

## PDF Planning Committee Meeting Agenda

**Date: Sunday, March 12, 2017 at 12 PM**

**Purpose of meeting: Continue planning for Spring Burn**

**Agenda summary: New business discussions and proposals; new budget proposals; and planning cycle reminders**

**Call-in information: 1-712-432-3100, code is 833217**

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### **First Order of Business – Coordinator updates**

- 1) Ranger Leadership Transition

### **Second Order of Business – Proposal votes and old business discussions**

- 1) Discussion item - Handling radios between burns submitted by Rev. Dave (Nov. 2016)

- Any follow up to last meeting's discussion?
- Will this fall to the inventory and logistics coordinator position?

- 2) Discussion item - Bring Public Transit to PDF (submitted by Ms. Fidget) **and** Back Gate Greeter cart proposal, submitted by Alfred\*

*\*Two overlapping proposals*

Waiting to hear back from Jim about maximum hauling capacity. Also suggestions of maybe a tractor, or Gators. Any update from Jim (or anyone)?

- 3) Proposal – (More) Reserve tickets for volunteers, submitted by Smartie Martie

Increasing the ticket cap with volunteer reserved tickets for (ALL) general volunteers, because every volunteer is important to running the event.

From last meeting: Need BOD input as to whether we would increase the ticket cap or if these tickets would come from the general pool. Need details on how many tickets this would entail. Maximum amount of reserve tickets currently is 13 per department. Further discussion should be moved to the PONY. Batnips was to bring it up at the February event planning meeting and post a reply on the PONY.

Any updates?

4) Proposal vote - One-cycle reserve ticket increase for PC Coord transition – submitted by Owsia (*\*read with Stage proposal and vote proposal!*)

Add second reserve ticket for the Coord-in-training who will be taking over. One time increase.

5) Proposal vote - Increase Stage Volunteer reserve ticket headcount from 2 to 4 – submitted by Scott, Stage coord (*\*read with Stage proposal and vote proposal!*)

During the Fall burn, despite it not being super busy throughout the entire weekend, splitting the stage duties between just 2 of us was a bit more time tied to the stage than most other departments. Increasing our headcount would allow the duties to be split 4 ways, and ensure a better overall coverage for the role. Each volunteer will have to understand the mixer, and be able to troubleshoot gear and add in what comes. To guarantee qualified hands on expensive gear, qualified volunteers are a must.

As I understand it, merely a vote is required to move up to 4 reserve tickets for any department. We are requesting this motion be carried forward for the Spring Burn.

6) Discussion - Graveling part of the site – submitted by Gabe Brutal

I propose that we need to buy gravel to ensure proper drainage in the back parking lot, and the roadway leading from back parking towards the dumpster. This has been a major safety issue. Cars hydroplane through this area when it gets flooded and could easily crash into people walking the road. A quick google search for pea gravel revealed the following: "The price will vary by location and is dependent on the distance from a quarry or a distributor. The general range for a cubic yard of plain pea gravel is about \$30 to \$35, and a ton will cost about \$40 to \$45." Pineapple did talk to me about ensuring better drainage for the Spring, so it would be good to have the vets liaison contact Pineapple to see what his plans are before we make a purchase. It's bad when even tow trucks and cars with 4 wheel drive are getting stuck in the back parking lot. Having proper drainage will ensure that emergency services can reach us faster, so people will not need to be removed via helicopter. Minutes can save lives. We could put a call out to the community to find good pricing on gravel if need be. I am also willing to personally research gravel prices in the area.

Batnips was to look into improvement restrictions and get additional information.

## Fourth Order of Business – Vote on old budget proposals

1) DPW, \$888.86, submitted by Karnak

Item	Recurring	Infrastructure	Overall
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$700.00</b>	<b>\$188.66</b>	<b>\$888.66</b>
Incidentals	500		500
UHaul truck rental	200		200
Hand cart replacement for old worn out carts		188.66	188.66

2) Gate, \$6014.00, submitted by Smartie Martie

2 Water Cooler Rental with Hot Water Feature \$50.00 (one for front gate, one for back gate)

10 x 5 Gallons of water \$75.00 (5 front gate, 5 back gate)

