

Oregon Country Fair Path Planning Committee meeting minutes – Jan 16th, 2011.

In which there is a LOT of talking, and some other stuff, too...

Next meeting Feb 20th – at Alice's or the Yurt.

Attendees –

Committee Members:

Dennis Todd, Justin Honea, Chewie Burgess, Deane Morrow, Dean Middleton, Paxton Hoag, Steve Wisnovsky, Chris Browne, Michael Richard, Colleen Bauman, Susanna DeFazio, Wally Jones, Tom Churchill, Jon Pincus, David Tipton, Dawn Scuteri (recording secretary)

Absent: Jay Hogan, Sylvia Fireman, Kirk Schulz

Guests:

Mark Pankratz, Indigo Ronlov, Robert DeSpain, Lara Howe, Diane Albino, Lara Stewart, Kennin Warden, Hillary Anthony, Anna Scott

Dennis – I'd like to open up the discussions; we have an agenda but it's pretty flexible and I'd rather we talk with BOD members and get some feedback, get some discussions going, find out what your questions are.

(A round of introductions)

Dennis – Thank you all for being here and I'd like to open it up to any questions or comments our visitors have.

Hilary – This is with my Chela Mela hat on: We've lost so much river bank, at least 25' – 35' of bank, especially at Dharma Gardens – the bank is just about up to the tree. If, in your planning, you come across a big space, keep it in mind. It should be relocated.

Chewie – It will be relocated... (by the river)

Wally – It's in Fern Ridge right now.

Jon P – I've been thinking for a long time that Dharma Gardens should be relocated. It wants to be in a real quiet place, that intersection could be a more active intersection.

Hilary – It could be medium quiet, the only thing people ever complained about was cigarette smoke when there was a smoking area right there.

Jon – It needs its own quiet space.

Lara – I'd like to speak for the food vendors, Bangkok Grill is almost no more – they have no camping space, and may be an emergency booth this year.

Chewie – The fence is hanging over the river bank.

Dennis – We're not just planning for crafts booths, but for food booths, too. If we lose it we'll have very few food options on that part of the loop.

Lara – It's a pretty popular booth, it's very well-loved.

Chewie – Is it called Bangkok Grill? Or the Pad Thai booth?

Lara – It's called Bangkok Grill. I talked to him last year, he's really concerned.

Justin – Any others?

Chewie – The conversation about Dharma Gardens , I'm glad you brought that up– you used to be able to drive there, in the past 25 years. It's a great place to see the changes in the last 25 years (due to river bank erosion)

Hillary – We used to have 4 fence panels, we've lost 30'. Now we might not be able to walk there.

Colleen – And that's considering we've had mild years the last few years, what about next year? What about the next 20 years?

Chewie – To segue into that, it's almost worse in dry years, because the water comes up and down more. The water going up and down rips the banks apart. Strawberry Lane – in the last few weeks we've probably lost 30'. All those trees we planted in 1991, they'll all be in the river in the next 2 years. It'd be really good to think about the future.

Lara – Is that the braided trees?

Chewie – There's 6 left out of the 13 planted.

Steve W. – You can sit in your quiet, dry home and see the river changes from the USGS web site. (Shows and explains some charts) River flooding, you can see this on the website. If you want to canoe the Fair, check the website and you can see how the river's going up and down in response to the rainfall.

Dennis – It's not just booth loss to the river we need to accommodate, but path repair and congestion reduction. We've not opened any public space since 1998. We've identified several areas on E 13th for neighborhood repair, and vendors who have to or would like to move. So PPC recommends involvement in a step-wise development. Immediate development of the Gypsy Way (hereafter GW) which can accommodate 10 or more booth sites, and over the next 2-4 years Crafts Lot (hereafter CL) which will be many more booths. That will take care of our booth replacement needs for the next decade. So I'd like feedback on what you like or don't like about this...

Lara – We can't wait 3-4 years to CL move, this family and our ticket buying guests need more space – think about E 13th? Where do you wash hands and where are the food booths? Our ticket buying guests – which is funding this whole thing – have been asking for more. 3 or 4 years for CL, I just don't think we can wait. GW is something that can be done right now. First – the BOD didn't move on it, and I'm tired of waiting, and I'm really frustrated. I have a lot of faith in the people in this committee. How long do we have to wait before we can stop talking about it and do something?

