

Oregon Country Fair Path Planning Committee
January 22, 2012.
Time: Noon to 3 PM
Location: Hub Yurt
Agenda

Preliminaries:

Introductions

Meeting was started at 12:10 am

Dennis Todd, Colleen Bauman, Ann Rogers, Suzanna Defazio , Stewart, Jay Hogan, Steve Wisnovsky, Tom Churchill, Kirk Schulz, Chewie Burgess, Howard McCartney, Jar, DJ Rogers, Paxton Hoag, Cathy Coulson-Keegan , Bill Wright, Deane Morrow, Justin Honea, Dean Middleton, Bear Pitts, Chris Browne, Tony Clementi, John Aarons, Pamela Aarons, Sue Moore, Peggy Day
(Since we did not have a sign in sheet, I missed some last names, sorry)

Announcements

A new Middleton grandchild is imminent.

The fair flood currently at 12' peaked at 19' just 1' less than the record of 1955. A discussion of personal experiences with the water ensued.

Almost 41 acres on the Far Side were bought @ \$72,000 + . It will take some time to develop as an alternative entry to the property. It was a partnership with the City with smooth and friendly interaction.,

The Fair is working on acquiring more land on the far bank as steward of the ecosystem.

Public Comments

None

Agenda Review/Amend/Approve

Suggested to delete Smoking area from New Biz. Agreed by consensus.

Suggested to Move "Front of Fair" discussion to Staff. Agreed by consensus.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Agenda and modifications. Passed by acclamation.

Previous Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for the November meeting as published.

Motion passed with no opposed.

Staff Reports

Charlie spoke about moving the BF. The BOD had amended its motion to move out of Ms. Piggy's in 2013 and for the staff to look at options. He feels the discussion should begin as soon as the decision is made to move the BF. He invites anyone interested to attend the BoD meeting on Feb 6 to discuss the BF and what should be there. The survey crew brought in a well-produced report of opinions on the lot and it is now posted on the web site. They will next be tasked to produce a more detailed report. We must remember we need to find out what we need as an organization with the "Monday Market" since it is actually no longer a "barter" fair. Do we want it bigger? What is needed?

A BOD Stakeholder work session will be held on this issue and Front of Fair on Feb 11 at 12:30, Community Center on Hilyard. The larger picture will be discussed and priorities set.

Steve said we have flooding of historic quantities and to expect more as we are still in the flood stage. He and staff will organize some big work parties in April and May because there will be a large amount of cleanup required. One town west of OCF had more than 16" of rain in a 50 hour period.

A question was asked about the scouring.

There is a lot of scouring on the bank and it is eroding the bank. This means that relocation is especially important for Path Planning but we won't know until the assessment is made. Almost all trees planted on the banks in 1991 are gone now. Vegetation management is showing a real loss with cracked bank and major land loss. Safety issues will dictate needing to move the path including Strawberry Lane, Upper River Loop, Chela Mela and Energy Park damaged areas. There will be many opportunities for volunteering to get the land ready for this year. We need some wood donations. Path Planning has been talking about the Strawberry Lane area for years and now it will be vital to help ops respond to the emergency.

Main camp will open June 2 and last a good 6 weeks and there is plenty of work to do. It is anticipated that much infrastructure will require a lot of work.

The work plan should be touched on each PP meeting so it can be updated as needed.

Camping Crew is designing 3 paths in the South Woods of approximate gator width. They are moving forward at an accelerating steady curve.

Sub Comm. Reports (Pocket parks, Crafts Lot, ~~Front of fair~~-moved)

PP, Charlie said the craft committee met to discuss area across from Newmans?. They would like to see it more a public area than blanket vending. It needs some attention to identify the area as a public green area. It is located between the Peruvian and mask booth. There was a suggestion made to add benches there which was thought to be a good idea.