Gas for Golf Cart \$50.00

2 Golf cart + delivery fee \$650.00

Hired Gate Crew \$1,300.00

Hired Gate for extra hours \$256.00

Ice \$40.00

Wristbands under 21 and child \$100.00

Fabric numbered smartlock wristbands 1000.00

(trash bags,paper towels cleaning stuff) \$80.00

Batteries aa rechargeable \$60.00

Office Supplies, printing materials \$200.00

supplies to make 100 pendants w/ball chain necklace \$180.00

Greeters Bandannas 80 \$200.00

Citronella candles, incense sticks, tiki torches, tiki fluid (Back Gate) \$80.00

rainbow string \$8.00

Bug spray 30.00

Snacks, Coffee, Hot Coco, Tea, Creamer (Amazon order) \$200.00

UV light x 2 60.00 (one for front gate, one for back gate)

Gas can 60.00 (one for front gate, one for back gate)

Hardware stuff \$70.00

Spray paint 40.00

Safety Vest x 2 20.00

El wire 20.00

file box for storage of waivers 15.00

Misc supplies 80.00

12v 5a power supply x2 30.00

Letters for PONY sign 24 letters 5.00 each 120.00 (will use Michaels coupons to lower price)

Swag cups 30.00

Vinyle 30.00

Frame x2 20.00

Battery charger x2 40.00

Plus 6% sales tax for anything purchased in MI  
Shipping cost ?????

Total 6014.00

3) Sanctuary, \$830.01, submitted by Jen Dublin

<b>Shade Structure</b>	\$495.00	Infrastructure	improve function of sanctuary and comfort of guests
<b>Tools</b>	\$7.99	Recurring	zip ties to hang lights and assemble dome
<b>Shade Structure Components</b>	\$8.96	Infrastructure	create comfortable atmosphere
<b>Shade Structure Components</b>	\$7.70	Infrastructure	tapestries to create comfortable atmosphere
<b>Shade Structure Components</b>	\$8.48	Infrastructure	create comfortable atmosphere
<b>Light</b>	\$9.99	Infrastructure	string lights for light and comfort
<b>Cleaning Supplies</b>	\$30	Recurring	laundry to clean blankets and pillows
<b>Log book</b>	\$11.11	Infrastructure	log guests and communication & for guests if they want to write
<b>Office Supplies</b>	\$5.99	Recurring	pens
<b>OTHER</b>	\$13.97	Infrastructure	mandala coloring books for relaxation
<b>Water</b>	\$10.00	Recurring	bottles of water for guest comfort
<b>Printing - Ranger Manuals</b>	\$175	Infrastructure	10 Laminated reusable Sanctuary Training manuals
<b>Table</b>	\$45.82	Infrastructure	a small folding table to hold the radios, supplies, manuals and to keep things off of the ground.

4) Sound, \$330.75, submitted by Pena

Item	Recurring	Infrastructure	Overall
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>\$330.76</b>
5x decibel meters		\$85	\$85
MURS		\$219.80	\$219.80
4x radio pouches		\$25.96 + \$6 shipping	31.96

5) Stage, \$2016, submitted by Scott

Item	Recurring	Infrastructure	Overall
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1217</b>	<b>\$799</b>	<b>\$2016</b>
Sub Woofer for Stage		\$799	
Lighting console and lights	\$542		
Mixer for stage	\$200		

Vehicle to transport Equipment	\$400		
T-Shirts, Stage Hand Identification	\$75		

6) Theme Camp Placement, \$113.00, submitted by Katherine

Item	Recurring	Infrastructure	Overall
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$113.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$113.00</b>
Bamboo Skewers	\$15.00		
Flagging Tape	\$65.00		
Laminated Maps for Gates & PS	\$33.00		

7) Volunteer / Participation Station \$2030, submitted by Diana-Smiles

Infrastructure \$945

Reoccurring \$1085

<b>Water</b>	25	Rental of base
<b>Water</b>	25	Water jugs
<b>Golf Cart</b>	325	golf cart and water estimates are from last cycle's budgets
<b>Gas</b>	25	
<b>OTHER</b>	70	Apryl's roving recruiter project lamination, printing, oil pens
<b>Office Supplies</b>	40	binders, page protectors, sharpies etc
<b>Food</b>	75	snacks, tea, hot cocoa, coffee
<b>OTHER</b>	100	badge reels retractable, for volunteer laminates
<b>Cleaning Supplies</b>	20	
<b>Buttons</b>	200	
<b>Extension Cord</b>	35	2 extension cord and 1 power strip weatherproof boxes
<b>Shade Structure Components</b>	60	4 replacement poles for those damaged in the hurricane
<b>Shade Structure Components</b>	80	8 footers for the PS structure because it sank in the mud on one side, leading to the damage in the hurricane
<b>Table</b>	60	6 ft, folding, white.
<b>OTHER</b>	40	signage, corrugated plastic board and reflective tape (I have spray paint),
<b>OTHER</b>	600	RADIOS 6 Puxing PX 888K - items not purchased last cycle due to shipping time issue
<b>Food</b>	\$250	Item entered by Epic. Breakfast for early morning volunteers to be served as an incentive to fill early morning shifts (open to all departments). Also, "Super Volunteer" Luncheon/Dinner to reward top volunteer(s) per department (determined by # shifts, attendance, and coordinator feedback/nomination)