Wally – Well, I'll be blunt – its half-way surprising to me to be here today, but I feel like the BOD collectively looked down on us in Dec. We've been reporting to the BOD monthly. Our stuff's been online. This is supposed to be important stuff, it was important 10 years ago, and they don't have time for us. You should dissolve us if you don't want to work with us or empower us or both.

Lara – I support going into GW, in favor of CL. It tugs at my heart to think of families being separated. But because it's so large of an area, it'd be easy to keep family groups together. I would like us to go forward with both these projects eventually.

Hillary – I think CL holds way more than 20 spaces. I think CL is the answer to many of our issues. I hope that saying YES to CL isn't held hostage to other issues. I don't think the process and the two projects shouldn't be linked. It's really important and will help us out a lot to do that. I have a huge concern about how this committee and the BOD are

working together. I'm doing this because I believe in cultural change, peace and non-violence. We can learn to talk to each other better; I've been distressed at the level of personal animosity that's come up. Chewie mentioned at the last BOD meeting why does the Budget committee get what it wants? Budget committee doesn't get what it wants. But we do have a long established process with the BOD. And we accept "No" from the BOD. This committee and the BOD needs to practice a good process.

Chewie – First of all, addressing Lara's concern, I don't see how CL is going to happen in 2-3 years. It would be great to do it. But there are so many things that need to be done first. Even a little corner of the CL impacts a lot of people and we don't have a place for them. What I was saying Hilary, in regards to what you were talking about, this Committee, what I was talking about – the way the BOD acts towards the Budget Committee or the Food Committee vs. how the BOD treated the PPC.

Hilary – We say "Fine" and keep going.

Chewie – My point is other committees have more sway. The other thing – green space – I have gone in there with 4 botanists three times and done an un-technical survey of GW. Most everything in there is blackberries and invasive species. There's some rose that is native, some trees and understory. I appreciate the barrier issue, when we have barriers they should be on the outside and we shouldn't go into them. I can't walk down E 13th at 11am on Sat. morning. It's really crowded. I don't care – whatever it is – I don't understand why that's the most valid argument. GW is part of a puzzle, and I don't care if it's GW or out into Piggy's. Wherever it is, if we're looking at the front part first, do it in a planned oriented way so it includes other new things. That is what I'd like to see. Long range planning, thinking about what we're doing, we don't want to create more cul-de-sacs that we have to change in 2-3 years.

Charlie – I've been thinking about this a long time. It's such an important process, that's why it's taken on the dimension it has. We need to find a collective process that works better for us. But I don't know what that looks like; I don't have a simple answer for that. But when we talk about how to keep our event fresh and relevant, we have to bring process and partners to the table. PPC has been working their butts off to gather input, to include the fair family, to post on the website. I can't say "Thank You" enough for that. But somewhere in the middle of that the long range planning isn't connecting. Are we going to do CL? How to do that in an incremental fashion and a way that includes the BOD? I know we can do that. It's just a question of finding the right combination of things. We have relatively static revenue; we've reached a waterline, and we can't/won't raise ticket prices. Our internal family is going to grow over time with static revenue and a growing family, you know somewhere down the line, it's going to shift with our fiscal ability to do what we do. I firmly believe CL is a way to bring new people to the event. It's the last piece of property we have to add to the original non-conforming re-verification unless we go through a significant sweeping change that no one's talking about. How we handle this process around the CL is going to tell a lot about the health of this organization in the next 20-30 years. That was evident at the BOD meeting in DEC. My opinion is that GW is a part of this, it's a connected step. We gotta have room to move. Getting behind the Camp Crew to work with us humanely has to be part of the solution. We're meeting next weekend for Camp Crew to get a sense of where we can move people. I'd like us to put the health of the organization and the long range picture of where we're going at the heart of this.

Lara – Look at Liam (Kennin's 2 yo son) – that's who we're all here for.

Chewie – I remember Kennin when he was that age!

Dean – The next 7 generations...

