

*Oregon Country Fair
Path Planning Committee
Minutes of Meeting: May 16, 2010*

Members present: Dennis Todd, Colleen Bauman, Jay Hogan, Jon Pincus, Sylvia Fireman (scribe), Deane Morrow, Steve Wisnovsky, Kirk Shultz, Susanna DeFazio, Dean Middleton, Tom Churchill, Michael Richard, Justin Honea, and Paxton Hoag (on Skype for part of the meeting).

Guests: Cathy Coulson, Bill Wright, Katelyn Banta, Mark Pankratz and Tom Bruvold.

Announcements:

Thank you to Jen Lin for keeping notes at the design charrette.
Susanna described the rails to trails program.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of PPC meeting Feb. 21, 2010 were approved with the following addition:
“Some committee members objected to member Jon Pincus’s attempts to dominate the meeting.”

The March 14, 2010 camping workshop will be reported elsewhere. Approval of the minutes of the design charrette on April 18 was postponed.

Public Comment:

The Craft Committee asked Path Planning Committee to discuss the possibility of non-booth holders selling handmade crafts at the fair during evening hours. This discussion was placed on next month’s agenda topics.

Thanks were extended to those who participated in the design charrette.

Tom noted that the fire station and Whitebird need to be added to the Crafts Lot map.

Agenda review:

A motion, by Wally on behalf of Paxton, to remove from the agenda discussion of the Site Manager’s proposed emergency exit through Gypsy Way (under New Business) was discussed. The motion was withdrawn and the agenda was approved as offered.

Staff report:

The new Land Use Management and Planning (LUMP) manual was distributed. Steve, Site Manager, noted that there is a spectacular wild flower display along the Fair paths. There was a 2.5-foot flood on the paths in March which may have helped the wildflower display.

Steve pointed out that the Gypsy Way exit is an operational issue. There is gridlock on 13th, and only bunny trails exist for emergency access. Trails will be widened and signage will be up. There will be color coded flagging for different venues. Discussion continued about exiting on Moz Road and the Energy Park bunny trail, and the high fire danger that makes it a priority to widen bunny paths. The committee needs to work with the people who will be affected by the widening of the bunny trails. Other issues raised were:

- A center for lost children should be established. Fair Central will make plans for the lost child center, and information booths will have the necessary information. [note: Current policy is that all lost children are taken to Child Care at the north end of the Fair.]
- Reunion gathering places will be important during emergency exit events.
- Emergency exits need attention. There is an adaptive plan in place that needs to be implemented.
- Clearing non-native vegetation continues.
- Path improvement is needed by Gypsy Caravan booth.

A motion by Path Planning to support Steve W's operational plan to develop emergency exits off East 13th was passed.

Old Business

Camping survey: It was suggested that “the elders” count campers in camping areas to verify numbers of campers and resolve the discrepancies of previous counts. The committee will ask for volunteers for this task, or a subcommittee should be formed to find volunteers. It was asked if Marcus has a survey crew for that task, or just for an exit poll. Volunteers were asked for. Kirk volunteered to improve the counting at Crafts Lot, and Wally will work on Gypsy Way.

Replacement Booths: It was asked if there was a need this year for replacement booths. There may be leaves of absence and Justin is holding two empty booths. There are a variety of emergency spots for temporary placement.

A motion was made that the committee inform the Board that a Five Booth or more plan has not been developed to forward to the Board this year. The motion passed.

Review and Refinement of Designs distilled from the Charrette:

Goal: Design new areas for visitors.

Obligations and promises made:

- Add Gypsy Way second entrance/exit and replacement camping areas.
- Keep Blue Moon Plaza as the primary entrance for the public from the parking lots. Maintain the service road for family and service access to re-supply food booths, clean toilets, and allow entertainers to come and go.
- Connect the cul-de-sac path to which displaced Strawberry Lane vendors were moved to another public path.
- Keep Stage Left camping where it is, including vehicle camping, and make vehicle access available before and after the fair.
- Develop Mind/Body/Spirit area.
- Add service roads to food and toilet areas.

A subcommittee made up of Kirk, Colleen, and Dennis presented six maps that included ideas distilled from the design charrette. Three designs were presented for each area, Gypsy Way and Crafts Lot, ranging in effect from light to heavy. A fourth option for

Gypsy Way, green zone conservation and restoration, was described but not represented on a map.

Crafts Lot:

Low impact map: Develop a path to connect Phun Gate with Kids Loop. A line of booths, food courts, and parks would separate the eastern half of Crafts Lot (becomes public space) from the western half of Crafts Lot (family and service access only, possible later development for public space). ***Mid level impact:*** Opens most of Crafts Lot to the public (three and a half of the five acres). Includes service roads, crafts and service booths, food courts, Whitebird, diversity elements, one-year-only booth cluster, toilets, child care, mellow space, plaza, Energy Park annex, Arc Park replacement site, educational venues and activities, ten (10) regular booths, five to ten (5-10) one-year-only booths, entrances and exits for fair family. ***Full Impact:*** Almost all five acres turned into public place, with service roads, fair family entrances and exits, booths, food courts, camping areas, kids space, body/mind/spirit complex, an acoustic stage, Arc Park replacement, Energy Park annex, educational area, etc.

Dean will place the ideas on the internet web page and in the Fair Family news.

(the meeting was extended for 30 minutes by majority vote)

Gypsy Way:

Low impact map: Add emergency/family access from Snivel Lane (with porta-potties at the turnout), and second public entrance/exit for Gypsy Stage; widen Gypsy Stage plaza by removing two booths, keep the Rabbit Hole and Front Porch as is, add a small dining area, and restore green zone. ***Mid Impact:*** As above, with the addition of a multi-generational theme: kids and elders. Move Mellow Place and Kids Loop here; add a child care compound, the Elders' Still Living Room, a rest area, and a history booth; and keep the Front Porch and Rabbit Hole. ***Full Impact:*** Add to the mid-impact features by turning most of Main Camp into public space, adding several service and crafts booths, non-profit booths, booth camping, a kids' nature walk, commemorative sales, a medium-sized acoustic stage, a bubble yurt, and other additions.

Homework review; Assignments:

Fair Family News: Kirk: more work on maps. Color code sound conflicts?. Jon P. input mode, what to show and what to say.

Next meeting: June 6, 2010. 12:00 noon-3:00 pm at the Yurt. **Tasks:** Prep materials to post. Decide where posters will be placed.