified music. Consider acoustic music in this new area, make it sound appropriate. Smells: we prefer food booths that are gentle and organic with their smells, like Sweet Leaf. Porta Potties are a concern because we do not want to be downwind. We want a pleasant experience for our clients. We would like permanent water source installed for cleanliness, hand washing and such. We think a theme would be good to create cohesion, like Renewal Theme. The Mothership is willing to manage a few booths that are health-related and connect to our space.

Noah, Wanderlust Circus: We provided the White Album show for the 40th Anniversary. We have also performed at WC Fields among other venues. We are capable of putting on Big Circus style entertaining show for many people. We like to have games, sports and interactive performance. We also would like to provide workshops and teaching experience for our craft. One of our members is capable of building large fire structures and art Installations and has done this at other large venues. We would like to be a part of a permanent fit into the future of the Fair.

Crow Sykora: Our camp is located 5 weeks prior to fair opening as pre-fair for construction. He pointed out his camping spot in Area 1 on the Max Flex plan map.

Susanna DeFazio: The oak trees must be pruned by a certified arborist as they are heritage trees. These trees must be a feature of themselves for shade, without structures around them. These trees are the art and centerpiece of Crafts Lot.

Jon Plncus: Thank You all for coming and bringing your interactive ideas.

Kathee Lavine, Holy Cow/Food Booth: Has been homeless at fair for 23 years; had a community village restaurant for six years. We want to bring organic food permanently to the fair. Local, organic food booths set intention and go with a healing theme. We want to encourage this healthy concept. We are into new stuff and creativity, and we are excited there are positive new steps happening. I have been going to PP meetings for the last six years. "Health and Healing Space" could be a theme and destination.

Tommy Ponce, Garden Crew Coordinator: His kids staff the kid crafters booth. He would like Crafts Lot to start a cooperative art booth space with live paintings for these kids to express themselves, some of whom have grown up at Fair. There should be priority for existing family to staff an art booth giving opportunity for workers who are not juried-in crafters to vend their

crafts and artwork. The process to jury-in and the wait list is understood, but there should be consideration for workers to vend too to recoup some costs to live and work at the Fair.

David Tipton, Red tag construction & path planner: Supports the crew art booth idea. The Security tower has been discussed to be moved into Section 3 on the map, where WhiteBird and other key safety operations will be located. Discuss food booth placement in afternoon space by trees for shade in Crafts Lot. We should create a Fair Family altar for those who have passed in this new area as requested by many. Large artistic installations are encouraged in this area. He also supports the Casbah Teahouse hemp bedouin tent to provide shade structure and gathering space which is easily set up and removed.

Glen Johnson, Fair Bird Watch: Theme should be the stewardship element. Stewardship reflecting the work the crews do to operate the Fair, such as: recycling, vegmanecs, gardening. Info at booth of HOW OCF works; a schedule to interact w/different crews are pieces of the puzzle. Passive displays explaining stewardship of our land.

Seven Root, Decon: Cleans up Fair after everyone leaves. Can't stop progress, but doesn't want to move from his home. They have shade and proximity to the work they do. Colleen redirects him to Camping Committee with this concern.

Tamara, Mighty Tiny Puppet Theater in Chela Mela: They want to expand puppetry. They have serious sound concerns for puppetry. They want to be participatory and interactive with both adults and kids, not just kids. They have been closing stage an hour earlier for sound concerns. They are using amplification now. Looking for a new spot at Fair. Interest in doing adult type shows at night.

Jen-Lin Hodgen: Camping Announcement: Send your contact information for your camp host to Camping Committee. This information will be given to John Kay and Phillip. Please include details of the number of people, tents, etc... in your camp area.

Paxton Hoag, Path Planner and BoD: Consider how to think seriously how your structures will be stored and put away, please lessen crew impact for Decon.

Sally Edmunds (GoToMeeting): This conversation brings up Chela Mela planning memories. Concept of having flexible space can come to fruition. Excited about the change.

Allie, Dancer with Fire Show: Include age bracket for youngers. Electronic music is a part of the creativity to be expressed through electronic music for youngers. Its a next-generational thing. There is joy in the electronic dance party. Resistance to this music is comparable to rock music when it first came around.

Kirk S. Path Planning, Construction, BoD: Likes no electricity when he came to the Fair. We were like Ewoks in the trees. WhiteBird needed electricity for health and safety. This discussion and change had concerns for the slippery slope. In 1996 Chela Mela designs came up with the International Dance Floor. Maybe it could include a rave at night? Annual themes? Give everybody a chance to freshen up and change.

Charlie R.: Smells a new committee brewing.....

Meeting Evaluation:

Thanks to everyone for coming today. Thanks to PP for longtime coming; Ideas gathered from Fair Family; Continue to refine the vision and bring it to PP. We are still flexible and need direction, bring it on! Consider dual use possibilities and understand this. Appreciate positive suggestion and creative ideas. It was a well organized meeting thanks to Colleen; Path Planning the best functioning committee; listening to Fair Family and stakeholders; urge everyone to give ideas, you are all ambassadors of the momentum and change. You can breathe life into this. A lot of outreach last two years. Thank you for joining us.

Colleen: Wasn't happy with the process so she joined the committee; put your passion to work!

Meeting Adjourned early at 2:53 pm. snacks and cake.