## **Fifth Order of Business – New business discussions and proposals**

### 1) Proposal - Send Regional Burn Cultural Initiative Letter (submitted by Scott)

The 10 Principles underlie the culture of the Burning Man community, a community which exists far past the borders of time, space, and people that frame the annual event. It is a culture generous in spirit, diverse in execution, and one that is growing through the prosperity and understanding that flows both through the annual Burn and the Regional Burn communities. In the US alone there are 21 Regional Burns, and the global footprint of the culture has spread to a dozen other countries.

These facts, and the experiences and expressed thoughts of some of the most dedicated participants at my Regional Burn, Playa Del Fuego, have lead us to the formulation of a question: is this culture, and the experience that we are sharing, truly and fully connected to the founding, annual event? Are we, as regional Volunteers and Coordinators, dedicating significant effort to our events, good stewards of this culture? Do we share its deep commitments in the same powerful way that was envisioned by its founders? Can the Principals alone convey the vigor of experience found in BlackRock?

Now, I know our event hosts a significant community connected to Burning Man. The structure of our organization, Board, and adherence to the guidelines sustains our regional status. As well, hundreds of participants in our twice annual event are former attendees of the "Big Burn," and many make the trek annually, at some effort, which helps maintain a thread of vital cultural continuity. This is at the heart of our interest and invokes the reason for this initiative.

Would Burning Man consider establishing a ticket reserve relationship with well established regional Burns for the purpose of cross-cultural pollination? The idea, put simply, is to instantiate a path for individuals that invest significant time in conducting and organizing events surrounding their regional burns (Coordinators) to first tier tickets by reserve, and reciprocally establish a reserve ticket relationship for Burning Man personnel to the Regional Burn. Our Burn could serve as a pilot for this relationship, and establish the precedent for both feedback and viability of the initiative, going forward.

The details of ticket count, timing, and the level of inter-organization connection during either event would be settled in further discussion. This communication is intended to spark that discussion.

Our burn is powerful and almost sacred to us. Our commitment to

nurturing this cultural evolution is obvious and invigorates our efforts during, as well as our lives outside the burn, with magnifying effects. The connection we are seeking is a testament to the desire to understand more fully the complete experience, and through it, the power of what lies ahead of us.

On behalf of the volunteers of PDF  
Scott E. Frias  
Stage Coordinator  
Playa del Fuego

## 2) Proposal - Volunteer Breakfast and Banquet - submitted by Epic

First, let me start by saying this (as much as I would like to take credit for it) is not a novel idea. After having my Eureka moment about this last PDF, I quickly realized after doing some research that MANY burns do this. Preheat and Afterburn spend over \$4,000 on “volunteer schwag” and volunteer banquet. So... there’s gotta be something to it. Right?

Let’s talk about participation. As a Principle, participation, like everything else is “by invitation”. As much as we would like for everyone to be willing to volunteer for altruistic reasons, people like incentive, and nobody has to volunteer. We have been making strides as an organization, and Participation Station prides itself on continuing to drive improvements and increase volunteerism. However, PDF has begun to fall into a habitual spiral that I think will be detrimental in the long run, and we’ve already begun to see the negative effects with volunteer attrition and leadership frustration... “Voluntelling”. I describe it as the process of shaming, berating, or even attacking participants into volunteering. I’m guilty of it, as are many of us. I’d like to take my grandmother’s advice before it is too late; “You catch more flies with honey than with vinegar.”

We, as many departments have found that tokens of appreciation, while not necessarily enough to convince people to volunteer in and of themselves, definitely raise morale and increase retention. Simply put: People like to get stuff and to be recognized or rewarded, and it our jobs as coordinators to make their volunteer experience seamless. This is why TTID literally has a “Volunteer Resource Team” and a commissary open to “ranked” volunteers. On the playa, food and drink are both huge motivators, as well as a source of distraction.

