

Oregon Heritage Tree Committee
Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 1, 2020
1:00 pm
Zoom Meeting

Committee Participants:

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

Excused: Molly McKnight

Staff Participants:

Annie von Domitz, Jessica Carbone, Jim Denno

Convening: Chair Ramstad called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. Von Domitz called out roll and participants responded to note attendance for the meeting.

Approval of the Minutes: Tocchini moved to accept the January 24, 2020 minutes as submitted. Leech seconded the motion. The motion carried. Karps abstained.

New Committee Member Nomination: Von Domitz read Nate Pedersen's application aloud to the committee. The committee discussed his application and his past work on the committee.

Appling made the motion to accept Nate Pedersen's application to become a member of the Heritage Tree Committee. Tocchini seconded. The motion carried.

Maynard Drawson Award: Von Domitz gave a brief history of the award and why it was created. She asked the committee what they thought the goals of the award should be. The committee discussed the award criteria and what type of person they are hoping to be nominated to receive the award. The committee discussed creating a second award to honor local activists and keeping the Maynard Drawson award as a lifetime achievement award.

A subcommittee was created to further discuss the possible creation of the second award and its criteria. They would also discuss clarifying the nomination details of the Maynard Drawson award. The subcommittee included Tocchini, Ramstad, and Wolf.

Communications During Pandemic:

Von Domitz said that staff has been trying to tackle communicating with the public during this time when in-person outreach isn't an option. The agency has a Facebook page, that can be used as a tool. She asked the committee for any ideas. Ramstad shared ideas that ODF is doing on Instagram. Some of the other ideas could be posting audio files, footage of past presentations, reaching out to property owners for a quick 30-second video of the tree for a virtual visit, and possible trivia questions.

Old Business:

Eddyville Sequoia: Tocchini and Washington visited the Eddyville Sequoia. There is a local interpretive sign within 300ft of the tree. The road the tree is on is not very busy. The tree's nominator will be out of town until sometime in June. There is still a concern about the tree's close proximity to the road and Tocchini recommends asking the nominator to contact Lincoln County for feedback on long-term safety and for their support of the nomination.

Grove of the States: Von Domitz said that two pine trees Ramstad had been caring for in her back yard have been planted. The newly planted palm trees are doing well. The hemlock tree has died and needs to be replaced. There is an ongoing search for a red pine and there is some concern by staff that the Kansans Cottonwood may need to be replaced due to age.

Updates & Reports/ New Business:

TIC/Council Report: Washington said the Agency is in good shape financially. The Council will meet next for its Quarterly Council Meeting on June 15, 2020.

Reports from Members:

Nyberg reported that ODOT removed the Nyberg Chestnut. The wood has been planed and is being stored in his brother's barn in Tualatin for future use by the program. The committee thanked Nyberg for donating his time and financial resources to support the efforts to salvage the wood.

Wolf said Oregon Community Trees' (OCT) June 4, 2020 conference as canceled due to the COVID -19 pandemic. All speakers and presentations have been deferred until the first Thursday of June 2021.

Appling reported that the Lonesome Hickory is still standing and in good health.

Leech reported that State Parks is facing a \$15 million shortfall. Massive cuts are being made through the whole agency. There are a lot of unknowns facing OPR at least for the next year, if not beyond.

Lehan inquired about the plan for the Stein-Boozier Walnut Orchard dedication. Von Domitz said that Wilsonville Parks Department had received the plaque but doesn't know if it had been installed. Her contact with the city informed her that all events have been canceled through the summer. Lehan said that if it is a possibility to schedule the event for a later date, Fall is a great time to see the Walnut trees.

Von Domitz said that the next meeting we will have Chair and Vice-Chair elections. Wolf is up for election for Chair, but von Domitz is accepting nominations for Vice-Chair.

Ramstad said ODF is facing budget cuts, but her program is federally funded. She continues to work on the community tree inventory project.

Upcoming Meetings: (All meetings are subject to change, due to COVID-19 restrictions.)

- July 17, 2020 – Wilsonville, OR
- October 16, 2020 – TBD'
- January 15, 2021- TBD

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m.