

Theater of Change

Community Village
Newsletter
January 9 2020

Proposed Agenda

Childcare rap
Agenda review
Fair announcements
“We Agree” rap
Site Report
Construction plans/budget due
Stand for Council and
process announcement
One Fun Thing
Remote meeting discussion

Pass Allocation Proposal Update
Allow committee work to fulfill
pass guidelines proposal
Budget Report
DRUM guidelines discussion
Village Resource Group report
Activist: Extinction Rebellion
Activist spotlight proposal
Additional agenda items?
non Fair announcements
Strokes & Pokes

Calendar

GENERAL MEETINGS 2020

First United Methodist Church 1376 Olive St
The second Thursday, January - June 2020, 7 - 9PM
Please be quiet while entering the church as other meetings may
be scheduled in adjacent rooms. *Childcare Room provided.*

January 2020: Call for Council

Council Meetings 3rd Thursday at Growers Market upstairs 7-9PM

LAST MEETING BEFORE ELIGIBILITY DEADLINE: April 9

JUNE onsite meeting + WORK PARTYS + OTHER DATES TO BE SET

OREGON COUNTRY FAIR 10, 11, 12, JULY 2020

Council Selection Process

Consensus reached Oct 10, 2019

Any Villager with experience is encouraged to consider standing for Council. Persons volunteering to serve on the Coordinating Council deserve a respectful and fair confirmation process. It is understood that as a community, we will resolve our issues with one another in a timely manner.

STAND FOR COUNCIL

People (or their stand-in) will stand for Council this January 2020, but for future years people stand for Council at the October Community Village meeting (beginning October 2020).

EXPRESS CONCERNS, IF THERE ARE ANY

A Villager (and/or advocate if needed) with concerns about a person standing for Council must notify that person within 1 week of the CVDrum posting of those standing for Council. Parties shall discuss and resolve issues by phone or in person, (email is not recommended).

FACILITATED DIALOGUE

If concerns persist:

- * parties notify Council that dialogue has not resolved issues, and
- * either party requests facilitated dialogue from CeDaR, the fair’s conflict resolution team that focuses on interpersonal disputes between fair family members. CeDaR volunteers are professionally trained mediators from the Center for Dialogue and Resolution, a nonprofit agency located at 1400 Cross St. Eugene 541- 344-5366.

*If facilitated dialogue is not requested within three weeks after the stand for Council the person standing will be confirmed to council.

*CeDaR will arrange a time and place.

*CeDaR will provide to Council the final written agreement.

ARBITRATION

If issues are not resolved within 7 weeks, arbitration is requested from the Village Resource Group. The Village Resource Group will be made up of people who have been in the village for at least 3 years; and at least 3 of whom must be present for the arbitration. (Village Resource Group will be further defined and developed.) Village Resource Group members will recuse themselves if they have a conflict of interest. They will seek appropriate training. (The Fair offers training in conflict resolution and arbitration each October). The arbitrators will listen to both parties and decide the outcome. **OUTCOME IS BINDING.** This will happen before the second meeting following the stand for Council.

VILLAGE WELCOMES NEW COUNCIL

The Village welcomes the new Council the second meeting after the stand for Council.

In 2020, Council will stand at January meeting and be welcomed by March. Subsequently, Council will stand in October (2020 and on) and be welcomed in January of the following year.

January’s Peace & Loving Kindness Message

WE AGREE

We agree to not engage in hear-say and to encourage others to not participate in hear-say.

We agree to speak with honor, integrity and respect about each other; in the event we have constructive criticism to share, we will talk to each other directly, though using another as a sounding board is OK.

We agree to try to operate from a place of trust that we do not mean each other harm.



Note Excerpts from October and November 2019 Village Meetings

October

Diversity Committee

Brook spoke that the committee has not met but plans on doing so this month. They are reaching out to the NAACP in search of possible Village participants.

Connecting

Russell speaks to remind us that our Community is better when we all feel connected to one another. We should consider how to better use our communication tools – the DRUM, website, Facebook, etc – to learn more about each other. Perhaps Booth Coords could have more gatherings, but we must balance meetings with having a life... He also suggested we submit an article for the Fair Family News every month. Their guidelines are 300 – 500 words, due right after the OCF Board meeting, usually the 1st Monday of the month.

