

Oregon Country Fair Path Planning Committee
April 23, 2017, noon to 3:00 at the Hub yurt

Present

Committee members and BoD representatives present: Kirk Shultz, Paxton Hoag, Jon Pincus, Susanna Defazio, Dennis Todd (temporary scribe), Tom Churchill, Dean Middleton, David Tipton, Amy Hand, Otis Gray, Ann Rogers, Sue Theolass. Excused: Colleen Bauman, Sylvia Fireman, Shane Harvey, Crystalyn Autuchovich

Guests: Jerry Joffe, norma sax, Sandra Bauer, Cynthia Wooten, Laurel Georger, Heather Kent, Robert (Mouseman) McCarthy

Announcements

The Spring Fling is May 6.

Kirk: This will be a light year for construction because of ongoing discussions with Lane County Land Management Division staff.

Public comments

Sandra: The 50th anniversary planning is just getting started. The group is asking for input and proposals to celebrate 50 years past and look forward 50 years. This year, they are gathering information and proposals, will review them in the fall, and take them to the BoD—then there will be 1.5 years to execute. Wants a theater near the front of the Fair, maybe in Xavanadu, with films and slide shows, replicating the timelines in the Still Living Room.

norma: As part of info collection, on 6/11/17 there will be an Open Space gathering at 2 PM—bring ideas. On OCF Sunday, 1 – 3 PM, at the Front Porch, there will be a session to solicit ideas.

Cynthia: Also on the 50th anniversary committee are Sallie, Leslie, Kenya, Hunter Briggs (from Culture Jam). There are two parts to the effort—one, internal to OCF—what's special to honor our original values, and two, to expand our history to the community and guests, including year-long events around the region. They are now reaching out to partners, especially contemporaries (e.g., BRING) and how we have influenced our communities, such as economic independence. Now inviting participation in planning.

norma: Events we already have, such as Spring Fling, will be included. The Budget Committee will have to approve.

Sandra: External fundraising activities will happen through the year. The committee will serve as a clearing house for ideas.

David: Possible projects include Main Stage reorientation and rebuild. Another project is to improve the fence at Quartermaster/Bus Stop, and a third is a new entrance to Community Village.

Kirk: Another project is Daredevil Stage rebuild. We have a Front of the Fair subcommittee that should be involved in the planning.

Sandra: There are lots of stakeholders on the list to consult.

Cynthia: We should emphasize participation for guests and family. We need room and structure.

norma: If the 50th committee gets a good proposal, do they bring it to PPC?

Kirk: Yes, in some cases, e.g., placing a theater booth. But some issues go the Jay Hogan, Art Ambience, or Xavanadu coordinators. Scale matters.

norma: There will be a table at Spring Fling to record proposals.

Paxton: Tripling the solar array is a good goal for the 50th. Photo galleries would be good. Turn the Eight into acoustic only (except Main Stage) with night-time fire pits as gathering places for acoustic musicians. Oregon Art Beat and Oregon Field Guide could have shows focusing on the site and setup.

Cynthia: We're already on it.

Kirk: A museum and its content influence each other. The Community Village new entrance, Front of Fair present opportunities for display. Energy Park center building rebuild is a possibility. Still Living Room and Memoria could tie in. Include performance art, flash mobs.

Sandra: the 50th will have a website and can be reached at <50thOCF@oregoncountryfair.org>

Cynthia encourages people to submit photos, short essays.

Ann: Arc Park puts its museum together every year, is willing to help the 50th committee. Awards we've received for archaeology to show our commitment. Arc Park still has no light at night, has a fire pit. emphasizes stewardship.

norma: The committee will develop working subcommittees and invite participation.

Sandra: OCF has been a catalyst for businesses, non-profits. We need to bring that up.

Jon: We should showcase political and social ideas that started OCF, how timely those ideas are now.

Jerry: Years ago had an idea of creating front of fair panels that discuss the history of OCF. Include areas on the way in or at the bus waiting area to showcase our history.

