

**Heritage Tree Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 2, 2003
Brookings, Oregon**

- Present:** Peter McDonald (Chair), Al Tocchini (Vice Chair), Nancy Appling, Maynard Drawson, Amy Gillette, Charlotte Lehan, Arne Nyberg, Lowell Tiller, Walt Schroeder
- Absent:** Excused: Doug Grafe, Susan Harless, Fred Nilsen, Paul Ries, Amy Jo Waldo.
Unexcused: Todd Davidson, Pat Moran.
- Staff:** Jim Renner
- Guest:** Norma Fitzgerald, Chetco Valley Historical Society and Museum

1. Introductions

Peter McDonald called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Peter introduced Norma Fitzgerald of the Chetco Valley Historical Society who nominated the Monterey Cypress. Committee members made self-introductions.

2. Approval of 1/10/03 meeting minutes

Arne moved that the minutes be accepted; Al seconded the motion. The motion was passed with no dissenting votes.

3. Committee Elections

Peter advised that terms were expiring for Fred Nilsen, Arne Nyberg, Al Tocchini, and Charlotte Lehan; all have agreed to serve another term. Walt moved that all four members be re-elected to three year terms; Lowell seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

Peter explained that after serving two one-year terms as Committee Chair that he has asked Al if he would stand for election to the Chairman's position; Al has agreed. In turn, Al had asked Arne if he would stand for election to the Vice-Chairman's position; Arne has agreed. Charlotte moved to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot to elect Al and Arne to be the committee's new officers; Nancy seconded the motion.

The motion passed.

4. Heritage Tree Nominations

A. Benedictine Sisters' Sequoia, Mt. Angel (Approved)

This nomination was submitted by the Benedictine Foundation of Oregon; the nomination was seconded by Maynard. Jim distributed additional photos of the tree and a history and description of the Benedictines. The committee discussed and scored the tree according to the four criteria used to evaluate nominations. Consideration of the tree's association to the monastery's listing on the National Register of Historic Places, the grounds of the monastery serving as an arboretum, the ease of accessibility, and the exposure of the tree to the large number of visitors to Mt. Angel were also discussed. The nomination passed on a vote of 8 to 1.

Jim was instructed to encourage the Benedictine Sisters to label the various trees in the arboretum in his letter of advisement that the tree will be designated an Oregon Heritage Tree in 2004.

5. Old Business/New Business

A. Charter amendment – term limits

Peter presented a proposal that would limit committee members to a maximum of three consecutive terms. Through was broad opinion that implementing such term limits on the committee was unnecessary at this time. The amendment died for lack of a second.

B. Charter amendment – unexcused absences

Peter presented the following proposal. *Attendance at committee meetings is expected unless a member is granted an excused absence by the committee chair. Two consecutive unexcused absences may result in a recommendation that the member be replaced.* Arne moved that the Charter be amended by incorporating this amendment; Amy seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

6. Updates and Reports

A. 2003 Dedication Events

Jim reported that approximately 75 people attended the statewide dedication event of the Star Trees and Moon Tree held on April 11th. Speakers at the event were Cheryl Gribskov, Director of Oregon Travel Information Council, Al Tocchini of the Heritage Tree Committee, Secretary of State Bill Bradbury, Dr. Lee Pelton, President of Willamette University, Joann Verger, Oregon State Representative, and Sheena Davis and Becky Soules, students from Coos Bay.

Paul Ries represented the Committee at the dedication of Victory Way in La Grande on April 10th. The event went very well with over 240 school kids and another 50 adults in attendance.

Carolyn Gilbert of the Travel Information Council represented the Committee at the dedication of the Indian Village Grove in the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest on July 24th. Twenty five people attended the event which included representatives from the Nez Perce Tribe, Bureau of Indian Affairs, The Nature Conservancy, and the Forest Service. Amy volunteered to see if it would be possible to add information about the Indian Village Grove for visitors at Wallowa Lake State Park.

Norma Fitzgerald thanked the Committee for coming to Brookings to attend the afternoon dedication of the Monterey Cypress. All of the arrangements are in place. Speakers will be Vern Garvin of the Chetco Valley Museum, Peter McDonald of the Heritage Tree Committee, and Walt Schroeder of the Curry County Historical Society.

B. Frank Lockyear Memorial Grove

Amy has been working with Molly McKnight on the plaque and distributed the first draft of text. The Committee suggested that the message of the plaque emphasize Lockyear's vision of re-forestation versus the number of trees he is credited for planting, and to add that the replanting at the grove was because of fires.

C. Financial Report

Jim reported that the Heritage Tree Fund is currently valued at \$26,728. Donations totaling \$400 were given by four individuals who received the Spring newsletter. Making donations were Bill Anderson of Myrtle Creek, Judson Parsons of Medford, Diana Gardener of Salem, and Paul and Lucia Norris of Keizer.

7. Next Meeting

The October meeting will be hosted by Amy Gillette at **Champoeg State Park**. Amy will need an accurate count of attendance to order lunches. The meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 17, 2003 at 1:00 pm with lunch served at noon.