One thought 500 words is too many. Others suggested our participating organizations could submit articles, another suggested booths could do so, another thought it could be tied into our ‘activist reports’, perhaps have groups include an article with their report. All these things can help us benefit our Community, raise the Village profile, and help spread our vision to the world.

November

Construction

Russell listed potential booth repair locations: 4A, Spirit, Youth, and Arts and Stage/IC (working on separate ladders and loft redesign). Capital budget requests for any booth project are due to Fair by January Village meeting, with consultation with Big John and/or Rick needed before that!

Wild Edibles is hoping next year will include construction of new benches across from W.E., which should be done with our Village budget and materials from Wood World.

Budget

Karla tells us the OCF has yet to send the final budget statement for 2019. Our “Pass Proposal”, consented to last spring, has been submitted to the Fair. A Dec 4 meeting is scheduled with the Budget Committee. Karla and Arthur are expected to attend. Report in January. Karla will bring up Bob’s request to up the Entertainment budget to \$400. Karla said we may be able to pay more for entertainment with our regular Village budget.

It was also mentioned again how much we all liked the Friday night event we had last summer...do it again!

DRUM guidelines

Loriena led this discussion, hoping to find ways to avoid the kind of unpleasant turn of conversation and really long emails that we experienced during Council confirmation last winter. One said there is a fine line between guidelines that limit and “censorship.” But we should not allow curse words or personal attacks, name calling or bullying. Another said, “What!? I can’t say shit?” Defining things is difficult. There is no way to stop bad behavior. Better way: no talk about people...evaluative or accusatory. The OCF Guidelines are good ones. They are copied below...

Let’s make DRUM guidelines and post them regularly so people know clearly what not to do. Drake mentioned that as a culture we are still learning to adapt to the new online communications, with its

fewer inhibitions and greater chance for misunderstanding, but also with opportunities to be more articulate and to make age differences disappear. A book titled *The Art of Positive Connection* was mentioned.

So no official moderator should be used. Anyone can be a moderator and step into a conversation urging calm and following guidelines. Every effort to improve our community as a whole will help with this. Model good behavior. One mentioned that we are a community that is built on love for each other, that we understand everyone is doing the best they can, that support and love is better than criticism and judgement. It’s on our website! We reprint it every January newsletter (see below) so we start the year right. Do our best to have clear expectations resulting in gentle reminders. It was suggested that those ‘gentle reminders’ be offered in a personal message rather than be part of a big thread.

Lareina offered a Proposal that “we have a moderator and publish guidelines monthly on the DRUM.” Such a job could be a lotta work... It takes a Village – so let’s all be moderators. One other option is to publish a recipe...yes, something to distract, to cool the mood, calm things down. Or cat pictures...

Tim thinks he can auto schedule posts, but will be sure. *Nope, no auto messages in Google Groups*. We resolved to talk more about this in January, and maybe tweak the OCF guidelines...

Village Resource Group

This group was consented to at our October meeting.

This discussion is about ‘further defining and developing’.

Jain agreed to lead this effort and communicate with possible members to get started. They will need to be respected folks for this to work as hoped. Repairing the worn out Spirit of the Village is part of their job. The group should not be small so that it can be diverse and available when needed, though only 3 would be chosen to attend an arbitration. A pool of 10-20, could be as many as 50. All would need to take the needed training before serving, training as by Cat(?) that Sue and Jain have already taken. It’s a good model and should give everyone confidence both doing the job and honoring the decisions.

These names were mentioned, along with others I didn’t write down... Jain, John F, Karla, Dea, Skeeter, Kim, River, Sam, Nel, Paula, Sharon, Karen, Oblio...

Jain will work on this and the group will report in January.

Activist Report Process

Discussion began with the hope that folks doing the activist report also provide a written piece that we could send to the FFN for publication, showcasing what our Village organizations actually do. Arthur suggested we could video their presentation and post that for the Fair. Some wondered if, for accessibility, the transcript would be any good...who could do that? YouTube transcripts are frequently garbled. If someone wants to video their presentation, we will not stop them. Someone suggested we pick a booth per year and get reports from all the groups in that booth. Tim mentioned that he asks for links to their org’s info to include in our minutes. Some thought asking folks to do a written report would be too much.

As this depends on cooperation from those presenting, all we can do is encourage them...unless someone wants to reach out a write something for them. But it would be great to have it in the FFN...

Activist reports coming next year: “Extinction Rebellion” in January, and OCAN in February.