

Oregon Heritage Tree Committee
Meeting Minutes
OTE Office, Salem, OR
Friday, July 18, 2014
1:00 pm

Committee Participants:

Roger Brandt
Doug Grafe
Arne Nyberg
Ed Washington

George Forbes
Craig Leech
Al Tocchini

Absent:

Nancy Appling
Charlotte Lehan
Tim Nitz

Jennifer Karpis
Molly McKnight
Paul Ries

Staff Participants:

Annie von Domitz
Maddie MacGregor

Jenn Smith

Guests:

Jim Renner

Kristin Armstad

Al Tocchini, Chair, convened the meeting at 1:02 pm

1. **Self-introductions were made.**
2. **Approval of January 24, 2014 Minutes:** Roger made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Craig^{2nd}; motion passed unanimously.
3. **Heritage Tree Nominations:**
 - a. **Thomas Jefferson Howell Brewer Spruce:** Roger reviewed the nomination and explained the best place for the plaque to be placed. Al said he thought the story of TJ Howell and the Brewer spruce is an important part of the history in the area. Annie asked what the plaque might say. The Committee agreed it should focus on the last tree species discovery in the US and the TJ Howell botanist story. George made a motion to accept the tree into the program. Ed^{2nd}; motion passed unanimously.
4. **Committee Elections:**
 - a. **Chair:** As Vice-Chair, Roger accepted the promotion to Chair. George made a motion to accept Roger as Chair; Arne^{2nd}. Motion passed unanimously.
 - b. **Vice Chair:** The Committee agreed Nancy Appling would be a great vice chair. Annie said she would ask her and let the Committee know her decision.
5. **Old Business:**
 - a. **Barlow Road Tollgate Maple wood/ Peter McDonald Memorial Bench:** Doug announced the Peter McDonald memorial bench is complete. The bench was made from the wood of the Barlow Maple. Doug suggested the Committee offer the bench to Peter's family and let them decide if they wanted to keep it or donate it to a park or another place important to them. He also submitted that it might be appropriate for some type of plaque to be placed on the bench for identification. Annie said OTE would be able to purchase the plaque using Heritage Tree fund

money. Arne volunteered to talk to the McDonald family about where they would like the bench and what they might like on the plaque.

Doug said the rest of the wood is available. Some of the wood will be used to make awards. Craig asked if a bench could be made to go under the Maynard Drawson tree; the Committee thought that was a great idea. It was also suggested some of the wood might be able to be used for Heritage markers. Annie and Charlotte will continue research on wood workers who could turn the wood into items to sell in the Capitol gift store and the Tillamook Forestry Center to raise money for the program.

- b. **Maynard Drawson Award:** Al presented a first draft of the award criteria and application. He asked the Committee to look it over and send any corrections or changes to Annie by the end of next week. Additionally, Maddie will be reviewing and “word-smithing” the document. There will be a sub-committee to review the nominations and the winner will be announced at the January committee meeting and the presentation of the award will take place at the state-wide dedication in April. It was agreed that sitting Committee members should not be nominated or granted the award.

6. Updates & Reports/New Business:

- a. **OTE/Council Report:** Ed announced that the Council adopted a Strategic Plan. Annie told the Committee they are now called a Select Committee, rather than an Advisory Committee.
- b. **Forestry/Tourism project:** Annie reported that Paul is working with an intern to use the Heritage Trees as part of this project and is modeling it after geo-caching. They haven’t gotten far, but are working on it. They hope to have the end of the tour be at the Tillamook Forestry Center and perhaps have participants earn a coin.
- c. **Reports from Members:**
 - i. Arne presented Jim Renner with a sculpture of Sam Barlow carved from the Barlow Road Tollgate maple in honor of Jim’s retirement.
 - ii. Roger told the group of the Camp Oregon Caves tree which died recently. After much discussion Arne made a motion to have Roger go back to the Forest Service and request that they keep as much as the tree and less invasive as possible to serve as a visual marker for where the camp buildings were once located. George 2nd; motion passed unanimously.
 - iii. Doug let the Committee know Brian French of the Big Tree program in Oregon is interested in finding a way to link the two programs together. Doug suggested inviting Brian to a future meeting to discuss partnership possibilities.

7. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be October 17th in Lincoln City and January 13, 2015 in Salem.

8. Adjourn: Al adjourned the meeting at 3:02 pm.