The proposed commissary is twofold.

1. A volunteer breakfast. This breakfast will be served by Participation Station Volunteers from 5am-9am (adjustable). The point is to encourage volunteering and turnout for these early shifts by providing

incentive to rise early, as well as eliminating reasons for being late (volunteers coming off 2-5am shifts will be invited to eat as well). We currently lose any PS volunteers to fill shifts when people don't show up anyway, so the volunteers on shift at this time will be supporting other volunteers at PS instead. We will open a shift and ensure a coordinator or reliable lead is on schedule.

2. Rockstar Banquet. Each department will be given 3-5 "gold stars". These gold stars may be distributed as Coordinators see fit to volunteers they consider to be exceptional (that volunteer who did 4 shifts, or was clutch in a situation etc.). On Saturday (Pre burn), or Sunday afternoon, we will host a Rockstar Banquet where these volunteers will be treated to Playa Haut Cuisine for just being darn awesome.

\* In the future, if this is successful, I would like us to consider investing in opening this up to ALL our volunteers and making it an "All Star Banquet" we could do the raffle there, have other prizes, ceremony and pomp etc...

The proposed cost to do this is minimal, the risk low, and the return on investment is priceless. It is not at all exclusionary, as anyone who volunteers for an early shift will receive breakfast. We will serve the daily allotment until we run out. As far as the process for selecting Superstar Volunteer Banquet attendees, as much as I would like to stipulate rules or guidelines for who receives these gold stars, I think it should be up to each Coordinator. What qualifies for a gold star as a Ranger is different than that of a Parking volunteer. Coordinators are obviously exempt; we take our reward in our jobs after all...



Actually, Coordinators will be invited to the banquet. The point of this is recognition, and I think it is important that in addition to eating, relaxing, and mingling with each other, volunteers have a chance to interact with their coordinators, hear why we value them etc.

I would say the only guideline for now would be to award these stars to the volunteers who truly go above and beyond just showing up and completing a shift. The benefit is more volunteers, and like the raffle, it is a fun reward to look forward to, and shows we care and appreciate the work our volunteers do.

The plan is to do this in the cheapest, simplest way possible. For breakfast, we can serve coffee, juice, eggs, bacon, bread, and vegetarian alternatives. We can use parchment paper and serve taco style to reduce MOOP. The banquet will be buffet style and feature simple, easy to make in bulk, but good foods (think pasta, potatoes, rice, greens, and meat). There will be things to learn from this, and the plan is to start small and

simple, so we can gauge success, and come back to this for the Fall after evaluation.

I welcome suggestions, questions, meal ideas, etc.

3) Burning Art Budget - submitted by Rev Dave

Firewood, 13 cords, \$2600

Firewood, 3/4 cord, \$200 (one of the onsite vets has a bit less than a cord of seasoned hardwood on site that he wants to sell)

Flares \$15

Fuel \$50

4) MASH Budget - submitted by Beauty

Golf cart with delivery Recurring \$325

Extra gas Recurring \$25

Ice (from Vets) Recurring \$35

Misc. medical and hydration supplies \$250

5) Fire Perimeter Budget - submitted by Hudson

Light Rope for establishing a clear visible boundary:  $\$76.99 \times 2 = \$153.98$

Extension cord to power lights:  $\$17.47 \times 2 = \$34.94$

Stakes to secure lights and extension cord

10 for 1.97.  $\times 10 = 100$  stakes  $\$19.70$

(191.50 total for light ring)

LED lanyards for the fire team to wear to be a visible boundary.

$\$8.99 \times 10 = \$89.99$

Radio for calling MASH or Rangers in case of need

\$ 57.58

Total: \$339.07

Tax is undetermined, shipping will be free.

6) DPW add on, \$229.95

29.95      Recurring    Bag Dumpster  
200        Recurring    Bag Dumpster pickup

7) Art Grants Budget - submitted by St. Greg

Food & drinks for reception - \$100

### **Sixth Order of Business – Announcements and reminders**

1) SPRING TICKET SALES DATES

- Round 1 - Sunday, February 26th (noon) - **SOLD OUT**  
Round 2 - Wednesday, March 15 (9 PM)

Reserves open - Sunday, March 26

Reserves close - Tuesday, April 25 (4 weeks before PDF)

2) Upcoming meeting schedule

- Saturday April 8 **OR** Sunday April 9 (for discussion and poll)