CL met with external security to discuss issues and they felt they could handle that area without increasing the security. The CL committee favors foldup wooden fences over wire. The South Park road is an emergency access that must be kept clear. The CL committee feels the toilets should stay and not be moved. They also think that instead of cutting a new road, it should keep as cart only. The edge of South Woods emergency road would cut off the booths. If a second event is held in CL it might need a different design. A possible move of the reefers is being discussed. Phun Gate is difficult to secure. Security would need an increase in Path Roamers. They would prefer to mow grass more than have hay.

Questions:

Is the subcommittee focusing on the full potential build-out or looking at more options?

3 map is being used.

The ditch runs from Fun Gate to Reefer Rd. It was suggested that the ditch in CL should be the South border and not to develop any further South. The South side of the ditch is camping for security and construction. Reefer pass should remain cart width but it does widen to gator width at the two trees. Please keep the options open. The current campers moved there when Chela Mela opened and they were promised it would never change. Map #2 preserves the south edge. This is important to maintain the ditch as an option. Maps 2&3 show the options.

Map #1 is only a partial and should be removed from consideration. Map #1 is for emergency use and should be kept. Keep all three maps.

Should we consider moving the Dragon outward to the trees to make room for booths? It still is in the plan options but not fully addressed. Perhaps it should be moved ahead of the **BF?**. It is part of the FOF being dealt with by staff.

Second event discussion.

We need to create a forward thinking option as multi-use using a lighter footprint. We are looking for a vibrant new event for the public. Stay cognizant when designing any infrastructure. Flexible, nimble

and dynamic plans are suggested.

We were reminded that we want to keep the look the same as the rest of fair and empty space does not keep the ambiance of the "old" Fair.

Too temporary an area does not add value for the vendors or the public.

Two thoughts for a second event:

1. Happening at the Fair during the Fair with separate admission.
2. Not on the Fair weekend.

Keep the grass area as open as possible for temporary booths that would be used to showcase new crafts. Possibly restrict booths to the woods at the edge except the temporary stage site. Gates and fences would be needed to keep the people out of the rest of the fair. Some booths might be built and maintained by the Fair to eliminate the sense of ownership. Craft booths would be informed that other vendors might use the booths.

Kirk spoke of the paradigm of total removability. For a couple of years, the booth people attempted it but it didn't work well. Too much traffic on the road. Chela Mela was designed with the center only temporary structures and the edges were normal booths. What is a popup vs. temporary booth. Should the fair build all the temporaries?

Question: What size would a second event be?

There is a limited window of what is allowed. The legal permitting might allow new smaller events. A couple thousand as a possibly. A small concert series? A fair family event? Needs a relatively controllable space and CL could be that.

We need a 4th map with overlays so the second event could be an overlay.

We need to think about what the impact would be on both our past 40 years and our future 40 years. We need to respect the past while studying the future.

We could have permanent booths around the edge with signs saying "Closed, come back during the fair."

There could be center zoned as Fair owned and the perimeter closed off for security.

Would there be some booths enticed by allowing them to be at the second event. Need should take priority over willingness to do two events.

We have allowed the space to dictate how the Fair grew and now with CL we have the opportunity to design a combination of blended needs to design from the beginning and there are many possibilities.

The overlays should not replace the original maps the committee worked for years on and from the charettes. Now, what is the next step? We could develop a more complex hybrid for the second event.

Some ideas were discussed during the Chela Mela design where they also looked at CL and that information could be made use of. A new map will be brought to the next Path Planning meeting.

Everyone could come up with a map of zones. A jpeg will be made of the base map and sent to the committee so they can modify. Photos would also be helpful.

Does Path Planning need to plan or to just to turn over to ops? We need to guide with path planning as to the scope.

When booths are located only on the perimeter of a large meadow, it does not seem to appeal to the public as much. The booths need to be grouped esthetically. The trees are a great asset and we should design around them.

The work plan shows what the time-frame is for submitting a roughed plan to the BOD with plans to be beginning instigated in 2013.

