

GVIAS
Community Visioning Town Hall
Trout Lake Community Hall

Start time: 7:15pm

Oct 21 2019

Adding a Day to the Event

- add day - Wed or Sun - currently lots of travel and effort for short event
- hard to fill 4hr shifts may be easier with more time for the event - less chunk of total time
- build more infrastructure if longer - larger art and camps
- cost per day does decrease over time - desire for 1 day prior and 1 day after
- remove the 3pm Exodus deadline - prohibitive for many - willing to pay for extra time (there was consensus) - ticket price too low? Should it be raised?
- There was a second for 2 extra days
- \$200/pp - Blazing Swan - 7 days - we can make it work
- long term plan - increase population 1 year and then length subsequent years
- Regional survey - most are 4 days are longer (2/3 of regionals)

Center Camp and its Purpose

- Past years has been underutilized - (lacking direction) -production having uncertainty for purpose - at Black Rock the intent is to create more default environment - safe space
- Idea: Open Decks - stage for all to use
- Location center camp - at Snug - change location to be in the middle of the event - purpose should be unify the space and the community - place for newbies? Map - Volunteer hub - 10 principals - has to be fun and informative
- Coffee Camp/Center Camp alliance - pricing for permanent structure - storage + permanent alliance - more central location - meeting space for all over coffee + community Hub
- Work vs Output - not there - funds/time/expectations are not matching - needs a more defined vision + stage - too hot - needs shade and permanent structures - less waste of funds and effort- is it still necessary? If it exists it needs to be central - Production to send an RFP - be critical
- Multi use space should be the focus - pro center / coffee alliance / message boards / Info / meeting space for teams and artists - fire conclave? More designed as a community space
- Include Volunteer hub as a permanent part of center camp
- Newbies - disappointed by the current space
- Workshop space - very nice to have for those without a camp

How to Make the Site More Accessible

- Seek community feedback and input - understand the real challenges - must be considered for all placement and theme camps
- Density of the event was difficult to navigate - things were spread out to much - unseen challenges must be considered
- Accessible camping was in a good place - power - location was good
- Incline of the hill was daunting , reaching out to BR Mobility Camp + connecting with Chris Marks - SHUTTLE SERVICE IS REQUIRED should we attend Snug again
- Find a way around the hill - age + event attendee growth will make it a major ongoing issue
- Production aware of the issue and their own feeling of failing, landowner has expressed willingness to do site improvement, grading - shuttle service - new accessibility committee? Or group to be engaged for all events
- Multigenerational needs to consider - ie kids as well - what is safe for all

Ratio of Directed Tickets

- 57% Directed at present of 1600 vs 43% Open Sale
- Need to ensure volunteer and do-ers get tickets - but must remain inclusive as well
- Success in an indication that our event is appreciated - fast ticket sales show the goal
- Theme camps need more tickets - requirements? Which camps? Coffee Camp specified
- All major volunteers should get 2 tickets (spouse)
- Less newbies per year - better acculturation - less issues - less burnout
- System worked well - more tickets for theme camps
- Capacity to grow the event - use tickets as the facility to grow the event - keep the ratios similar/ Growing via Directed Tickets
- Radical inclusion does not mean that you need to sacrifice the other values of the event/community
- Fabric of the event can change with undo care of the ratio
- Diversity can be limited - we invite our friends vs new engagement
- Volunteer Tickets Sell out? Almost?
- Theme Camp - Adopt - a Newbie - Program? Foster the growth
- Directed tickets are use the foster newbie within multiple accounts
- Directed tickets - same year - is hard to do unless you are Production
- Production team to have its own pool of directed tickets to fill major and hard to fill rolls
- Action Faction - leverages volunteer newbies to grow camp + lost of great ppl are found
- Lack of PoC and Indegenous - directed tickets
- Existing camps - have a heavy volunteer presence but we are leaning towards volunteering within the camp vs community focused
- Event opportunities exist to get hours for directed

