

Oregon Country Fair Path Planning Committee

Jan 20, 2013, Noon – 3 PM

Agenda

Introductions

Announcements

Approval of Minutes (September 23, & October 23, & Nov. 18 Stakeholders/infrastructure mtg.)

Public Comments

Agenda: Review, Amend, Approve

Reports

Staff: Charlie, Steve, Tony

Board Liaison

Subcommittees (Next Steps: New Kid/Old Kid for 2013, Crafts Lot Stages)

Work Plan Review/Amend

Old Business

 Debrief stakeholders' infrastructure meeting, refine plans as needed

 Budget/ Capital Projects 2013

New business

Annual Board mandate to provide 5 replacement booth spaces

Closing

Homework Review

Meeting Evaluation

Confirm next meeting (Feb. 17, 2013)

Committee present

Steve Wisnovsky, Kirk Shultz, Paxton Hoag, Jon Pincus, Jay Hogan, Deane Morrow, Dennis Todd, Chris Browne, Michael Richard, Tom Churchill, Colleen Bauman, Sylvia Fireman, Justin Honea, Dean Middleton (scribe), David Tipton
11 guests

Intros- Kirk found out he was one of the board liaisons to this committee.

Announcements- Peggy, our Recording Secretary resigned. Heart-felt thanks from the committee for all her years of dedicated service. Hooray! Hooray! Hooray!

Colleen brought cookie bars for the highway clean-up team. Many thanks to the team!

Approval of minutes for Sept, Oct.

Move to approve September minutes by Colleen, seconded by Sylvia

Approved with two abstentions.

October move to approve minutes by Colleen, seconded by Chris

Approved with two abstentions.

Public comments,

Sue from Community Village: There is a lot of concern in the Village about path changes. She'll be attending our meetings to provide information back to the Village.

Child Care echoed their appreciation of the new loop and child care compound. David Hoffman thinks we should bring back the OCF water bottle.

We have a Fair Family member tree sitting in Texas. She is protesting the proposed XL pipeline to carry tar sands oil.

Agenda motion to approve- Colleen, Chris second. Approved unanimously.

Staff Reports

Steve- There was one flood in November, pretty big, and two in December. We lost a section of river bank in Arch Park and one near Shady Grove. We won't know until spring what path changes will be needed. The Land Use Management and Planning (LUMP) manual update is in progress; it will be published on line by spring. A major map project is under way by Fair Cartographer, Gene Ehrbar. A coordinated overlay GIS project is being created to give access to a layer view of the Fair. Both hard and online versions will be available. Mobile apps may be one of several outputs. Some experimentation with mobile apps happened last Fair.

Charlie-- Many big projects are happening and they all seem to come back to this committee. Formulating a systematic plan for moving 1500-1600 folks is a daunting task, because of affinity groups the camping relocation will affect people other than those now camping in Crafts Lot (CL). How we prioritize who gets placed where is vital to this process moving ahead smoothly. The Barter Fair currently has no growth limits but in the future because of front of the Fair space demands and camping space demands there might be a growth limit established as part of the new Monday Market redesign. There are many topics and issues that could change the time line of when Crafts Lot is open for business, but we have to stay the course and try to implement the move under the current assumptions. One thing is clear: We won't move if we're not ready. Stay the course unless we have a dramatic change.

Board liaisons report... no report from Paxton or Kirk.

SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS

Minor change of order on Agenda-Path repair first

Path repair subcommittee report

Kirk and David Tipton- E. 13th needs attention to reduce crowding, food lines, and lack of dining areas; and to protect and reveal heritage trees. In path planning we try to avoid dead ends. Presented "brainstorm" map of E. 13th that would connect a dead-end in Community Village (CV) to E. 13th, at Peace Parker. By moving two vendors we can add three to six new CV booths. CV could gain camping space and open up a new path. Net gain in seating area for the several food booths and a second or third CV entry could be created. New path could divert traffic off one of the most crowded sections of E. 13th (between Liberty Coffee and Cart deFrisco).

Process- If approved by the Path Planning Committee we would print maps and approach CV, contact the booths reps affected and begin a conversation.

Charlie- Nice work finding dramatic improvements. Diane approached him and said there would need to be a process to include CV stakeholders. There is big concern about the dynamic that a loop vs. a dead end in the Village would create. Paxton voiced concern about process. CV uses the dead end as a quiet zone for spiritual meetings and mediation and this needs to go to stakeholders before we get a vote.

Michael- Let's do a site visit before we do anything.

David Hoffman- Village is used as a by-pass. CV already has three entrances if you include both entrances from E. 13th. A new path will destroy some green spaces. Foot traffic and soil compactions may damage the heritage tree.