The BOD liaison would like a synopsis of the meetings to share with the BOD.

Guests None

Old Business

GPS purchase Chewie has researched and put together a price list of new/used GPS survey and mapping system for use by multiple Fair groups and it ranges in cost from \$1400 to \$65,000. He is looking for recommendations by the different committees and family to submit to the BOD. He had input from various professionals. The budget committee is still working on this year's budget. The Fair is currently in the red and it is unlikely this would be supported right now. Suggestions were to rent one as needed. It was discussed whether it was Path Planning needed to make a motion to support this purchase. Does this motion need to be done or can Chewie do this on his own? We need to support this even if not for the current year. Many feel it is needed by multiple subcommittees and Path Planning should support it. It allows the standardization of all the data collected. The conversation is starting and probably not happening this year. A motion was made and seconded to have Path Planning support the eventual acquisition of a GPS survey and mapping system. Passed by acclamation.

Review timeline of play structures removal/ for 1 year only booths

Operations is trying to get the budget approval by keeping GW to the basics and to add yearly. This year is the child care and possibly Mellow Space with a couple of activity booths. It is not intended to move kid loop this year. There is a thought to make next year the "Year of the Child" at the fair. Hone our focus to what we are trying to accomplish on year One. We could have not a full blown information booth but an information board. The main thing is getting the child care area and Mellow Space for the first year in a possible 5000 sq ft area. Vegmanecs should remove invasives and cultivate a green area. There should be some zone pockets about booth size. Spoken Word will be maintained and there will be a lot of fence which could be good for displays. A kids' fun activity area and some rest areas which can be moveable as the area grows. There is one long thin space that would work for an art project (one year only). The scope of the capital project is to be as economic as possible. It will take more time/years to finish the project and we need to review how people actually use the area before finalizing the plans. A smaller kid oriented info booth is a possibility for this year. Child care has phones and would cover the safety aspect. Toilets will also necessarily be added this year with hand washing stations. The fence could be modified to not be such a stockade. Will different ages be addressed in the first year? Not until the build starts. It includes thought about budget and people resources. The Budget committee would like input from Path Planning on what should be accomplished the first year. This will be discussed and the information shared. It was asked for a temple-like bell to be included. A teepee for story-telling and a piano/player have been offered. Kirk will put the map together for the budget committee with the first year expectations. A request was made to note the heritage trees on all maps. A discussion ensued what exactly a Heritage tree was. Uniqueness, character and age were mentioned. Gypsy Way (New child care area)--discuss elements to focus on for 2012
Smoking areas (deleted)

Naming conventions (recommendation what to call Child Care area on the maps)

Colleen quoted a Dr. Seuss rhyme about Mulberry Street. A motion was made and seconded to recommend the Mulberry Street name to ops for the new child care area. A discussion noted that there was not a real connection to the Fair but it was pointed out that Sesame Street is a part of the fair. Mulberry is a messy non-native plant. Motion was made and seconded to table. Motion failed 5/6.

The question was called and seconded. Motion failed 6/6 . Discussion continued.

Some countries consider Mulberry trees sacred. Child Care has recommended Mulberry Street and has been using that name to refer to the child care area.

Motion was made and seconded for Path Planning to support Mulberry Street name. Motion failed 6/6.

Barter fair update, statement of support to Board (see below)

Charlie read recommendation

Draft statement to Board:

The Path Planning Committee recommends moving the Barter Fair out of Miss Piggy's at the 2013 fair.

This area is critical to our committee's ongoing work of developing Crafts Lot as a public space.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the recommendation: Passed by acclamation.

Invite **BOD to March PP** meeting

New Business:

Homework Review:

Optional walkabout with camera on Feb 12th at noon. Think about names.

Meeting Evaluation

Many positive statements about the meeting and how productive it is.

Confirm next meeting time/place

Feb. 19, noon to 3:00, at Alice's

Meeting adjourned at 3:00.