

Oregon Country Fair Path Planning Committee 9/21/14 Draft Minutes

Attendance: Committee members: Colleen Bauman, Justin Honea, Kirk Shultz, Paxton Hoag, Jay Hogan, Sue Theolass, Susanna Defazio, Sylvia Fireman, Tom Churchill, Jon Pincus

Excused: Dennis, Dean, Michael

Guests: James Manning, Jen-Lin, Amy Hand, Laura Stewart, Cathy Colson, Bear Pitts

Scribe: Amy Hand

Announcements:

*Amanda resigns as scribe. Thank you Amanda Moore for your excellent work with the committee.

*The new pedestrian path in 2014 was a success with 90% of pedestrian traffic re routed.

*Sue, Kirk and James were folks in the room running for the board and will need to leave the meeting early for the Candidate Forum.

*Michael Richard is asking for one year off from committee membership.

*10/4-10/5 site work party.

*Community Center Committee charrette at LCC Longhouse 9/27 10-4 please rsvp to norma for lunch consideration.

*Saturday Market is hiring a manager; eugen Saturdaymarket.org October 10 deadline

Approval of minutes:

*Add Susanna's email from 8/7/14 to the August minutes:

Hi Colleen & Justin,

Terrific fair, as always.

I'm heading for Montana on Friday for the rest of the month, so will miss the August PP meeting. I would however like to enter my observations, suggestions, & comments into the record. Perhaps one of you could share this at the meeting. The issues I'd like to address at this time are dust and aesthetics.

The dust was, for us, especially bad this year. We probably contributed to the situation by our two weeks of booth construction during which we pulverized the duff in our construction zone. However, we were unable to get our water barrel filled until well into Thursday, by which time our whole camp was coated in dust.

We used to have water crew hosing the path more regularly at our end of the eight, but not so this year. As Path Planners, I'd like to see us address the dust situation more directly by reaching out to water crew and management to find better solutions. A larger water crew? More access to water by booth people? A schedule for hosing the path at regular intervals?

Regarding aesthetics, every once in a while someone does something at the fair that just doesn't seem to fit the set and setting. This year it was the pink plastic flagging tape around the ground installation at Dragon Plaza. I'd rather see nothing but grass if whatever replaces the grass needs to be protected by pink plastic. In fact, I'd like us to eliminate all plastic flagging and plastic fencing from the fair.

I suggest we have some kind of oversight process to make sure everything "fits" before we open to the public.

Once again, I loved, loved, loved my time at the fair and all of you who make it happen!

Susanna

*amended minutes approved, with 2 abstentions

Public Comments:

*Bear- would like an Upper River Loop (URL) representation, including Arch Park, Nirvana Park; would like to be included in discussion as things move to Crafts Lot perhaps creating more public space. Should this be part of Paths Subcommittee?

*Kathy- The Dancing Road or The Dancing Path should be a name consideration for the Crafts Lot Expansion.

Agenda Review, Amend and Approve:

No amendments; approval unanimous.

Officers Elections for Path Planning 2014-2015

Dean Middleton was re elected as secretary of PP unanimously.

Colleen Bauman and Justin Honea were re elected as chairs of PP with themselves as abstentions.

Discussion followed regarding absent/non active members and whether or not the PP committee is looking, needing or wanting additional members.

We have 13 active members, 2 members on leave, 18 original members

Discussion about what kind of member PP needs and revisit conversation suggested for October.

Update member contact list (Colleen).

* please update any changes with norma.

Reports:

BoD liaisons (Paxton & Kirk)

This is the beginning of the budget cycle, there are no significant changes to the 2014-2015 budget, increase of \$1 to 3-day passes. Reduced cost for worker day passes

Wednesday and Thursday.

PP voted unanimously to recommend Paxton and Kirk to continue in their roles as liaisons to the BoD.

Staff- Not present because of Staff/BUM retreat

Crafts Lot Operating Group (Kirk)

Friday 9/26 first CLOG meeting since fair--will work on naming.

What does PP want from CLOG? Evaluate, refine.

