

# Oregon Heritage Tree Committee

## Meeting Minutes

Friday, Nov. 1, 2019

1:00 pm

Stein-Boozier Barn, Murase Plaza

7914 SW Memorial Drive, Wilsonville, OR 97070

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### Committee Participants:

David Hedberg, Jennifer Karps, Craig Leech, Charlotte Lehan, Molly McKnight, Arne Nyberg, Al Tocchini, Ed Washington, Vice- Chair Samantha Wolf

Excused: Nancy Appling-Salucci, Kristin Ramstad, Chair

### Staff Participants:

Annie von Domitz, Jessica Carbone

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**Convening:** Vice Chair Wolf called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. Self-introductions were made to note attendance for the meeting.

**Approval of the Minutes:** Tocchini moved to accept the July 26, 2019 minutes as submitted. McKnight seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### Heritage Tree Nominations:

**Cy Bingham Tree at Odell Lake:** Leech reported that he had had many conversations with the District Ranger on the tree's health and its listing as a hazard tree. But due to the wording and scale of the initial hazard report the ranger felt the only option was to top the tree due to Federal Standards.

*Leech made a motion to deny the nomination of the Cy Bingham Tree because the tree is no longer a living tree due to the topping of the tree. McKnight seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

**Stein-Boozier Orchard:** Lehan presented a new nomination for the Stein-Boozier Orchard. It is a remnant grove of 11 English Walnut Trees on the Stien-Boozier farm. English, or Persian, walnuts, known for their superior nuts, were commonly grafted onto black walnut stock. The black walnut was hardier and better suited for Oregon climate. The trees in the Stein-Boozier Orchard do not appear to have been grafted. During the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century English Walnuts were heavily promoted in Oregon as the perfect crop to invest in. Farmers were told that if they invested the decade or more of time necessary for production, they would be ensured bountiful returns for generations to come. Despite promotion and many thousands of acres planted, the walnut industry struggled. They could not beat their California competitors to market. After an early freeze in September 1955 and a toppling of at least 50% of the walnut trees in the Willamette Valley by the Columbus Day storm in 1962 the walnut industry was almost wiped out in Oregon, to be replaced by the filbert. Charlotte pointed out that the original nut drying building still stands next to the grove, not far from the barn. The committee then discussed the nomination and the health of the trees.

*Karps made a motion to approve the nomination of the Stein-Boozier Orchard into the 2020 class of Heritage trees. Nyberg seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

**Lincoln City Sitka:** Von Domitz presented a re-submitted nomination of the Lincoln City Sitka by the City of Lincoln City. The main change, since the first nomination in 1999, is the dedication and renaming of the tree to Nuuk'wii-daa-naa--ye'. The committee discussed the nomination.

*Nyberg made a motion to table the nomination for up to a year until the nominator can provide official recognition or support of the nomination or the tree renaming from the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. Hedburg seconded the motion. The motion carried. Karps abstained.*

#### **Old Business:**

**Owner Outreach/ Tree Health Check:** Von Domitz hasn't received any new information. She volunteered to resend out the list of trees. Wolf has a contact in Eastern Oregon she can reach out to check the trees in the area. Carbone informed the committee that ODOT had reached out to the program about the Nyberg chestnut. The tree will be removed in February and the wood will be given to our program.

#### **Updates & Reports/ New Business:**

**TIC/Council Report:** Von Domitz, reporting for Ed Washington, said that the Oak Grove project is complete and the new restroom buildings are open on both sides of the rest area. There are three new Council members Eliza Canty-Jones, Valerie Warren and Oregon Transportation Commission appointee Julie Brown. Von Domitz informed the committee on the work being done to update the Oregon Trail Kiosks in TIC's rest areas.

**Diversity and Inclusion Training:** Carbone reminded the committee that the diversity/ respectful workplace training is due Dec. 20. She will resend the email with a link to a google drive that contains a video of the training.

#### **Reports from Members:**

Hedburg is working on a nomination for the Giant Sequoia on the WOU campus.

Von Domitz said that the Sable palm has been delivered to the Grove of the States, but unfortunately the Western hemlock died and needs to be replaced. So the last two trees needed for the Grove are the Western hemlock and a Minnesota red pine.

Von Domitz said that Eugene City parks will be installing Owen Cherry Tree sign.

McKnight is still researching possible trees that could connect to the Pendleton Roundup.

Wolf said that Oregon Community Trees (OCT) held their most recent meeting in September at Baker City. In that meeting three new people joined. OCT is still looking for representation from the Coast. They are working toward making Arbor Week official in Oregon. OCT's next conference is June 4, 2020. She welcomed any possible presenters who would like to talk about "Trees and Water". Von Domitz requested that an announcement for nominations for the Maynard Dawson Award be put into the OCT newsletter. Dawson nominations are due the third Friday in January.

#### **Upcoming Meetings:**

- January 24, 2020 at 1:00pm TIC offices.
- April 10, 2020 Wilsonville, OR
- July 17, 2020
- October 16, 2020

**Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

