

Oregon Heritage Tree Committee
Meeting Minutes
OTE Office, Salem, OR
Friday, January 23, 2015
1:30 pm

Committee Participants:

Nancy Appling
Jennifer Karps
Arne Nyberg
Ed Washington
Tim Nitz

Doug Grafe
Charlotte Lehan
Al Tocchini
Molly McKnight
Paul Ries

Absent:

Roger Brandt
George Forbes

Craig Leech

Staff Participants:

Annie von Domitz
Maddie MacGregor
Heather Wyland

Jenn Smith
Troy Costales

Guests:

Brian French, Ascending the Giants

Nancy Appling, Acting Chair, convened the meeting at 1:30pm

1. **Self-introductions were made.**
2. **Approval of October 17, 2014 Minutes:** Ed made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Al seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.
3. **Ascending the Giants:** In light of the Committee wanting to partner with other similar groups, Doug invited Brian French to give information on the Ascending the Giants program. Brian gave a brief description of what the program does and he was excited to have the two programs work together.
4. **Heritage Tree Nominations:**
 - a. **Geisel Sitka Spruce:** Tim moved to have the nomination brought forward; Charlotte 2nd; agreed. The Committee reviewed the application and agreed that it would be more appropriate for the Tribe to decide if it becomes part of the program. The Committee agreed there is no evidence in the nomination of historical connection between the tree and the pioneer grave nearby. Paul suggested to not accept the tree; all agreed.
5. **Annual Statewide Heritage Tree Dedication:** It was agreed the dedication would take place at the Myrtle wood site in Powers on April 24th. (*Note: Since the meeting the Committee decided it would be better to hold the dedication at the Maynard Drawson tree in Salem.*)
6. **Maynard Drawson Award:** Annie announced that there are 2 nominations so far. The nominating committee consists of Nancy, Al and Tim. Paul asked if it was appropriate to ask someone from his family if they wanted to participate. Tim suggested that instead, perhaps Jim Renner would be a good fit. All agreed.
7. **Old Business:**

- a. **Barlow Road Tollgate Maple Wood:** Wyland presented the rules to the Committee regarding the appropriate use for the wood. After much discussion, the Committee agreed the wood would only be used for Committee-sponsored, donated items and members may not purchase it and it may not be used for any personal use.

Tim made a motion that some of the wood be used to make a gavel for the Ascending the Giants group. Arne 2nd; motion passed unanimously. Arne volunteered to make the gavel.

- b. **Peter McDonald Memorial Bench:** Arne said he spoke with Jill McDonald and the family would like the bench at the house. Arne volunteered to take it and deliver it to her.
- c. **Heritage Tree Survey:** Annie proposed that staff send the survey out again and then have Committee members follow up. The Committee decided they would call the contacts for the trees by the July meeting and then the survey would be sent out. Committee members will confirm contact information, inquire about the health of the trees, and request a current photo.

8. Updates & Reports/New Business:

- a. **OTE/Council Report:** Charlotte reported that the Council has an increasing interest in the Heritage Committees and are going to work to integrate them more with the Council's objectives. Ed announced OTE's new Executive Director, Nancy DeSouza. Nancy will begin work in February.
- b. **Cherry Blossom Day, Capitol Building:** Paul announced that the event is Saturday, March 28th from 10 am – 2 pm. It is a partnership with ODF and they are looking for volunteers. The Oregon Heritage Tree Program will have a table at the event.
- c. **Reports from Committee Members:** Molly announced that the Home Orchard Society is interested in honoring a fruit tree from the pioneer Luelling nursery. They are working to find potential candidates with Molly.

Maddie asked the committee members to write articles for the 2015 *Deep Roots* publication. If they are interested, she asked that they get them to her by March 1st.

9. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be July 17, 2015 in Astoria.

10. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.