Justin – One of the main reasons the PPC was formed was to find 5 replacement booths every few years, and we've done that by doing nothing. But we've been taking the 1-year only booths. Without having a plan and not dealing with backlog of issues, if the river takes more booths we will have to take them out of the 1-year pool. The "bubble" proposed by Jon does not do it. Dead-end loops do not excite vendors; it doesn't entice people down paths to their booths. So that leaves the very nice 1-year only booths for them. GW, in my mind, takes that problem of using the 1-year only booths off the table. I do agree that talking about CL, that this is an opportunity to have something significant for the public that is a game changer. We have amazing vendors we turn away every year because we have no booth space. CL has the opportunity to make it something big and exciting, a sane change. GW will also provide an opportunity to open up public paths around the Fair. The Fair booths want a happy public that spends money. I'm not even talking about emergencies.

Chris – Going back to Chewie and Lara on E 13th – we need to find ways to open up E 13th, but to do that we have to move booths and we have to move somewhere. We need to improve sanitation and paths. That said, I wanted to ask the BOD members a question about this document that was prepared and presented to you, one of the things I felt was one person voted "No" because they didn't get it in time to read it. Maybe the process was rushed a little bit. So, have you had time to read it yet and understand the content? Do you understand what this document says, and we can try to answer any questions. Maybe we should wait another month so you could read it?

Lara – I can only answer for myself, over the years you have sent us all of your meeting notes. I have read those, every month. It was a large document, but I felt it was really clear. We got it a week before the BOD meeting, and I had enough time to read it.

Indigo – I had enough time to read it, but I felt all along it wasn't necessarily the way to bring it to the BOD. That was the responsibility of the BOD liaisons. But people were sick, and it got passed on... By the time I asked to table it, people wanted resolution right then. I was aware of the pieces, but wanted to see more specifics. I thought we rushed it and we were not dealing with it properly in terms of the process.

Chris – As I understood it, the document wasn't a motion. We all agree we need to do something to improve the quality of the Fair for the public, whatever that is. We have to provide something for them. After we have a place to move the campers, then we can make improvements to the Fair site to make the Fair better for the public.

Chewie – That document – I worked very hard in this committee to have it be much clearer. I applaud people who wrote that – particularly Dennis Todd. And the second thing, I read the motion and thought, so what am I supposed to do? The reason they weren't specific was to get the process moving and then meet with the budget and capital projects meetings to get the specifics. The other part was, people had input and the PPC didn't have strong advocacy (not that Lara didn't do a great job) so what happened was the information and the advocacy for the specific motions didn't happen. It's hard to be both a BOD member and a PPC member. There are some of the things I didn't agree with, but it is what it is. I think it's one of the best reports ever submitted to the BOD. I did work with this committee and advocate being very specific and giving options and the motions were small pieces to get the process started. I think it would be really good if instead of being specific, we embrace the idea –that might be a better thing. We have to look at what's good for the entire organization, and remove personalities from it.

Chris – The 1st motion was tabled on Entrances, because of no details. So we worked on design concepts and capital budget to address that. We are still pursuing this with the idea to get started somewhere.

Susanna – I did not perceive what happened at the Dec BOD meeting as us against them – I saw it as unfortunate timing, it came up late in the meeting and we didn't have time to talk. Other thing – Chewie wasn't there to represent what those motions were about. I would like, just as a policy, when there's something really important to put that earlier in the schedule. I was applying pressure because I thought if it didn't get the motions passed we couldn't do anything for this Fair. So that was frustrating that we worked so hard and didn't get a chance to explain and it got voted down. Later I was told that wasn't the case. Let's just start over from now and answer the questions if it's not too late maybe we can still meet the needs of the Fair for this year.

Colleen – I absolutely agree and I'd like to see the meeting move in that direction and I came to listen. I'd like to hear, I'd love to hear, what those reasons are, what the BOD rejected and I request a dialogue now, not motions, just a work session. I'd like to continue dialogue with the BOD; tell us what didn't work concretely, and see if we can respond and meet those needs and correct the things that make you uncomfortable. I think we don't need to waste any more time on if it's GW or CL, the vast majority of this committee voted and said it's both. We don't need to spend any more time documenting our needs, we know what they are. We need to respond to our needs. I see potential in GW but I also see there are ways we can change it to meet the BOD concerns about a buffer, but we can't get there without dialogue with the BOD. I'd love to see us work on that today.

