

PDF BOD Agenda

June 6, 2017

8 pm

Attendees:

Current Board members: Patty, Gandhi, Damian, Lizard, Monster, Karnak, Boru, Millie, Ursula
Quorum - 5 people

Attendees: Patty, Gandhi, Monster, Karnak, Ursula, Damian, Millie, Bryan
(Quorum established)

Begin - 8pm EST

Agenda:

- Check-ins and Thank Yous (5 min)
- Approve Minutes - May 2017 (5 min) - **Approved**
 - Patty will post
- PDF Accountant (10 minutes)
 - Proposed: Caryn Sykes
 - \$70 / hr for training and set-up; \$60 / hr for monthly review and maintenance
 - Monthly reconciliation/overview estimate: 1-2 hours a month
 - Annual review/audit prep - estimate: 5 or so hours
 - Training: Estimate 4-8 hours (June preferable to July)
 - QB licensing: She may already have license for 2012 QB, but PDF can provide either way.
 - Questions:
 - How does this compare to market price and does PDF need a CPA?
 - Difference between a bookkeeper and CPA
 - A written contract that outlines what will / won't do for us.
- Fall 2017 Playa del Fuego at VVMC: Discussion and vote on whether to cancel event (10 min)
 - Do not want to return with current condition, also don't want to burn bridges. Open to reduced ticket sales.
 - Possible to hold an event at VVMC if only on the front field. Can't guarantee using even the whole front field parking.
 - Drainage is getting worse.
 - Likely backlash if force a super small event on that location.
 - Concerns about the hosts unwillingness to embrace diversity, ongoing concerns with past complaints by participants toward hosts.

- **Proposal:** To cancel the 2017 Fall Playa del Fuego event at the VVMC.
 - Decision: 7-0 in favor of cancelling the Fall 2017 event at the VVMC. (Gandhi had to jump off for a few minutes during this vote, but was in favor anyway)
- New event in Fall 2017: Discussion and vote on creation of new event for Fall (10 min)
 - Do we have enough time and resources?
 - Asset relocation
 - Coordinator slots filled
 - What monies would we touch in this new event location venture?
 - Land money stays protected!
 - The event PDF could seed the new event.
 - Should new event reimburse funds?
 - Ticket sales would help fund art, additional expenses for new infrastructure, inventory transportation.
 - Possible name? To be discussed later.
 - Board understands that we may ourselves become coordinators for this new event.
 - Concerns about short timeline.
 - Excited with opportunity to bring people who left as a result of the location in DE back to the community..
 - Concerns about “losing PDF.”
 - Important to make it abundantly clear that finances are clearly distributed.
 - Still the plan to return to VVMC in the Spring, but also committed to continue to look for new land in the DE region for the Spring.
 - Before vote - discussion on land options....
- Possible land options: Discussion and vote (20 min)
 - Pegasus Campgrounds, West Virginia
 - Owner has wanted to have a “Burning Man East” for 10 years.
 - Years of music festivals, 10k people.
 - Cost would normally be \$20pp/night. But because they are very interested in working with us, willing to do it for \$20pp total.
 - Would need to have volunteers at the gate 24/7. Or security. But would only have one gate.
 - There’s power.
 - A natural parking lot.
 - Art cars
 - No amount set for deposit yet.
 - Should we guarantee a minimum?
 - Re. Tickets. Monster told them our current size. Would like to expand it, but would not do that if we didn’t have volunteers to support increased size. Once we reach our volunteer needs, could release more tickets. Did not discuss the idea of having a much smaller event. That would impact

hosts' bottom line. Not sure they'd hold the land at that price if it was smaller.

- Schedule: weekend before Columbus Day. Should be the weekend *after* the container returns from BRC to DC.
 - After Burning Man, may be facing more exhaustion.
 - Hosts would be willing to give us property for an entire week, Tuesday to Tuesday. Event timeline, would be Thursday through Monday. DPW could get extended timeline.
- Burn Pad: they're good with us burning large scale art. 2 fields, 1 has gravel role for art cards. 1 has a back field, all grassy. There's no set burn pad.
- State of West Virginia - burn ban after October 1st. Would not impact Fall 2017 event, but longer term possibilities.
<http://www.dep.wv.gov/DAQ/CANDE/OPENBURNINGBROCHURE/Pages/default.aspx>
- Weather: Nighttime lows around 40s. Leaves will be changing, 60s during the day.
- Railroad crossing: defunct, inactive railroad.
- Location looks amazing. The land offers many advantages over our current location. Here are the major ones:
 - The land has extensive, sandy, topsoil. This means it drains really well!!!
 - WE CAN HAVE ART CARS!!!! I am way excited about this.
 - There are a (limited number) of full RV hookups and they can accommodate large RVs (we would require an additional \$25 RV ticket for those 17 vehicles).
 - Also, there are two buses on site that can be rented (they normally charge \$150 for two people for 2 nights, or they get used for offices) - probably not needed but it's there.
 - There is WAY MORE SPACE.
 - There is a single entrance exit. The "gate" area would have wifi and power.
 - Two stages on site.
 - Surrounded by a wooded areas, it is also mountainous.
 - WATER FEATURE. There is a lovely mountain stream running through the property and a (very small) lake which you can swim in although it would be very cold.
 - Extensive festival experience, good neighbors and MORE SOUND. They have been having music festivals there for 15 years and typically go till 3am. For us they would do subwoofers off at 1 or 2am and lower level all night sound, but this would equate to more sound than we have now.