Susanna-- will pocket parks be created with the move of booths to Crafts Lot? awareness of Burning Man mentality, keep country in country fair. Hold to aesthetics guidelines in development of Crafts Lot.

Review aesthetics guidelines before December; how do they interface with PP (work plan)-- Kirk and Colleen.

Review path segment studies-- Paxton

Booth criteria and selection subcommittee is reaching out to booths whose moves will serve the health of the fair and path.

Kirk--It is PP subcommittee job to find pocket parks, dining, Figure 8 repair with booths who are moving to CL, not a CLOG job

Subcommittee List for 2014-15

(First name listed is the contact/lead person)

Pocket Parks, Heritage Trees and Path Repair subcommittee

(David, Jay, Susanna, Chris, Kirk,)

Discussion involved whether or not the smoking subcommittee fit into this subcommittee, should the pocket parks and path group help cultivate what smoking areas look like and where they are placed? Should prototypes be created/focused on?

Vote was held; no subcommittee for smoking, not included in pocket parks or PP

Booth Placement Selection and Criteria subcommittee

(Justin, Charlie, David, Ken and Sue)

Night Lighting subcommittee

(Paxton, Kirk, Christopher, Susanna, Asia)

Naming subcommittee

(Jay, Paxton, Kathy, Chris B, Phil, Jen-Lin)

Front of Fair subcommittee

(Colleen, who else?)

The following subcommittees from last year were discontinued for 2014-15

Smoking subcommittee, Discontinued

Security/Safety Peninsula subcommittee, work completed

Suttle Road subcommittee, work completed

Paused

Second Event subcommittee, Paused

Subcommittees Added

Crafts Lot Food Pod subcommittee (membership yet to be determined)

Discuss ways to work with construction, path planning, vendors.

How the food court, dining area and community of vendors interplays and what their concerns are.

Appoint liaison to report to CLOG representing unified concerns and then to PP.

Upper River Loop subcommittee

(Bear, Tom, Susanna, Jay, Sylvia)

Will review path segments study and update; first and foremost.

Sauna/ Story Pole subcommittee- (Tom, Justin, Colleen, Dennis?)

Need to build framework and process to foster communication, accountability and community in the projects and expansions of the sauna***

*** see discussion in new business

Discussed

Dust abatement, should it be a subcommittee?- Susanna

Water crew didn't meet vendors' needs, dust was untenable.

Suggestion to fill out a feedback form, and/or incident report and for committee chairs to invite Water Crew representative to April meeting to address concerns and look at coming year planning...not to form a subcommittee but address it by adding to the work plan.

Aesthetics subcommittee- Susanna

What are our philosophical ideas of aesthetics? How to keep the Fair not Burning Man?

Amplified Sound/LED lights/Metal? Not the Country we are looking for...

Aesthetics should be the vein that runs through all discussions surrounding projects, building and path development

Discussion

Should we do a survey about what the fair aesthetics are to individuals? Feelings on amplified sound?

Should there be a design review committee to ensure compliance with fair aesthetic guidelines?

Should the fair be two separate events? One traditional: no lights, amplified sound, etc... and one contemporary? Laura

Paxton--The elders council should be presiding over this conversation of aesthetics; it's the group that can be used to generate and facilitate fair-wide discussions.

Discussion continues regarding generational divide, and a need to continually define and examine our values.

It is decided that PP should not have an aesthetics subcommittee but has a need and a timeline to elicit information and guidance while looking at the Crafts Lot expansion. It is PP job to recommend/design the foot print with aesthetics in mind.

It is suggested that a meeting and charrette be held to invite and elicit comments, opinions and ideas from the fair family membership;
along with an article in the FFN-
What makes the fair the fair?
What sets it apart?
Invitation to feedback and link to meeting.