Mark – This is really difficult for me because I haven't been doing this as long as a lot of you. There's a lot of momentum around this issue – I'm willing to go with whatever happens. I'm going to put in a plug for looking at things differently. I suggest a moratorium on new crafters if we don't have any place to put them. But, actually I think we should grow, seriously grow and do something nice and cool for the public and the Family. I think moving into Dragon Meadow and area around the Pole Star is really the way to go. I'd leave CL as it is and go out the other way. It's a big picture thing that requires imagination and some big structures and temporary structures and creativity. In the long run, I think, giving the Fair what it needs in the next 10 years, that's what needs to happen. The step-by step will only get us so far, we'll still need to do something dramatic. We might as well plan for that dramatic thing right now.

Steve – Our internal population is part of the problem – that has been growing in all the years we haven't been providing any appreciable path space – and compounds the crowding the public feels. It compounds the problem for replacement camping space if we move into the CL. There's a thick band of camping that has expanded around the Fair. Chela Mela was made possible because we talked Security crew into moving there. It's possible to lay out a new camp at south woods, and have it available and ready for review this year, just move dead and downed timber, so people can envision moving out there. Maybe we can start to vacate places in CL in 2012, fuller version in 2013. I also in favor of doing things that create booths and activities in GW also do-able. We can do this in 2011, 2012, 2013. We need for replacement booth space to be available as quickly as we can. We have to solve the path overcrowding, lack of booth space, and the need for more space for the public. If we don't have more space available for the public, our attendance will drop off.

Paxton – I disagree with that statement, we can deal with the public figures with advertising. We've gone from 50K people down to 40K on path, I think things are much better on the path than they used to be, but that's neither here nor there.... I agree, we need to deal with our overcrowding, but we need to look at the bigger picture. Every 10 years we need to do something like Chela Mela, the CL, and now we're going on 15 years. We need to move in that direction. I am one of those who has always felt GW is better as a green area. When we do that, we de-nude the understory, and that's my own personal preference. I think it needs to be re-evaluated with the main camp and bus area. Last year at this time I said BOD doesn't support it. Last year there were 7 votes against it, now it's down to 5. You asked for direction – that's when I formed those motions to work on entrance way and to move in CL. I'm perfectly willing to form a motion now, to embrace the idea of CL. We needed a work session last spring, things have gotten timed out. Some feedback needs to be incorporated into the process. We need to look at the bigger picture – I don't think there'll be 7 votes on the BOD to pass GW.

Dennis – Thank you for withdrawing that previous motion; that does a lot to heal a rift in the committee. Next month we are looking at the specific question in the committee to see if GW should be designated as a green zone. I'm disappointed to hear Paxton has his mind already made up, as we have yet to hear the evidence and the arguments.

(Dennis then talked about: Average growth rate from 1970 - 2010, showed figures for a 7% average growth rate of population growth and population growth at the Fair with a 3% growth rate)

Based on a starting internal population of 16K, we should be planning for a nighttime population of 22K people in 10 years. Our internal population is really growing, more so than the paying public.

Hilary – A lot of the concepts are really valuable, but I think 16K is very high starting number, including non-wrist banded children

Dennis – The trend is clear whether the numbers are correct or not - the internal population is growing.

Indigo – I'm really grateful for what all of us are doing, almost everyone in this room is here because they love the Fair and we all want to see it succeed. I think GW needs to be developed, along with other areas (main camp, bus area) together. CL is essential – it should be more of a bazaar kind of a feel, not as a totally built-up space because then every year it can be adjusted. Right now, our facilities for children are woefully inadequate. I don't like bringing my kids to Fair because it's overcrowded and dusty and it's an adult scene. We're talking about taking them to this thing but we don't plan for them. In terms of population – are we a camping event or a public event? With the numbers we're talking about, we really need to look at that as a BOD and a committee. Maybe it needs to turn into a different situation. Are we trying to change the world or are we building this for ourselves? I'd like us to make some decisions on the bigger picture, because it affects how we use this property. I think it's a shame GW failed, it's not just about the motions. You are asking for permission and the BOD to give approval, but I don't know if we needed to do that way. One last thing, I feel like as a family – it's all sort of mixed up – it's about the whole thing, but it's also about Hey, what about MY campsite. It's should be about the bigger picture, not about their own special interest.

