

Oregon Country Fair Path Planning Meeting Minutes

May16, 2021 Noon to 2 PM

Members in attendance: Colleen, Dean, Sue, Paxton, Dennis, Amy, Tom, Jon, Sylvia

Guests in attendance: Mouseman, Steve Gorman, Ella (traffic), Rosana, Dan Mix

Staff: Shane

Scribe: Jennifer

Announcements: work party sign ups ongoing

Minutes Approval; April 18, 2021- Dean motions, Tom seconds – no one opposed – minutes approved as accepted.

Public Comments- none

Agenda reviewed and approved.

Diversity Teaching Moment: Paxton Hoag - Drug and Alcohol-free Fair was instituted in 97. Following Fair was a success. An incident occurred after one of the Main Stage productions when two men of color had come into the camp to smoke. Paxton informed them this was prohibited which posed a personal conflict. The men felt insulted- Paxton felt bad and looking back more respect could have been used. Has since reflected on the incident for 25 years feeling it could have been handled with more inclusion.

Reports:

Staff Shane: Elk on the site- Camas is in bloom- cougar sightings as well in the day. Keep dogs on leash. Ritz trees were removed due to insect infestation. State entomologist is analyzing the specimens. Currently managing work parties- low engagement.

Confirmed when a tree falls on the Long Tom- it must be left.

Board Liaison Paxton- senate bill 504 signed by governor- NCU exemption – the permit will not be lost. Culture jam doing a one-day event. Members to the fixed asset committee have been added. A bi-laws modification has been posted changing the meeting process published in the news for comments. Voted down selling re-labeled commemorative wine.

Committee Liaisons:

Mapping: Rosana is officially retired from the Forest service- The grid was sent out- if it is deemed useful then the links can be tidied up and promoted. Will be hosted on OCFpathplanning.org website. Attended hand washing meeting- GIS licenses were

renewed with 'Pro' - gives a lot more flexibility and power. Virtual Fair will be the next focus- any photos or video to include would be great. Need to be in the loop on URL for story map. Such as artisans. Open for the content ideas. Points of interest

Sue: Food and Crafts having town hall in June can contribute to mapping.
maps https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1y3kPUUk_ZznkVEI4bGhVSB_rjeOb1u4D?usp=sharing,

LUMP- Dennis: LUMP manual was reviewed with the winery in mind. Revenue from entertainment events at the winery cannot exceed 25% of gross retail sales of wine at the winery. This news put a damper on event planning interest.

Now that green zones can be mapped- an explanatory document has been drafted for posting.

Archeology – no update

Paxton gave an update on Peach Power- finishing HUB Electric needs upgrade- thinking of resources for this funding.

VOCF- working hard on ramping up. 6 bands on Friday and 6 on sat from a recording studio downtown. Live stream- also collaborating with Saturday market. Help is needed in the way of graphic design, video, and project management. The 3D fair is being de-emphasized. Things are moving rapidly forward. There will be a separate stream on workshops.

Subcommittees

Handwashing/Sanitation – Dan Mix: The next step is being discussed and identified- concentrating on the low hanging fruit on the spreadsheet. Planning and goal setting to make it a reality. Phased -in approach, three sites will be chosen of the highest priority. Considering prototypes for sanitizer stations and grey water. Funding is being researched.

The two subcommittees (sanitation and hand washing) have been merged into one. 'Restaurant revitalization' fund plan has been brought up as a possibility.

Cultural Resources – Jon: Focus is in planning a tour and would like Rosanna and Paxton to be there.

Work Plan Review (Path Planning is taking June and July off)

Old Business:

Long Term Planning,

Step 2. Transportation and Parking needs. The basis for projection using growth metrics. Dennis explains public growth over 20yrs has been 1% per year and fair family growth averaged 5% per year over 50 years. 2018- half bus riders as daily tickets sold. So, half of the patrons rode the bus.

2016- 7702 vehicle stickers and 12K wristbands. = 1.6 wristbands per parking pass.

2017- workshop on staff parking was held. Continuing at 5% growth rate for Family- in 10 yrs there will be 21K people with wristbands and no available parking. Booth and path loss would need to be offset with the use of Miss Piggy's.

Growing trend toward renting private parking nearby.

Jon reminds that 3% growth was voted on- not 5%. [Note: the committee agreed to study 3%, 5%, and 7%/yr growth rates] Also renting of private land for parking is much easier than camping. Transportation options for pre-fair are limited and incur much of the on-site parking. If there are potential study areas for reducing onsite parking.

Ella reports- Winery gives 20% more parking. Altered able spots have met capacity. Grumpy concurs Family parking space is running out.

There are caps on the public allowed; Sat 22K. Grumpy says moving into Miss Piggy's is very problematic- camping, AA and allows food booth staff to be close to their supplies.

Dead lot is $\frac{3}{4}$ empty and does not get filled. North of Dead lot- woods/ the Unorganized Territory will allow camping expansion. Limiting Family is going to be the biggest problem.

Dennis said the the Unorganized Territory is a nature reserve and should always be protected from camping. Dennis recapped estimates with 3%, 5%, and 7% figures. Ella says the when new areas are added it also increases volunteers.

Grumpy states there is adequate parking currently. Train is not an option- busses are maxed unless they are rented. Much depends on expansion. If areas are expanded into Miss Piggy's, then the displacement will need to be managed. The high school was once used for overflow with buses to bring people in.

Ella states that Miss Piggy's parking has been adjusted a few times which pushed carts etc. out- has also pushed out Alter Abled parking. The Fire Show takes an enormous space and also impacts AA parking. Kermit's is reserved for AA parking. Shady rest areas and shuttle have eased these transitions. The impact on ageing and altered travels needs to be considered when expansion is discussed. In many cases pre-Fair is being asked to come earlier and stay longer, so raising parking pass prices could impact these groups.

Post Covid Fair population numbers could be naturally trimmed. Parking Fair Family and getting them on site – already have issues and would like to see controlled growth.

Grumpy: reviewed parking problems. 126 is controlled by ODOT, so only Maple Gate, Suttle or winery road can be used. Going into the winery is only one way. Political issues with security.

Colleen commented on the potential of Fair Family camping in the woods of the winery.

Jon – reiterated the concept of reduction of long-term parking by providing transportation pre-fair. Burn pile lot has been used in the past and has gone un-used. Agrees with Ella to rethink footprint of the fire show. Areas can be gained by re-shuffling.

Dean said there is a large vacant lot by Far Side the city owns.

Ella explained the Tower lot is for towed vehicles and is very limited. Also, worker crews are being asked to come out earlier, so must pack for longer. Volunteers pay for their passes.

Paxton says early morning shuttles and late-night trips and could be advertised better and expanded. Shane said capacity has already been doubled. Also, to consider a much-needed quiet camp at the winery.

Jon commented on the Tower lot – the row used for towing is smaller than capacity. The vehicles can be put on the west end of the lot. There is an undeveloped field at the far west end of property.

New Business: Please add during Agenda review.

August work plan review update for 2022 Fair planning

Homework Review

2017 meeting noted be shared via email. Dennis will post under the long-range planning page.

JG: Add Ella and Grumpy to the minutes.

Meeting evaluation and last round

Jon- yay

Next meeting: August 15, 2021