

**Oregon Heritage Tree Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Oregon Travel Experience Office, Salem, Oregon**  
**Friday, February 17, 2017**  
**1:00 pm**

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**Committee Participants:**

Arne Nyberg, Chair  
Jennifer Karps  
Craig Leech  
Molly McKnight

Tim Nitz  
Nancy Appling  
Nate Pedersen  
Al Tocchini

Ed Washington  
Kristin Ramstad  
Charlotte Lehan

**Absent:**

Roger Brandt

Doug Grafe

**Staff Participants:**

Annie von Domitz

Jessica Carbone

Nancy DeSouza

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**Convening:**

Chair Nyberg called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Self-introductions were made to note attendance for the meeting.

**Approval of the Minutes:**

Nitz made a motion to approve the October 14, 2016 minutes with no amendments. Leech seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Heritage Tree Nominations:**

- A. **The Huntington Wagon Road Trail of Trees:** Pedersen presented the formally nominated Target Tree nomination. It has been amended to include four more blazed trees along the same path. He has also included an updated letter of support from the BLM.

*Washington joined the meeting at 1:15 p.m.*

Pedersen asked how the trail would be marked. Von Domitz said that one plaque would be provided, but could be replicated to mark each tree. Pedersen commented that the BLM and DCHS had previously discussed updated the signage already present. The parking lot at the beginning of the trail would probably be the best place to put the marker.

*Appling seconded the nomination. The nomination of the Huntington Wagon Road Trail of Trees was passed unanimously.*

Pedersen and Nitz volunteered to help with the text for the plaque. Nyberg said he felt an important item for the plaque was to call out the trails beginning as an Indian trail.

- B. **Cy Bingham Tree:** Pedersen apologized for his nomination because it is a dead tree. He had already completed the nomination when he learned the committee's view on living trees. The Log Pole Pine tree is at a prominent camp site with easy access. Cy Bingham was the first national forest ranger assigned to the Cascades. He blazed trees at his favorite campsites with his initials. The tree currently has informational signage by the Deschutes National Forest. He also mentioned a few other Cy Bingham blazed trees that were still living that might be a better nomination. Appling agreed that there may be a better tree, in an accessible area and living that

could tell the story, for example at Waldo Lake. Leach recommend including the tree in the Gone, but Not Forgotten section of the newsletter. This nomination was not passed, but the topic of a possible Cy Bingham tree was tabled for future investigation.

- C. Grove of the States:** Von Domitz updated the committee that since the last meeting, that with the huge help of Friends of Trees, 21 new trees had been planted in the Grove. There has been amazing support for the Grove. So far the Grove has received sponsorships for a number of trees, donations of in kind labor for arbor care and a class from OSU will be doing all the irrigation work as part of a class practicum. ODOT has given its approval for the nomination.

*Von Domitz submitted the nomination on behalf of Paul Ries. Nitz seconded the nomination. The nomination was passed unanimously.*

- D. SOU Silver Maple:** This tree was nominated by Max Oxendine of the SOU Landscape Department and presented by Appling. The Silver Maple is in an easily assessable location on campus. SOU is a National Tree Campus USA and Bee Campus USA. It is an important symbol to SOU's commitment to tree preservation, education and the tree's own resilience. After review of the nomination, a lack of historical significance was found. Tocchini thinks it is a beautiful tree, a great representation for preservation and recommends the tree be nominated to Oregon Community Trees.

*Nitz seconded the nomination. In Favor- Four, Against –Seven. The nomination was not passed.*

#### **Statewide Heritage Tree Dedication:**

The committee discussed holding the dedication in Bend at Drake Park.

*The committee took a short break at 2:33 p.m. The committee returned at 2:40 p.m.*

The Maynard Drawson's award presentation would be held at 1 p.m., April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at Maynard's Tree at Oregon Department of Forestry. The date of the Statewide Dedication in Bend has been tabled for further research into available accommodations. Von Domitz will send out a doddle poll.

#### **Maynard Drawson Award Nomination Review:**

The advisory committee brought forth two nominations for the Maynard Drawson Award for 2017, the Tree Inventory Project Volunteer Group and Paul Ries. After reviewing both nominations the committee recommended Paul Ries to be the recipient for the award.

*Nitz moved to accept the nomination of Paul Ries by the advisory committee. Leech seconded the nomination. The motion was unanimously approved.*

**Old Business:** There was no old business.

#### **New Business:**

**OTE Council Report:** Washington reported the Council is busy with the possibility of the transportation package in the Legislature. He also thanked von Domitz for all the work she has done for a successful Grove of the State project.

Leech asked if the committee could return to a couple of issues of old business. He asked if any work had been done toward creating a "Friends" group in order for the committee to accept and hand out funds. Ramstad gave the information to the Executive Committee for the OCT Board. But there has not been a meeting since. She hopes to have more information at the next meeting. Leech also inquired if there had been any more information about the Big Leaf Maple nominated by Cynthia Orlando. Von Domitz said no further information had been acquired.

**Reports from Committee Members:**

- Leech presented the concerns of parks staff concerning the Octopus Tree. They would like to remove the dead branches that hang over the fence line to prevent possible injury. They are seeking approval from SHIPO since the tree has been culturally modified. He wanted to inform the committee of this since it is a Heritage Tree. Von Domitz suggested that Salemtowne volunteers could repair the sign if needed. Work has also been completed on the Moon Tree. One of the nearby trees has been removed and some of the dead limbs trimmed away and it is already starting to look a lot better.
- Karps informed the committee that the Portland Arbor Day festival will be Saturday, April 22. It will be held on Portland's Eastside at Mount Scott Park.
- Ramstad presented von Domitz with a grant check from ODOF for interpretive signage at GOTS.
- McKnight plans to write a piece about the Abernathy Elm for the Gone, but not Forgotten Section.

**Next Meeting:**

- April 17<sup>th</sup> - Committee meeting and Maynard Drawson award presentation.
- July - The Statewide Dedication ceremony will be held in Bend. A date and time has been yet to be determined.
- October – OTE Offices in Salem, Or.

**Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 3:04 p.m.