Newbie Acculturation

- Suggestion: Are you new button on website- how can you participate and join events, roles, community events
- Burner Skool - Pre Biff and Pre Burn (have two!)
- Acculturation Ambassador Program - a great addition to the event
- More reminders and links to new ppl - ticketing is limited to what it can do for acculturation - when buying ticket have an "are you new?" button
- New Information Section of the website - answering questions first - more proactive effort = less work
- Tech Committee can solve a lot of the current issues
- On website - then it's not clear where to go from there - not easy so this is a barrier - information should all be in one place - include links?
- Otherworld - newbie tour - ends at Burning Glam - early access to clothes and a wonderful addiction
- Using FB - there are multiple chats - hard to access the info without the admin/gatekeeper

Number of Sound Camps

- Number is ok? There was 9 (consensus the number was fine)
- What do we do when Peter Blitz stops helping everyone?
- Placement was tricky - lack of trees - Live Venue?
- Sound Marshalling is required - sound was too close and drowned out all sound at some camps
- Number of Sound Camp Funds awarded?
- Curation - felt they had to place more camps than they intended
- Grants awarded 4 camps for funding - last minute placement applications - confusion and clarity required
- Grants does not have any direction on how many camps to fund / communication gaps

Barriers to Volunteering

- How severe is the shortage? Huge issues to secure volunteer up to 3 weeks before event - last minute they call out and get help / time commitment was too much - 4hrs is to much?
- Length of event - longer is easier - especially for night shifts as not giving up one of two party nights
- Issues filling some ranger shifts? Sanctuary shifts? Graveyards - maybe they get tickets? Increase documented hour ratio for hard to fill shifts
- Incentives for high value shifts?
- Theme camps often carrying a heavier burden of volunteer shifts - we are the do-ers
- Ask for volunteers earlier - volunteering list - access to shifts is not available till after the main sale - Be the Crew - unclear - best access to and more forms and signage
- Have volunteering email ready before ticket sale
- Redesign the website - more call to action on website

- Leverage volunteer hours - helps parents - there is no incentive from 4 to 19 - incremental
- Communal effort should not be in expectation of anything
- Do not commodify the volunteer experience
- Questionnaire where people have to tick a box where they plan to contribute. If they tick volunteer then they are added to email list
- Better list of roles available - Communication of what positions are available and just on Facebook as a challenge for many
- Volunteer Survey clarity - using other methods to show availability besides FB
- Volunteer vs Directed Hour Eligibility
- Icons on the website that we click on for positions of volunteering
- Up the hours for volunteer tickets
- More fun = more responsibility

Name Change

- Instagram competition - burn in the forest brings up forest fires
- Name has legacy - make it hard to find - respect the history
- Stigma regarding insensitivity of the current climate scenario
- GVIAS is a placeholder
- Creativity is required
- Subtle play - Burners in the Forest?
- Forms in the Forest
- Keep the Fuckery - Fuckery in the Forest

Burn vs No Burn Ethics

- Stop the burn - it sends a symbolic message - new opportunities to try things - projection mapping - variety show - 2 fires creates closure vs 1 fire creates confusion (burn & temple)
- We are burners - low carbon footprint
- We have a great fire safety team - its primal and important to the culture and community - more awesome stuff - but keep fire
- Sacred part of the culture - if we can't burn - thats one thing - but if we can then we should
- Strength to burn.. We are capable of getting approval and support
- Ritual part of the burn is a sacred part. The actual burn part can change but has to be the physiological part we all know.
- More burning - temple burn
- Ritual vs Reality
- Community is gathered by the fire - Few things bring all of us together. The fire is that
- Our Fire Safety Team - we need to be Agile - based on Safety - All effigies must be have a non burn plan
- Max Height - Limitations of the burn
- Make maximum size and shape or element of burn material to limit issues potential

- If we choose no burn how do we go back??

