Oregon Country Fair Path Planning Committee

January 22, 2017, noon to 3:00 PM at the OCF town office.

Present: Crystalyn Autuchovich, DJ Rogers, Tom Churchill, Shane Harvey, Sue Theolass, David Tipton, Jon Pincus, Shelley Hansen, Bear Pitts, Paxton Hoag, Ann Rogers (BoD liaison), Laurel (from Kitchen), Dean Middleton, Colleen Bauman (whip), Dennis Todd (scribe impromptu), Kirk Shultz.

Announcements:

Dennis: Parking Workshop, March 5, 10:00 - 3:00. The number of Fair family-owned vehicles on site must decrease to accommodate public parking. Help develop solutions. RSVP to the OCF office. Dean: The first annual KOCF silent auction fundraiser will happen on Saturday, March 18, 6:00 to 9:00 PM. See http://kocf.org/ for more information.

Bear: The Map Crew is looking for a volunteer with Illustrator and GIS experience.

Minutes were approved. Agenda was approved, introductions made.

Staff reports:

Crystalyn: Not much planning news. Crew meetings, coordinator potlucks, planning for 2017 event. The Barter Fair is linked to County approval of our SUP application.

Shane: Capital projects are due 1/31/17. Meetings galore. Ice storms, snow, floods add to the fun. We lost big trees at WC Fields, Admissions. No cutting until floods are over because of concerns about cut-up material being dispersed by floods. Eugene was hit harder by the ice storm than the OCF site. All: Accolades to Crystalyn and Shane for stepping up to manage the Fair.

Board liaison report:

Ann: Reported to the BoD on the December PPC subcommittee work session. BoD is moving to budget approval later this week.

XAG report:

Kirk: Group is putting together crew structures, budget, capital projects for Xavanadu.

Crystalyn: The BoD is to authorize crews for Xavanadu. XAG is almost done, its work handed off to the new operational crews.

Subcommittee reports:

Library Group. Kirk: Met at the December roundup, did a lot of drawings, which he showed to the committee as possible ways to reduce congestion and confusion at the path around Daredevil Palace and the Library. One fallen log and some vine maples now block the preferred path route. The log could be moved and the maples pruned or trained.

Colleen: How much outreach and consultation will be needed with stakeholders?

Kirk: It's best to set up a meeting at the site. Maybe the April PPC walk-about? The Library group will have to be included along with the neighbors at the meeting.

Jon: Eventually we may have to move Daredevil Stage.

David: This path realignment is an operational issue and should be addressed the same way as other minor path adjustments.

Dean: Vegmanecs will have to be consulted. Small adjustments in this area won't solve the problem.

Shane: This could be operational, but the Library group and Vegmanecs must be included.

Bear: The 90-degree corner is problematic. The Upper River Loop group agreed that last year's changes were helpful.

Tom: A State-recorded archaeological site is adjacent to this area. Be sure to include Archaeology in the planning. Moving the log shouldn't be a problem. There is so much recent flood deposit there. Sandy sediments are generally not of archaeological concern.

Shane: An April decision would still give us time to get State permits if they are needed.

David: Vine maple can be trained out of the way. We could develop an arbor tunnel. The log could be moved just a few feet.

Kirk: The subcommittee considered the whole Upper River Loop. In the long term, the river will take the URL away. As the bank at Arch Park is cut away, we may have to close the path, move booths, and change or move Daredevil Stage. He showed a sketch map with Daredevil Stage and audience area reversed, the stage in the current audience area and the audience on the south bank of the basin. An option like this might be necessary to maintain a minimum of two exits for the audience when the river takes away the path through Archaeology Park.

Dennis: The river has cut away two or three feet of the bank at Arch Park every year. Doubts that we have more than 10 years before the path becomes unusable.

Ann: Archaeology will need a capital project to move.

Dean: URL will soon become an oxbow island. We should develop information to inform booth holders, vendors, and public about the future path loss.

Community Village path.

