



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

MINUTES  
Oregon Heritage Tree Committee  
Friday, March 1, 2024  
Virtual Meeting

**Committee Participants:** Chair Craig Leech, Vice-Chair David Hedberg; Nancy Appling-Salucci; Kristin Ramstad; Al Tocchini; Samantha Wolf

**Excused:** Jennifer Karpis; Charlotte Lehan; Molly McKnight; Arne Nyberg; Brittany Oxford; Richard Riggs; Ed Washington

**TIC Staff Participating:** Beth Dehn, Jessica Carbone

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**Public Comment:** None

**Call to Order/ Introductions:** Leech called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. Self-introductions were made.

**Heritage Tree Award Review:**

**a. Dawson Nominations**

- **Phyllis Reynolds:** Hedberg presented Portland Heritage Tree Committee’s nomination of Phyllis Reynolds for the Maynard Dawson award. Hedberg said Reynolds was a founding member of the Portland Heritage Tree committee in 1993 and chaired the committee from 1999 to 2006. She is a published author, including two editions of Trees of Greater Portland, which focus on historical trees that extend into other communities beyond Portland. The inclusion of trees outside her community speaks to her commitment to her work’s statewide relevance. She has led a sustained commitment to educating the public about the value of heritage trees for more than three decades and been a close friend of the Hoyt Arboretum for the past 50 years. Well into her nineties, she continues her work with Hoyt Arboretum as an educator and storyteller helping inspire visitors both old and young about the value of connecting stories to heritage and historical trees. In 2018, she published Hoyt Arboretum, Its Story, a fun and accessible history of our favorite park. As Hoyt Arboretum approaches its one-hundred-year anniversary, Phyllis has planted a living legacy that will help Hoyt Arboretum continue to thrive into the next century. Wolf and Tocchini both expressed their support that Reynolds met all of the criteria for exceptional efforts, sustained commitment and work over an extended period of time.

*Tocchini made a motion to approve the nomination of Phyllis Reynolds for the Maynard Dawson award. Ramstad seconded. 6-0 Vote*

**b. Hero Award Nominations**

- **Giana Bernardini:** Leech shared the nomination of Giana Bernardini for the Heritage Tree Hero Award. Leech said Bernardini was credited by a one City Council member as being a “driving force” in the implementation of the City of Philomath Heritage Tree Program. Council voted to

request the Philomath Tree Board work with Bernardini to create a Heritage Tree Program. Bernardini spent well over a year gathering information from other surrounding cities to get ideas for putting a successful program together. She showed up at several Tree Board meetings with a drive to move forward.

*Ramstad made a motion to approve the nomination of Gina Bernardini for a Heritage Tree Hero Award. Hedberg seconded. 6-0 Vote*

- **Nancy Broshot:** Dehn shared the nomination of Nancy Broshot for a Heritage Tree Hero Award . Dehn said Broshot is on the Oregon City Natural Resource Committee and has done an extensive amount of work utilizing her educational background to help the city understand urban forestry plantings, ivy clean up, and to be a resource to the Oregon City Heritage Tree program with needed information. Notably, Broshot helped create the final administrative rule and policies that made the Oregon City Heritage Tree Program more accessible for community members to participate. Wolf informed the committee of her experience working with Broshot .

*Wolf made a motion to approve the nomination of Nancy Broshot for a Heritage Tree Hero Award. Ramstad seconded. 6-0 Vote.*

- **Mike Oxendine:** Leech asked Dehn if this was a second nomination for Mike Oxendine. Dehn replied yes, that first nomination was declined in 2023 due to lack of connection to heritage trees. The nomination was resubmitted with additional information provided. The committee discussed the additional information provided. It was discussed that Oxendine, while he may not have led these projects, has been an instrumental part of teams for many important projects that involve heritage trees or trees in general. Appling added that Oxendine revived the program of documenting and labeling the trees on the campus of OSU. Appling said it is a way to walk through the campus and see it as an arboretum. Leech said that that effort sounded like a great educational opportunity. Ramstad commented that it was almost like Oxendine was making more heritage trees for the future.

*Appling made a motion to approve the nomination of Mike Oxendine for a Heritage Tree Hero Award. Tocchini seconded. 6-0 Vote.*

Dehn asked the committee if they felt it was appropriate to combine the nominator from the 2023 nomination and the 2024 nomination as a collective nomination. The committee agreed.

Dehn informed the committee that the next steps will include notifying the nominators of the results, asking them how they would like the nominee to be notified, engraving the plaques, and then possibly planning a presentation. Dehn asked the committee members to be involved in the presentations if able.

### **Upcoming Meeting/Events Schedule**

- April 26 Dedication- Moyer House
- July 12, 2024
- October 11, 2024

**Adjourn at 9:53 a.m.**