

Oregon Heritage Tree Committee
Meeting Minutes
Friday, October 19, 2018
1:00 pm
GeerCrest Farm
12390 Sunnyview Rd NE, Salem, OR 97317

Committee Participants:

Jennifer Karps-Chair	Arne Nyberg	Charlotte Lehan
Kristin Ramstad, Vice- Chair	Molly McKnight	Nancy Appling-Salucci,
Ed Washington	Al Tocchini	Samantha Wolf
Craig Leech		

Guest:

David Hedburg

Staff Participants:

Annie von Domitz, Jessica Carbone

Convening: Chair Karps called the meeting to order at 12:53 p.m. Self-introductions were made to note attendance for the meeting.

Approval of the Minutes: Carbone proposed corrections to the footer on page two and three from “Heritage Tree Committee Minutes 1/19/2018” to “Heritage Tree Committee Minutes 7/13/2018 (Submitted 10-19-2018).” Nyberg moved to accept the minutes with the proposed corrections. Tocchini seconded the motion. Appling, McKnight and Ramstad abstained. The motion carried.

Heritage Tree Nominations:

Suttle Lake Apple Tree: Von Domitz said ODOT has asked the committee to not bring additional attention to this tree. It is too great of a hazard for any potential visitors to stop and access. They would also never approve any signage for the same reason. *Nyberg made a motion to exclude the Suttle Lake Apple Tree from the Heritage Tree Program based on this information. Ramstad seconded the motion. The motion was carried.*

McMinnville Sequoia: Von Domitz said that Michael, the gentleman working with Nate Pedersen to find additional information about the Carnegie Library, has not had the time to do additional research. The nomination will remain tabled.

Committee Member Nomination:

David Hedberg: Karps presented a new committee member nomination for David Hedberg. Hedberg introduced himself. He has a graduate and undergraduate degree in History, with a focus on environmental horticulture. He is a member of the Portland Heritage Tree committee and is currently working on a film series with Northwest Documentary about 10 trees in the metro area.

Appling moved to accept David Hedberg as a member of the Heritage Tree Committee. Tocchini seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Heritage Tree Nominations cont.:

Cy Bingham Tree at Odell Lake: Von Domitz said the Forest Service has informed us that the tree's health is in decline. They were also concerned about the limited access to the tree. The committee recommended reaching out to Emily Pritchard at the Forest Service for a more information about the conks that have formed on the tree indicating its decline. The nomination will remain tabled.

Black Walnut, Beaverton: Ramstad said she had a chance visit the newly nominated tree. It was a little hard to find. The tree is located down a semi-hidden driveway off a busy road. There is a gate blocking access to the driveway. The tree cannot be seen from the road. There is a concern about public access to see the tree. The history of the tree is tied to the 1863 family settlement in Washington County and the community of "Jacktown". The tree is also an example of English and Black walnut grafting. After the committee discussed the historical state significance, species significance and limited public access, the committee put the nomination to vote. *Tocchini made a motion to accept the Beaverton Black Walnut into the Heritage Tree Program. 0 aye; 10 no; 0 abstained. The motion did not carry.*

Ramstad will contact the owner with the results of the nomination and recommend reaching out to a local tree program.

Old Business:

English Walnut Industry: Nyberg said that he has done some research to find a age appropriate English walnut orchard. Lehan has also found a remnant orchard of about 8-10 trees that were planted in the 1920s. The orchard is in a city park next to an antique nut dryer. The site would be a good place to tell the story of the rise and fall of the English walnut industry in Oregon. Lehan will do further research and bring it back to the committee.

Cable Tree: Lehan showed a picture of an existing cable tree that has a scar from being used to anchor log rafts along the Willamette. The tree in question does not have a cable remnant, but there is a tree stump near the tree with a piece of cable embedded in the bark. She will continue to research the history of the log rafts.

Maynard Dawson Award: Von Domitz stressed the need for nominations for this year's award. She encouraged the committee to send out the application to their networks.

Witness Tree: Leech asked if von Domitz had been in contact with the new owners of the Witness Tree. Von Domitz said she looked up the vineyard on line and tried to contact them by phone, but has not heard anything.

Appling asked if there was a plan for keeping track of the status of trees that are not readily visited. She asked for list of trees that need to be visited. Von Domitz said that it has been five or six years since the tree list has been divided up and visited. A few committee members divided up the trees listed on the map. Von Domitz asked committee members to let her know if they reach out to any owners or visit any trees before the next meeting. She will bring a complete list of trees that have not already been visited this year to the January meeting.

2021 will be the 25th anniversary of the program. The committee was asked to consider possible ways to celebrate.

Updates & Reports/New Business:

- a) **OTE/ Council Report:** Washington said things are running very smoothly on the Council. The quarterly meeting was held in Klamath Falls last month in order to visit Beaver Marsh and Midland Rest Areas, two of the agency's new locations. The agency and its Council continue to work managing and developing a capital improvement plan for rest areas.
- b) **Reports from Members:**
 - Nyberg reported that the Nyberg Chestnut is dead. He said there a lot of suckers growing off the base of the tree that are now about 10 feet tall. There is no official word on the fate of the tree. He hopes ODOT will leave it standing. Leech suggested to request some of the wood, if ODOT does take it down.

- Ramstad said the GOTS trees in her care are doing well. The Texas Pecan, which was believed to have died, has recovered and is doing so well that it may be able to be planted next spring. Von Domitz said that the Grove is still missing a Western Hemlock, a Palm Tree and two White Pines.

Upcoming Meetings:

- January 11 – Salem
- April 5 – TBA
- July - TBA
- October - TBA

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.