Sue- We have mediation space at the end of the path. Concern for destruction of our community. This is a big dynamic change and needs to be discussed by the stakeholders. This can't be done this year--it's too big! Need to bring this to the folks that are available only during the Fair.

Jon- The process should be to go to stakeholders first, know the stakeholders and their values first.

Michael- With the concern for the stakeholders understood, this is a great idea. It really opens up some very crowded areas.

Kirk- This is a seed and he disagrees that we should go to stakeholders first. We need to water it first and let it grow before we let the stakeholders see it.

Diane- Loss of teepee and yurt are big deals and we need to find them a new home. She agrees that there is enough to move forward but there will be a lot of shock. This is January and no way this can be moved ahead this year

Colleen moved to pursue this with stakeholders, Chris seconded. Discussion continued.

David Tipton- I am aware of CV because I was CV construction coordinator. I have put a lot of thought into this. The plan is flexible. We're supposed to bring our concepts to the full committee before approaching all the stakeholders. This solves many issues for both the Fair/LUMP compliance and Village issues.

Tom- I'm a stakeholder and think this is a good idea.

Justin- This has been discussed for a while; appreciates Kirk and David's work. This has merit and needs to move forward but we can't move this through this year. We have a history of working with the stakeholders and we need to continue that process.

Laura- The Fair has moved into a new era of process. This is exciting and it looks like we have the room. We should pursue this.

Chris- Historically, comparing planning sketches to what actually turns out shows that development is an evolutionary process.

Dennis-called for vote. Chris seconded (Colleen had earlier moved to pursue new CV entry with stakeholders, Chris seconded)

Vote passed unanimously

New stages

Dennis reviewed the notes from the subcommittee meeting on Crafts Lot stages and sound: The "Crafts Lot Stage and Sound" subcommittee met at Alice's on Jan. 19, 2013. Seven members were present. The subcommittee decided to focus on sound zoning and sound conflict avoidance, dance pavilion placement and design, and the needs of the existing stages (Morningwood Odditorium, StageLeft, Mighty Tiny Puppets, Blue Moon). Goals include engaging stakeholders, presenting a general framework report to the full committee by May 2013, and preparing capital projects requests for 2014.

We discussed the need for replacement stages for Shady Grove and Daredevil Palace, amenities that we could use in Crafts Lot, location and design ideas for a dance floor and band stand, and questions that we need to answer about design, construction and materials. After assigning homework, we agreed to meet next at Alice's after the February path planning committee meeting.

Jon - We also discussed staging formats and sound attenuation.

Hillary- When Chela Mela was opened, Hoarse Chorale Stage was designed as the Shady Grove replacement site. We may want to revisit this in the future.

Programming at HC is now very different from SG, may be hard to replace.

Kirk- He would like a map of CL space that shows stages and sound corridors.

Kathee- Youth Stage is very unhappy with their location and wanted the stages and sound subcommittee to be aware so perhaps a new home could be located.

Jon- Management and coordination between stages is as important as the physical structure.

Timothy- Would the dance pavilion affect Intergalactic Bypass? Answer: Probably not.

Next steps, new kids, old kids subcommittee

New/Old kids subcommittee:

Justin reported. What to salvage/move from old kids loop? Should sandbox stay for a year? Can the slide castle be re-used? Discussed options for old play area.

Replacement booths possible in that area. Could be venue for puppets for a year to draw people in. (David: Tents are available in exchange for passes.) Should photo booth continue next year? What should the CL entrance be like? Whole play structure should be removed this year. Capital projects: fabric for canopy, construction of temporary booths, picnic tables. What fun attractions for 2013?

New Kids Way: A big play structure needs a big, open area with line of sight from New Child Care desk. May be sound conflict with Rabbit Hole. Wooded area may be appropriate site, but will involve vegetation management.

Brainstormed new play structures. Capital projects likely to amount to a couple of thousand dollars. Long discussion of "Toiletgate." Toilets might be re-oriented if brush pile is moved. Some toilets might be relocated across Snivel Road for Fair family use. Truck parking needs to be larger to allow pedestrian traffic while the toilet truck is there. Redesigning the gate and toilet court is important in 2013. The other two entrances to the new loop were addressed. The Front Porch entrance needs to be improved, but it worked well. The Gypsy Way entrance was a bit confusing (not always a bad thing) and needs more definition. It was a bit tight. Options to open it up were discussed. (Kirk showed table sketches from the meeting.)

Jay- The new kids plaza is so wide we should integrate some of the old play structure into the path. Area behind Phoenix Rising has beautiful heritage trees, may be good site for a food court.