Cynthia wants to make quality documentaries, up to 30 minutes, and has directors and producers in discussion.

Paxton: Another idea he has had for years is a long series on Native American history and doing our own hazel and camas preparation.

Dean wants features on KOFC that could stream to the wider OCF family.

Kirk: The 50th committee should come to our October PPC meeting.

Minutes were approved with a minor edit, 6 yea, 4 abstain.

Agenda review

Work plan review: Add 50th related topics.

Reports

Sue: Bicoastal food booth has retired. The new booth holder is a former strolling booth at Main Stage. The area formerly occupied by Bangkok Grill is now adding a new vendor. Space constraints are under discussion with the vendors.

Paxton: The Community Center Committee has a good map for the site plan, is seeking an estimate from Pivot for the design of the new Community Center building.

Kirk: XAG is officially dead. The work has been taken over by two crews. We had a good walkabout this morning at the Library. He sketched a site map for changes in the area.

Susanna: Avoid high fences when possible; minimize the blockade effect.

Mouseman: There hasn't been a meeting of the Still Living Room subcommittee.

David: A big tree fell on the SLR fence, wants to be on the subcommittee as the construction representative, will be supervising the rebuild of the fence and display.

Paxton: The SLR subcommittee is looking at the long term. Relocation may not happen until after the 50th.

Kirk: Main Camp and Wally's Way are possibilities for a new location for the SLR. We could push the fence back between the current SLR location and the souvlaki booth for more path space.

Paxton: Moving any of the features, including the Infinity Room, Love Lounge, SLR, involves moving camping.

Dean: Could WC Fields stage be reoriented to minimize sound overlap with SLR?

Work plan review

Continue review in May meeting.

Kirk: Identify active subcommittees, see which are relevant to the 50th.

Dean: The Native American community is up in arms over the story pole. Could we find space for the NA community?

Ann: Arc Park has NA participants. Contact DJ Rogers for scheduling.

At our October meeting, we should address the 50th and budget. November: budget.

Story pole

Susanna: What happens to the former carving area this year?

Kirk: We should make suggestions to management and put it on the May agenda.

Paxton: The Ritz plans to raise the pole two weeks before OCF. The carving area will be a work zone.

Amy: We should make a recommendation to the Board to direct the removal of the carving tower before 2017 OCF.

Tom: Concerned that the carving area needs discussion ASAP, wants action prior to Fair.

Jon: The Void should be part of the discussion.

Susanna: We should have suggestions for the use of the carving area to submit to the Board this year.

Sue: Any proposal should go to the Board for its May meeting as new business so it can be voted on in June. We need to decide what to ask for.

Amy moved to ask the Board to add a motion to its May meeting as new business to require the removal of the tower at the former carving area by July 1, 2017. Tom seconded. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Susanna: We should give the space to Ambience for this year.

Paxton: The sauna needs to be at the table to determine how to use the carving area this year.

Susanna: The sauna promised to remove the tower and return the area to the Fair after the pole was up.

Dennis: The sauna has a long history of disregarding the wishes of the rest of the Fair. We need to be proactive to recover the carving area.

Kirk moved to ask the Board to put on its May agenda as new business a motion to clarify that the Fair management will determine the use of the former carving area for the 2017 Fair. Susanna seconded. Vote: unanimous in favor.

Work plan

May: Still Living Room, dust abatement, story pole, survey, work plan review.

Next year: Form 50th anniversary subcommittee, reach out to Native American community, story pole carving area restoration, East 13th path surface repair, front of Fair.

New PPC members are needed from Entertainment, Ambience, Scribe Tribe, Camping Crew, BUMs, Decon, Vegmanecs, Vision Action.

Jon: Ask possible members to attend meetings before nomination.

Homework: Sue will invite Ambience to send a new member to PPC, will submit motions to the BoD, double-check with Shane for Alice's for 5/21/17.

Jon: WOW Hall will have celebrations on Mother's Day.

Next meeting May 21, 2017, at Alice's (?), noon to 3:00 PM.