David: The new path is going to happen. Providing another exit from CV is a matter of safety. We must not allow dead-ends. His experience with the Ghost Ship fire in Oakland compels him to see it through. Crystalyn: At the last CV meeting, including the affected booth holders on E. 13th, the mood was positive. Kirk: Nearby booths may be reorganized to get more space for the public—may be a topic for discussion this spring.

Main Stage.

Kirk: The proscenium is near the end of its life. Last year, the smoking station was overwhelmed. The General Store was rebuilt. Ancillary structures will need to be rebuilt. We should have a master plan for the area that we can implement incrementally. The stage is not well aligned with the audience. The stage folks said we could re-align the stage or move the fence and structures (e.g., sound booth, security tower) on the west side of the meadow.

Paxton: We should post ideas and design sketches this year to stimulate discussion.

Kirk: In the next few PPC meetings, we could develop a map of the area to post backstage during the event. The proscenium rebuild will need permits.

Colleen: We need a subcommittee and convener.

Shane: Reach out to the stage crew first.

Work plan review.

February: Front of Fair report due (prepare survey). Map work focusing on sound corridors, busker places, smoking stations. Sesame Street path segment review. Dragonfly/Pooh Corner stage. Colleen and Crystalyn discussed how to get the Survey Crew to do the Front of the Fair survey. Crystalyn will reach out to the Survey Crew.

March: Still Living Room, Memoria Space. Front of Fair survey (invite Survey Crew).

April: Library walk-about. Community Village entrance project. Discuss 2017 displays for Front of Fair, Main Stage. Generate work plan items for 2017-8. Dust abatement (guest). Fiftieth anniversary (guest: Task Force).

May: End of year potluck/photo-op. Approve work plan for 2017-8. Finish Front of Fair, Main Stage displays for 2017 Fair. Long-term planning.

Handwashing stations.

We currently have only 10 handwashing stations, in toilet corrals and near six-packs (Child Care has its own handwashing sink). Getting rid of the grey water is a challenge. Additional staff will be needed--the work load will be increased if the number of stations is augmented.

Colleen: We need more handwashing stations near the food booths.

Jon: We could use the old water barrel locations for handwashing stations if there is still gravel in the ground.

Shane: We trucked in 350,000 gallons of water the week of the Fair.

We need cleaning stations for children near the toilets.

Long-term planning.

Dennis: We should look ahead 10 and 20 years. It took more than 20 years to get around to opening the Crafts Lot to the public. Short-term considerations about legal or social obstacles should not constrain the options we consider.

David: We could develop a new woodsy path from Wally's Way to Energy Park to Childcare.

Childcare facilities.

Dennis read Gabe Trout's e-mail. The Childcare Crew is working on improving the existing facilities and procedures. Feedback indicates another facility on the south side would be well used. Perhaps a staged roll-out, starting with a family quiet space (like Mellow Space) that eventually turns into a gated compound.

Dean: Maybe we need child care butt-wash stations near Childcare booths.

Shane: Had a 5-month-old baby, kept him clean without using OCF facilities. Parents should take responsibility. We should get that message out to campers and participants.

Kirk: The Red Rider space was successful. Space in Xavanadu is mostly filled.

Colleen: We could add a third childcare facility behind the scenes for Fair family only. Many of the kids in the compounds are Fair family. This could allow more space for the children of our patrons.

Homework:

Everyone: Review Sesame Street path segment study.

Colleen will make contact with the 50th anniversary task force for guest speaker in April.

Crystalyn will contact Survey Crew.

Dennis will transcribe today's minutes.

Dean will check on availability of LCC meeting room.

Sue will report on Food Committee discussion re: handwashing stations.

Who will invite guest presenter on dust abatement, April meeting?

Meeting site.

Better OCF town office or Alice's? There are advantages to each. Could we meet at the office in the winter months (Dec., Jan., Feb.)?

Shane: Low bandwidth at site precludes use of Go-to-Meeting.

Dean: Could set up meeting space at LCC, with adequate bandwidth and AV equipment.

Next meeting February 19, 2017 at the OCF office, upstairs or downstairs. Go-to-Meeting information will be sent to committee members only.