Dean – Thank you to all the BOD who made it, I wish there were more. It's clear a lot of us have realized there's a process problem. The pressure of trying to make the

presentation was, like, WOW, and we were under the impression this would be it for another year if we didn't get it done. We're new, we don't have processes, but we do have committees that do have processes – like Budget. Let's not reinvent the wheel with this committee. Let's use the same processes as they have. I'd also like to thank Hilary for her comments on civility. We have seen some dialogues that border on hostile, and I have participated in some of those. I want to apologize for some of my comments last week. There's a reason why E 13th is so crowded. I think E 13th is one of the few places in the Fair that captures that mystery and excitement and artistic flavor of the Fair. GW could be very much like that, that's an important piece a lot of us have missed. We needed that green space years ago because we used to have Swanson Superior right next to us. That's no longer that way. It's likely that could be our new Fair Central. It's very likely we want access to that space – not buffer it. So I think GW is our first steps to our new planning development we're working on. I love hearing all the comments and the respect that happens in this room, it makes me proud to be a part of you guys.

Charlie – I've seen this thing evolve into a catch-22 in a feedback loop. PP keeps looking for some direction from the BOD; the BOD is looking for things from PP. We've gotten the order wrong. What I see being effective is being clear in a broad concept – we're going into GW, or we're not. We're going into CL, or we're not. We forecast it out over several years, and then come back with incremental choices. There have been a LOT of work sessions done. But if they weren't in the right order they've stirred up confusion and acrimony. We need big picture planning. The idea that we don't replicate the old models, we need to think in a 1-year framework, we get out of age-old entitlements for booths, but think in a temporary mode, a fairly dynamic space in a different way. Things are relevant, new and changing. I think of GW and CL as workspaces, "Tabla rasa" – a blank slate – it could be a cultural shift for us that brings in a lot more love and a lot less heartache for folks.

Anna – I'm here to talk about the long range thing that you guys are doing and how that intersects with what the BOD does with steering the ship. I've heard a little bit of people having a highly personal dialogue. My point of view as a BOD member, in my opinion, what we're looking for is long range planning. In my LUMP notebook from 1997 I have plans for CL. I believe the BOD needs to embrace the long-term vision for CL, and putting that time-line on it. The reality of putting things into place, for example, for a small proposal like GW, is frankly a capital projects process. So, for a success between PP and the BOD, and for the Fair family and the Public to understand what direction the ship is steering to, we need to say (as an example), "In 2012 we're going to move in CL and Miss Piggy's". That's what I was hoping from the series of motions before the BOD. What kind of synergies is the long term planning committee making with the PPC and the BOD? Putting these capital projects into place, as a BOD member, I'm absolutely fine with voting "Yes" on these things. But they have to be in the context of this is the framework as laid out by the PPC, not as budgetary issues.

David T – The physical labor of making all this happen sounds a lot easier than these mental exercises. Overall, at my second meeting I came with maps of everything I'd heard of, of everything you said, and I'm hearing all the same stuff a year and a half later. You can't just build a giant project; you have to do it in phases. If you choose to look at the report, it's clearly broken down into phases. It includes incorporating consensus, of not just this committee, of CL, main camp, entry way area, and tree area, It's not a puzzle, things have to happen in steps. I'm for doing it all at once, but there's not a million dollars to go build a community center. It keeps it realistic on hippie-stoner time. Lots of people have their agendas, their points, their visions of what they want to see

happen. But this process we're caught up right now at this point is the accumulation of years. Everyone here was chosen to be in this committee by the BOD for their skills and I'm confused by the entire process and why it's all mixed up. Including BOD members who say, "I think it should be this way." Who are they to be saying that? They should listen to the people they chose to be on this committee. The BOD should be listening to the PPC.

Hilary – We've all made up our minds until we change them. And I would encourage us not to be upset with someone because they have a point of view.

Dennis – That was a snide comment and I apologize for it.

Hilary – My truth is people want open spaces, but I can't get my head around GW, because I don't know the real vision. I can see the beauty of a pathway or bathroom there. GW is very different from the old model. I hear all sorts of things, but I wanted to know what is the real vision. Personally, I think it's going to be a dead end, it's just a little side loop. That's what it looks like to me. Nice place for amenities – hand wash, bathroom, childcare. Phun Way in Chela Mela took almost 5 years to figure out what would work out there.