Beach space

- lake opportunity for art, vehicles, and interactive items
- Insurance hurdles to water crafts and kyboshed everything

Long term Contract

- Current status is year to year
- Fees to be discussed - more of general topic at this point
- Long term contracts are meaningful - better relationships - hesitations for the current site .. maybe there are some better sites
- Site is good - but not totally ideal - spaces are hard to find at our size
- Incentives + understanding + preferred dates + land maintenance and upgrading should be considered
- Issue with site - hard to access for all participants - GVIAS should be open to more sites
- Merrit Festival Site? Town is favourable - site is ready to use - existing relationship - can host more attendees - site was not willing to accept Fire Performers or burns in past
- Finding venues that are open, willing and interested in what we do should be treated at a premium
- Storage onsite should be valued
- Otherworld site is killer as well
- DPW - amount of lifting is a thing - changing the site is a huge effort all main volunteers - PRO LONG TERM - we can remove obstacles over time, at our pace
- Night Time Temperature was an issue
- Long term plan involves levelling and installation of power grid - needs long term commitments
- Historical temp levels were hard this year - more similar to the BURN
- Revisit other sites in time
- Moving sucks - especially short term - year to year is difficult - planning and benefits take effect year 2 and 3

Barriers to attending

- it's far away
- We're the indigenous invited to come? Can we collectively invite them and give them a chance to go there?
- Don't believe in radical recruitment. Not our job to bring people into the community

Power for Sound Camps

- Production should continue to supply power - new site posed issues - time = improvements
- Cost of power - was cheaper then expected - more circuits = less costs
- Economies of scale do if more on it then overall it will be cheaper.

- Generators that were used are Diesel vs Gasoline - it's more cost effective and safer for it to be supplied
- Extend the grid to include Safety/Support
- More notice is required on cost - decision was late and stressful for many - amount of circuits required ect ect

GVIAS Consensus - Board/Grants/Production/CC

Grants funding Center Camp

- Not enough funds to make it safe
- Denied funds
- Asked for help - but was not given the help she needed

Size of the Event

- Time is right to extend time over number of attendees - long term plan
- We are at the size were big changes result in bigger requirements
- Increase by 100 this year is an idea
- Make it bigger - Issues getting tickets - makes ppl not try
- New ppl are keen to help - we have to welcome them!
- Help newbies create a vision of their own involvement
- Slow growth with the base of volunteers
- Increase from 1200 to 1500 was fairly seamless @ Cheam
- Regional stats
- - 24% increase in one day events
- - 3.84 days is average length of days
- - 1.2% increase in number of attendees. YOY

Composition/Layout

- Theme camps were too spread out - BG was too far away at the top of the 3rd hill
- Group Theme camps together to provide more of a city feel vs neighborhoods
- Site visit was challenging - not many camps attended - layouts were not followed or implemented
- More photos of the site sooner - not applicable this year as we have all been
- Some camps were placed in unusable space - Oasis Om - 5ft
- Central strip was underutilized - better use the flat areas to make more community space

General Questions and Topics from the Floor

Drones

- No - seconded by many

Power for Theme Camp/Arts

- Underusing the generators - we needed more load

- Site lay out - requires more generators - we can easily help all artists/camps/stages
- Helps bring new artists and reduces costs for all
- Grants receives a lot of requests for batteries/generators costs
- Radical self reliance should be considered - learning about power helps everyone
- Consider Power - a piece of community infrastructure vs a perk
- Charging for circuits is a guess - Sound Camps paid for their own power
- Power could be included

Grants for Sound Camps

- Grant was given for 1/3 - paid for the stage and transport
- Hard to get camp fees from hippies

Required Volunteering

- No but make participants actively fill out something to encourage active participation
- Asking during ticket purchasing how you want to volunteer is a neat idea
- Heart of burning man is fuck the rules! But then we put in all these rules. Only put them in if absolutely necessary. Power of persuasion is way more powerful than the power of coercion.

How do you charge for Power

- Based on number of circuits -
- \$50/circuit was the cost in 2019 - refunds coming - estimated at \$40/circuits

Propane fire pits

- It was nice we could do it. Found out too late. The fire season is too unpredictable to give extra notice

Timing of the Event

- No earlier than July - hate rain
- Timing of other events - climate vs weather
- We shouldn't care if we are the same weekend as other events
 - Other events also give grants for art so we may get less art overall if we do

Conduct committee

Volunteer committee

Finance committee

Tech committee

If you know people there are many ways to volunteer such as the above. Please stay tuned!!!!

Townhall ended at 9:25pm