- (undercover) police showed up for their first event and the landlords kicked them out and they haven't had issues since.
- They said they don't have a local noise ordinance that impacts them and actually tried to get a county permit for a prior event and there wasn't a process for it.
- GREAT LOCATION. they are only 2.5 miles from hospital, less than a mile from an urgent care, gas station right nearby.
- GREAT INFRASTRUCTURE.
 - bathhouse with showers and flush toilets.
 - there is potable (good spring) water around the site.
 - wifi (good for gate/inventory), and there's plenty of power in some areas/around the stage and at the gate.
 - there is a building we could use for ranger HQ/Mash OR for participation station and there are kitchen facilities so we could have a volunteer kitchen! a dream of mine (and then we could use the other building for mash/rangers). there's also an "orchard" w/ apples by the gate that could be a staff camp area if we wanted. we could also have a car camping area if we wanted to, and if not there's a large field (which would be fully mowed for us) right by where gate would be.
- Possible purchase: They are getting on in years and might actually be interested in selling the property to us at some point.
- 4 Quarters Interfaith Sanctuary, Artemas, PA
 - Wickerman held there. (this weekend), Millie is going.
 - Sale of products by pagan church on land
 - Meade, wood, ...food?
 - Land is identified as Wickerman land
 - Feel uncomfortable going into a venue where there is already a burn happening, and not collaborate with them. We should just support Wickerman instead.
 - Could be considered for Fall, but not this year. We'd absolutely need to consider a different location for Spring.
- Paradise Lake, Hammonton NJ ?
 - The road in and the land when it gets rainy doesn't sound like it's much better than the VVMC.
 - Boru's co-RC was looking at it for an event, short info sheet. Not really interested. Stingy about fire, could only do it at main burn pad, if at all.
 - Not enough good info to move forward on for this Fall.
- **Proposal:** Hosting an event at Pegasus the weekend before Columbus Day 2017, announcement to community contingent on Board approved Contract (and other details below) with hosts. With intent to continue to search for a replacement property in the Mid-Atlantic region for the Spring 2018 PDF event.

- Reservation about whether hosts have a “minimum cost”
 - Gandhi returned for vote
 - All in favor: 8
- New Event: Fall 2017: (30min)
 - Vision and name
 - New Organizational Chart
 - Playa Del Fuego: Pegasus (proposed)
 - Planning and meeting schedule
 - Proposed: Weekly 60 min calls, at least initially.
 - Minimum info needed to for community announcement
 - Signed Contract
 - Draft needed ASAP for review by board
 - Will wait for signed contract before community announcement.
 - Monster will have draft for BOD review: 00:00 13 Jun 2017
 - Insurance
 - Patty will discuss with existing insurance org
 - Access to decent insurance may be dependent on official regional status
 - Key event leads (?)
 - Opportunity to launch new event management structure, based on structures from other regionals.
 - Dates
 - Location
 - Event Name
 - Event theme (or call for theme ideas?)
- BOD Retreat Planning
 - Some preference for Summer, to use as planning for Fall event. May be difficult to connect all 9 members.
 - Exploring Fall as possible option, too.
- Work Week - upcoming
- Communication strategy: **Leads:** Millie, Ursula, Gandhi
 - Announcement schedule and content
 - Website - new event website?
 - Newsletter (something different from Dreamhost?)
 - Social media - new channels?
 - Notify Vets
 - “Since no land in the nearby area of DE PDF has been found, and the conditions of the land at FBL continue to degrade and have become a logistical problem, we have chosen to hold an event at _____ in lieu of our normal Fall DE PDF” “We continue to look for land in the mid atlantic. In the interim, we are starting a new event . . .” rewording and clarification needed
- PDF Board Committees - Join teams and select chairs (*at least 2 teams each*) (15 min)

- Current Event Management
 - Proposed team title change to reflect Spring PDF Event Mgmt
- New Event Planning
 - Proposed team title change to reflect Fall event Mgmt
- Land Purchase
 - Proposal: separate from new event planning and rental search options.
- Governance and Finance
- Community Art Grants and Civic Responsibility
- Communication and Technology
- Consent
- Upcoming PC Call - **this Sunday, noon, June 11th.**
- Event Lead Mentorship Program at Burning Man. (10 min)
 - Discussion about opening it up to Board members and/or Event Leads, possibly subsidizing.
 - Application:
 - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScEWeX21kHd4wCTGfIOTeNHpZJCpc1hZ6lkBRPpojp2v6_8lQ/viewform?usp=sf_link
 - Letters should be sent to event-lead-mentorship2017@burningman.org no later than **June 25th**. Applications and letters will be reviewed and matches will be made before July 18th.
- Board meetings: Next one **Tuesday, 13, 7pm**. Mondays two week after that.
- Anything else?

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Meeting end 10:37pm EST