Chewie – I like the idea of a temporary footprint. Moving Recycling Dock is cool. Maybe moving Traffic out where they work is an option – just an idea – we hardly ever talk about Traffic camp, but maybe it's time for Traffic to move out where they work. And we're looking at like, 30 years from now... The population thing is interesting to me. Last year, I had to break up gangs of teenagers, but we need to think about what we're doing internally. The internal population is growing, I'm thinking of a 2-year moratorium on camping passes (just an idea) When we get to the point where we have 20K people staying overnight and 18K during the day, we have to figure out what we're doing. There are 16K people involved with "us". I think 16K is a functional number in terms of our impact internally – PP has tried to think of it, but it's important that the Fair as a whole needs to "Embrace What's Going On," the big US that's WE really needs to think about it - in path planning, camping, booths, entertainment. I'm glad that we have a dialogue about it.

Paxton – I have read the report, and I really like it. I really like all of the work the committee has done. It's amazing. We need to work on and refine the process. The BOD needs to be involved with the committee. I really like you guys and appreciate you all. I'm sorry to be in such a conflicted state. I try to keep my personal feelings and BOD feelings separate. There I deal with policy, and PP came out of that. I'm trying to figure out a way to make this work with the Fair as a whole. I really like what Hilary said, and Charlie. I'm listening to the directions...

David – Everyone agrees on the direction. Just putting in the wrong details, so I don't understand why there's any conflict.

Colleen – Time check – on remaining business – we still have the recommendation for entrances and budget requests.

Diane – I mostly came to listen. I really appreciate this committee and I always think you have the best interests of the Fair at heart. Just because I don't agree with the GW doesn't mean I have a problem with any of you guys. I'm thinking of the big picture. When I think of CL being developed, I think of a Chela Mela model. We have to move the big families all together. I'm on my second generation of kids at the fair. I have to allow an hour, but I can usually do it. We need to funnel some of that traffic elsewhere. There are things at the Fair and we need more interactive things to attract the other

groups. In dealing with replacement booths, start at CL. We don't need to take down vegetation, a trail is one thing, a road is another. We lose a lot of the buffer between the public and our camping. My public concern is the huge distance people have to walk to get into the Fair from wherever they have to walk. I don't understand why we can't try for the 2 week-end Fair. One thing that's concerned me is the civility of these meetings – that really concerns me.

Colleen – Why don't you like the idea of GW?

Diane – It's a green space, the Front Porch got put in and all of a sudden there was this huge amplified thing and I was appalled.

Colleen – What about GW as a dedicated Kids Loop? Kid crafts, kid food, childcare... I think we need to use all our potential real estate. If we go through all the efforts to have vision quests we should use the output.

Diane – I just want to observe that the GW loop used to be a kids area called Pony Rides.

Indigo – Paxton, are you OK with GW as a dedicated kids loop?

Paxton – I'm actually OK with that, though I'm in no hurry to clear brush. But I like that idea.

Jon – I still think GW is best as a green space, though I personally like the idea of having some kids stuff there. I don't think it'll be the dimension of the childcare at the east end of the Fair. It might be using some space dedicated to other things. My other ideas have been shut down. The buffer is one of the most important things there right now. We're creating a special world for the public and part of that notion is they're in the woods – it just gets completely blown apart when people see our tents and RVs. The process right now is what's important – and the BOD voted NO on GW. They did vote YES to develop the front entrance. Yet we're still spending most of our meeting discussing GW. Let's work on what people voted YES on. What's holding us up is being stubborn on GW. We're not going any way as long as we're being stuck on this project.

Wally – I'd like to put something on the table – this committee, without talking about it, has barely talked about reconfiguring the Main Camp. It would really help this committee in terms of that middle piece of the design puzzle, if there was a plan that's committed to.

Steve – GW was described as a dead-end. A dead-end loop is one with one exit and entry point the same. GW has an entry, an exit and a stage. (there's 3 total). The phrase "green zone" and "brush cutting" keeps getting repeated. All I have ever done in that area is remove invasive species. If you want to prove that area is worth saving, appoint a botanist to show us. If we remove all the invasive species we'll have enough room. We have lost native species because it's been overwhelmed by blackberries.

Indigo – The argument of using GW as a buffer zone for our camping doesn't stand up – we can create a buffer easily, we've been good at that in the past. I have an idea all the camps should be divided up into quadrants – quiet zone, party zone, kid zone, whatever zone, and people can camp in whatever area they want. I would make a motion to the BOD to get GW as a kid loop.