David T-passed around a sketch of the sandcastle. He commented that the width of the new kids path is really not wide enough to add a large play structure. He mentioned trading booth space with the food booth at the E. 13th Street entrance. They use path space for table and decor and they have a huge staff compared to other booths.

Charlie asked about what process had taken place about the path space that they had taken up. It was indicated by David T. that the booth is on the radar of several committees and they will be having a discussion with them soon.

Jon- These proposals don't involve much vegetation clearing at all. The proposed site for the play structure was the holding corral for the pony rides.

Timothy- Will there be any kids' attractions south of Indian Creek? Much of the camping for fair families will be moving further south and west, leaving little left behind for kids. (David T: Child Care won't staff the old kids' loop next year. Because staffing has been pulled from the play structure it has to be removed for liability.) Kids need something in Crafts Lot.

Amy: Let's call the new Fair family entrance "Wally Way" instead of "toiletgate" to honor Wally Jones. E. 13th entrance has recycling kiosk that could be moved to reduce congestion. Sand boxes are disgusting.

David T: County code requires at least 6" of something (e.g., bark mulch) under play structures.

Colleen: Do we need to make a motion to authorize the subcommittee to submit a capital project request this year?

Kirk: Capital project estimates: \$2000 for play structure, \$500 for toiletgate, hundreds for a few other projects

Colleen moved to accept subcommittee's recommendation. Kirk seconded. Approved by the committee.

Old Business

Debrief stakeholders' meeting, see November minutes

Dean and Dennis reviewed what stakeholders said.

Justin- wanted to make it clear that Lisa Parker of Whitebird was not prepared to make a report for Whitebird and they aren't ready for CL yet. They need more internal discussions. Charlie will act as liaison with Whitebird.

The stakeholders' meeting was very positive. Will Energy Park move or add an annex? Will Arch Park move? Just possibilities at this time.

Kirk will be the liaison to Mothership and make sure they have representation at our next stakeholders' meeting, March 17, location TBA

Kirk- We should not fill the CL up the first year. We need to give it room to grow.

We need a liaison from Chela Mela to work with the CL planning group.

Charlie: We're working on recruiting managers for Crafts Lot, performing the function that Hilary has done for Chela Mela (Hilary and Sallie?). Now working on rearranging the SE side of Miss Piggy's, from the dog pound past the reefer camp. Reefer camp needs to be looked at because they have a huge footprint that doesn't necessarily benefit the bigger Fair and they are right in the heart of the new front of the Fair.

Kirk- We need to define a peninsula planning group (PPG) to plan this area. Kirk and Justin will be committee representatives for this group.

Charlie- Camping Committee will be discussing the PPG at a planning meeting planned for March 9th.

Jon- Dog control could expand their work to include support for service animals.

Paxton- Water/Tinker Bell needs to be kept in the loop so infrastructure needs are done early.

Steve- We are working on a budget item for getting water lines in place. Will turn in capital project request for new water line in CL to be installed fall 2013.

Justin- Do we address the five-replacement booth requirement? We should look at how many booths we now have.

Dennis- Old kids' loop provides the space we need.

Jay- Should the committee address smoking areas?

Kathee- Recommends something exciting in old kids' loop for this year.

Kirk- Has plan for new entrance, one-year-only booths, and amenities at the old kids' loop.

March PP meeting will include...Homework Assignments

David T. will prep map of proposed CV path for discussion with stakeholders.

Kirk will submit capital project request by the end of this month. Kirk will be on peninsula design group. Justin and Colleen will prepare for March stakeholders' meeting. Charlie and Sylvia will work with them.

CL stages & sound subcommittee should help recruit possible CL users to the March stakeholders' meeting.

-All subcommittees' schedules need to be sent to Colleen and Justin for the remaining PP year so we can get it posted on the Fair calendar.

-Our calendar needs to be improved on the .net site. Include location, times, dates for PP meeting. Make sure it's easy to find.

-Booth space inventory discussion between Justin and Steve about our net/net inventory of one year only and other booth moves needs to be done.

-The old kids' play area is space for more booth inventory

Kathee- Crafters' meeting expressed concerns about the cul-de-sac Deadwood loop.

Kirk - There's room for new one-year-only booths, a Bedouin tent, and strolling music.

Spanaway Paul-I have time in my schedule to offer help to the committee. We have a 55' mobile stage.

Meeting review

-I'm impressed

- Thanks for being open to new ideas
- Subcommittee process is like butter; it's real smooth
- Excited to see the work
- Appreciate the involvement
- Excited about the subcommittee process, map map map!
- MAP momentum actual production
- I love David Tipton--he's got a good heart
- Thank you and the vision is moving forward

Adjourned 3:09 PM