WORK PLAN Draft:

October: 10/19/14 PP Meeting, Walkabout of Fair to start assessment for Path Repairs, 11 am - 1 pm
Work Plan Draft approval
Culvert repairs report (Parks, Path repair subcommittee)
Ways to work with and support LUMP
Crafts Lot mapping refinement
Naming subcommittee report
Address need/desire for new members of PP
Begin planning of January or February aesthetics meeting/charrette

November: PP Meeting 11/23. Community Village invited
Community Village outreach, invitation to CV members to look and discuss proposed path change
Three year Crafts Lot plan review
Look at and address or modify Fair guidelines about aesthetics (guideline changes due end of December)
Finalize plan for January aesthetics charrette and meeting

December

No scheduled meeting (perhaps subcommittees, and if needed, a regular meeting may be added)

January

Upper River Loop subcommittee report

February

Host aesthetic meeting charrette (for a time other than our regular meeting day)
Front of Fair subcommittee reports

March

Crafts Lot food pod subcommittee report

April

Dust abatement conversation with invited guests and stakeholders

May

Annual potluck and photo

Presentation

New Business

Sauna/Story pole

Discussion resulting in formation of subcommittee aforementioned,

Tom-

*No response from George yet.

*Will draw up work plan for installation of the story pole with bids from three contractors.

*Who is paying for the archaeological assessment of the pad?

*We need a committee from PP to liaison with sauna to check in, regulate timelines and choices.

*Volunteers to lead.

*How can we beautify the dead-end and expand upon or remove concrete?

*This story pole is representative of Alaskan, BC and Northern WA tribes, white cedar vs red cedar.

Paxton-

*Steve Wisnovsky authorized the story pole project.

*Supports a subcommittee being formed.

*Feels like George is now trying to comply.

*Approach the situation with the expectation of compliance and help.

*Is the story pole cultural misappropriation? Feels that it isn't.

Jay-

*How do we create team player aspects in dealing with the story pole/sauna, subcommittee?

*Address land use, space ownership, entitlement, what can be used.

Laura-

*Would like to get younger members of the sauna involved in this discussion and subcommittee.

*Be careful about the stakeholder pool.

Justin-

*Will work on the subcommittee.

*George and the sauna must work with the fair.

*Story pole is sauna centric, not about the fair as a whole.

*Was there any Native involvement in this project or is this another lost opportunity?

Colleen-

- *There has been a lack of process in place, not necessarily ill intentioned.
- *Need to put process into place to address expansion, further communication and working together.
- *Form a directive of how things work.
- *Supports formation of subcommittee.

Conclusion

A subcommittee is formed to involve/invite stakeholders in moving forward with the story pole while caring for the site and our aesthetic and cultural values. Also addressing whether or not this is cultural misappropriation and what permissions and/or authorizations were given by the former site manager Steve Wisnovsky. Subcommittee should recruit from:

- *Path planning
- *Archaeology
- *LUMP
- *Ambiance
- *Management
- *Sauna

possibly, Childcare, Void, Chillville

New members?

- *What is our number? With two members on leave do we need to consider adding members to the committee?
- How many people does PP committee need or want?
- Which groups are not represented? Youth, traffic, craft committee, recycling, sauna, security and pre post, BUMs.

Homework review

- *Walk about preparation- think about pinch points, problems and opportunities.
- *Ideas about new members.
- *Ideas about what PP wants from CLOG and timeline.
- *Naming subcommittee meets.
- *Think about changes to the Crafts Lot map for refinement.

Meeting evaluation

- Justin- Thank you for the reflection. Thankful for this place and space and job done.
- Tom- appreciate the discussions, everyone bringing their piece.
- Paxton- good meeting, likes direction that PP is moving.
- Bear- the way this meeting works is inspirational, this structure gets things done with transparency and function.
- Sue- transparent and functional.
- Amy- grateful to be here, looks forward to this meeting.
- Sylvia- appreciates this committee.
- Susanna- appreciates Colleen for facilitating and thank you Amy for filling in as scribe.

Laura- takes vibes of this meeting to other meetings.

Jay- consistently good meeting, thank you for being here. Happy and refreshed to look at what our responsibilities are.

Colleen- Happy with the unfolding of meeting, thank you to Amy, our scribe for helping during the meeting keeping us on track.

Motion and vote to adjourn--
unanimous