Lara – Our childcare is full before the Fair opens. There is no childcare for our public.

Indigo – So we should have childcare that's only for the paying public.

Colleen – Start working on the plans.

Dennis – One of the themes for GW was “1st and 2nd Childhood” having a kid zone and an elder zone

Tom – Thanks to everyone for showing up today, it’s good to hear perspective. We right now are working in a dead-end. No matter what we do to expand in that envelope, it’s still a dead end. If we truly want to look at the long range planning we need to talk about new permits – and extending our areas to be able to use this land. We need to add places for camping, entrance, kids, food.

Deane – That’s being worked on.

Tom – It’d be nice to hear from the BOD that’s being looked at, so our committee can start looking at the long term planning of these areas that aren’t being used.

Anna – I have a different point of view about childcare situation; my child does a variety of things at the Fair. The areas that are difficult when we go out are the congested stage areas, they are the worst for my child. Nobody is able to get us to a child-friendly area. My idea is this entire site is a wild imagination area. But when we try to see groups, nobody is able to get us through. We need a child-friendly area. We need large area performance spaces – we have the same issue with White Bird – our services need to be more portable. We need to have spaces develop around these core values we have. We need to talk about social equity – we’re way ahead of the pack already about social sustainability – and accessibility. We’re in the module that teaches about the education of these areas. We need to steward our services – those are things I think PP brings up in its work. As a BOD member I want to encourage people about the big picture. We have a lot of stakeholders who can’t get to our entertainment Move the organization ahead, fiscally, socially. With my kid – we have a lot of interest in the whole Fair, we move around.

Chewie – Can I make an announcement real quick - Tom Rey is in the hospital. He’s not doing well; it just popped into my head that I wanted to mention it.

Colleen – What about the rest of our meeting – time check – I want to have enough time to do the rest of our work.

Dennis – Let’s postpone everything until next month, except the sub-committee report on entrances. If that’s alright with everyone in this committee.

Justin – I do want to say, even though some people think GW is dead, do we have the opportunity from this discussion to have another vote on it?

Dennis – Just a historical note: The BOD voted against left bank in Feb. 1990 and for it in Mar. 1990, so there is historical precedence for a vote being changed.

Chewie – There is a place holder for the motion at the next meeting.

Colleen – We did see some movement. We were headed in that direction with 1st and 2nd Childhood. We’re close, we’re tied.

Lara – This is the biggest problem of this committee – it used to be an operational committee of management. The committee’s doing great. The BOD involvement is a roadblock.

Colleen – But we made progress today. With a kid loop – with GW dedicated to one – I see some flex here and helps pave the way for the CL

Lara – We don’t want to take away a kid’s loop, we need more pockets like that.

Colleen – All of that gets worked out in the committee. I think we’re on the way

Chris – As far as I know, our process of government doesn't say we can't re-introduce it. We have one group that needs a home and a shelter in the woods – the Wild bird Recovery Group. If we ever move Main Camp the hope is that goes to Eldertown.

(lots of hootin and hollerin, oh those Elders...) ☺

Jon – Try to be realistic. We built bridges today. Let's work other opportunities. I don't think any proposals brought up will pass this year. We need to vote for what we need this year. We don't want to hear vague ideas; we want to see what the plan is.

Chewie – That's not policy...

Jon – The reality is when people vote they want to see the plan, whether you think they should or not.

Lara – Sorry, this is an operational committee...

Jon – That's my personal opinion, and I'm not speaking for the BOD.

Lara – He's not speaking for the BOD.

Susanna – I've been on PP for 3-4 years, I don't think we've done anything.

Chris – We did the six-pac

Susanna – I always hear that we're not ready, and I've been hearing this for 4 years. I want to see us put some of our path planning on the ground

Paxton – I'd like to point out the first 2 years of that was study. We've only just started the plan process in the last 2 years. In my opinion planning takes 2 or 3 years to get going

Chewie – Or 19 or 20....

Dennis – The same discussion was going on in 1990 as is going on now.

Jon – We're gonna stay stuck here, so let's talk about the motion that passed and do something about it.

