



Travel Information Council
1500 Liberty St. SE, Suite 150
Salem, OR 97302

MINUTES
Oregon Heritage Tree Committee
Wednesday, July 8, 2022
Hybrid Meeting

Committee Participants: Chair Kristin Ramstad; Vice-Chair Samantha Wolf; Nancy Appling-Salucci; David Hedberg; Jennifer Karps; Charlotte Lehan; Molly McKnight; Craig Leech; Ed Washington; Scott Brown

Excused: Al Tocchini; Arne Nyberg

Guest: Steve Altenhoff

TIC Staff Participating: Elizabeth Boxall; Beth Dehn, Jessica Carbone, Jill Severson

Call to Order/ Introductions: Ramstad called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Self-introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes: Leech noted a typo on page 2 of the January minutes. Karps noted that she also helped with the plaque language at PSU. *Hedberg made a motion to approve the January 14, 2022 and March 2, 2022 minutes with edits. Leech seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

Elections and Committee Terms: Committee discussed willingness to serve in leadership roles. *Lehan nominated Leech as chair. Seconded by McKnight. The motioned carried. Karps nominated Hedberg as vice-chair. Appling seconded the motion. The motion carried. Appling-Salucci motioned for Lehan and McKnight to renew three-year terms. Leech and Karps seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

Heritage Tree Nominations:

- a. **Enterprise American Elm:** This nomination was originally reviewed by the committee in January 2021. Dehn summarized the supplemental historical information and leaf samples provided by the nominators. The committee discussed which criteria the tree met and whether it is a species that should be represented in the program. The group agreed the tree represented the history of the Jordan family and a historical pattern of how small, rural communities developed. After examining leaves and images of the tree, the committee remained concerned the tree is an invasive species rather than an American Elm. *Karps motioned to table the discussion until the tree gets evaluated by a certified arborist for species and safety conditions. Seconded by Lehan. The motion carried.*

- b. **Cottage Grove Incense Cedar:** Dehn presented the Cottage Grove Incense Cedar nomination. The tree is located by McFarland Cemetery, on what was once a Native American village. Remaining members of the local Calapooya Tribe and McFarland family members are

buried there. After discussing the history, the committee agreed the core story is one of forced removal of native peoples. The committee strongly felt this story can't be told without consultation with the Tribes, particularly because the story is related to Native American graves. *Hedberg motioned to decline this nomination due to its complicated tribal history. The committee will review the nomination again with the appropriate tribal consultation. Karpis seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried.*

- c. **Stone House White Oaks:** Dehn presented the Stone House White Oaks nomination. Built by Glen and Carry Stone, the house changed ownership and verbal agreements were made the tree would not be moved. The tree has been well cared for. The committee discussed the central, historical theme of the nomination and would like to know more about the female architect who designed the house and her life in Cottage Grove. Leech motioned to table the *nomination and go back to the nominators for more information about Carry Stone, her contribution to the home and the community, and/or the historic status of the house. Appling-Salucci seconded. All in favor. The motion passed.*

ODOT Culturally Modified Tree Video: Hedberg reported that he participated in filming for a project ODOT and FEMA are doing in response to the 2020 wildfires. Culturally modified trees were cut down in the wildfire clean-up and in order to mitigate for the adverse effect to those archeological resources, they are producing an educational video to help the public and workers better understand how to identify and protect them. Hedberg reported that he met the videographers at the Willamette Cable Trees and talked about the Heritage Tree Program and specifically about the Aspen Arborglyphs, Williamson-Abbott Expedition trees, and the Waldo Tree.

Grove of the States Maintenance Committee Formation: Dehn reported that she met with the manager at the French Prairie Rest Area on how to divide up the remaining work on the Grove. It became clear a long-term maintenance plan is needed. Dehn asked for volunteers to serve on an ad-hoc committee. Leech offered to take the lead. Ramstad, Lehan, and Tocchini also volunteered.

Heritage Tree Website & Presentation Refresh: Dehn reported that Carbone refreshed the Heritage Tree Presentation and did a great job adding new stories and images. Appling-Salucci noted that she used the presentation successfully and thanked Carbone and Hedberg for their work. The presentation is available for anyone to use. Dehn then reported that there was a recent request to update the Heritage Tree Website. The agency is currently looking at options for moving to the state platform and at that time we would know better options for a tree website refresh.

Updates & Reports/New Business

- a. **TIC/Council Report:** Washington reported that the Council is appreciative of the work of the committee and Boxall's first six months. He recently attended the Beaver Hill Mine historical marker dedication in Coquille and remarked how important it was to him to stand in a place where people of color had an important impact on the state. Washington thanked Ramstad for the great work on the spring tree dedication.
- b. **Reports from Members:**
- **Lehan:** Reported that she is near the end of her political career. Also noted a lack of pre-Euro history in another project she has been working on.
 - **McKnight:** Nothing to report.
 - **Wolf:** Reported that she will be doing field work soon. Worked with Gardiner Middle School to get a Moon Tree, but the opportunity fell through. Had the chance to plant the

Oregon City Peace Tree. The 2022 Heritage Tree Hero Award was presented to Dara Kramer at an Oregon City event in April.

- **Appling-Salucci:** Reported that she was able to present the Maynard Drawson Award to Frank Callahan in April. She is starting her 37th year as a fire administrator. Thanked Ramstad for her work as Chair.
- **Washington:** Thanked Ramstad for her work as chair.
- **Karps:** Discussed a PDX collaboration called Connecting Canopies Coalition. Welcomed Altenhoff and thanked Ramstad for her work.
- **Leech:** Reported that OPRD worked with Bartlett Tree Experts on the Moon Tree as part of Capitol maintenance. OPRD also put together a plan for the cherry trees at the State Capitol. The highlight is added cherry trees and repaired walkways.
- **Hedberg:** Reported he is working on a video about the Copper Beech heritage tree.
- **Dehn:** Noted that there is an upcoming historic marker dedication on July 23.
- **Boxall:** Thanked committee for their work.
- **Ramstad:** Reported that Oregon Community Trees planted a Peace Tree at the World Forestry Center. Was able to present Jim Gersbach with his 2020 Heritage Tree Hero award.

2022 Meeting/Events Schedule

October 14, 2022 and January 13, 2023

Adjourn at 3:21 p.m.