Dennis – First, what Genevieve proposed (and we agreed was a good idea) was 4 rest areas, on the south side of the road along Indian Creek with tents, separating autos and pedestrians, with sun shelters 250' apart. The other part was spiffing things up w/ flags and banners. 41 or 42 flags, one for each year of the fair.

Mark – Although I have been trying to be active, but I'd like to say that committee has only accomplished the bare minimum, to add a little flourish to what the area looks like.

Dennis - We came up with a budget for 2-3 K

Colleen – We looked at those past segment studies. Those problems had been identified. Growing anticipation while on the pedestrian paths was one of the goals. One of those things we came up with was flags. We talked about the different fabrics or materials we'd use. We wanted to use trees that need to be thinned on property

Chris – Parts of process was governed by the fact that we thought we needed to get something to Budget for this month, and to develop Banners, renaissance style – included, but that was the starting point with the prices. We're pressured by deadlines here to get something on the floor, but hopefully we can start here...

Jon – I have a question about proposal – was there anything proposed to separate pedestrian traffic from the road?

Steve – We tried to work it out with Traffic so pedestrian traffic was only at Line-in-the-Sand, auto traffic further south. We'd have to redirect senior and alter-abled to a new spot, so, still working on that. It would be the simplest thing to do if we can achieve it.

Chris – One other thing in design concept - we know we're in a transition phase, the thought was however it's developed, that it can be shifted to meet the changing needs

Jon – 2nd part – just from what I am hearing you can do what you're talking about with \$2K. It'll be OK, but otherwise you could ask for more and get it and make it really groovy.

Chris – I know from recent years there needs to be details to determine the validity of the request.

Colleen – We also discussed a misting station – no design yet, nor recommendation to the PPC. We have a meeting next Sun and I have it on our agenda to look at the ugly fence at the bus entrance.

Dennis – The estimate we gave was high. We estimated costs for everything involved. I'd rather not up the estimate because we have enough in there already.

Paxton – Have you talked to Andy about moving the Polestar?

Mark – Yes

Colleen – We know we are working every week together. We anticipate meeting a lot longer than that to prioritize, to bring back other items.

Paxton – Will there be costs associated to move it?

Mark – We haven't gotten to that part yet.

Paxton – The other thing there might be costs for is if you develop Galleria Philanthropia

Dennis – They don't want their displays out by the bus due to security issues

Paxton – Those are my questions about capital budgets.

Colleen – Another thing we want to work on is display boards and maps for the public to help them see the lay of the land, and we haven't priced that out, yet.

Dennis – Kirk has fence and displays reserved for it.

Tom – I thought I heard for these umbrella/shelters – the cost for 4 x 4s - but we have so much lumber here we could use

Dean –We're hoping to use dead wood

Michael – The flags were interesting, we could have a flags contest

Chris – We've never really done a banner type flag, and we have to find the artists

Mark – We've already found them.

Indigo – We could do flags of the posters, link them to the posters

Steve – Jay in Ambience did a number of things along that entry way to beautify, they have a fair amount invested in this and they want to beautify the fence. We have "HER," a big piece of art in storage. If the committee would prioritize it to Construction that would help it get out there

Dennis – So it's closing time, I'd like to take a straw vote on the proposal to submit a capital projects request for entry improvements -

Vote was all thumbs up – (no sideways or down)

Jon – Don't be afraid to add in the cost of other items you get to. I heard 3 things people just said they didn't get to

Dean – We costed out the poles, bamboo...

Dennis – Maybe we need to add some de-con stuff.

Paxton – Good point, when you start adding stuff and there's no one to take it down.

Colleen – It should be part of the request

Steve – Jay and his crew take down their stuff

Mark – That's not the way they would do it

Steve – Design people should recommend some added to the crew for de-com

Mark – Depends on who puts it up

Dean – I was hearing earlier about a moratorium on any larger crew

Indigo – I have a question with path planning, has anybody contacted Jay?

Chris – He's in India, but he knows what's going on

Colleen – Can we have a round of applause for the BOD? (and a round was given)

Indigo – You know, the main core group, we spend a lot of time talking, but really when it's June and we're on the ground creating, that's where the stuff becomes magic.

Deane – Yeah, and you told the committee just go ahead and do it

Wally – It's easier to beg for forgiveness than ask for permission...

(And on that note – THE END.....)