

**Heritage Tree Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2003
Champoeg Park, Oregon**

Present: Al Tocchini (Chair), Arne Nyberg (Vice Chair), Peter McDonald, Nancy Appling, Maynard Drawson, Amy Gillette, Charlotte Lehan, Lowell Tiller, Walt Schroeder, Amy Jo Waldo, Paul Ries, Doug Grafe, Fred Nilsen

Absent: Excused: Susan Harless, Pat Moran
Unexcused: Todd Davidson

Staff: Jim Renner, Angie Picha

1. Introductions

Al Tocchini called the meeting to order at 12:45 pm. Committee members made self-introductions.

2. Approval of 8/02/03 meeting minutes

Arne moved that the minutes be accepted; Paul seconded the motion; the minutes were accepted.

3. Heritage Tree Nominations

A. Pow Wow Tree - Gladstone (Approved)

This nomination was submitted by Molly McKnight of the Clackamas Co. Forest Program; the nomination was seconded by Arne. Jim distributed additional photos of the tree, history and description. The committee discussed and scored the tree according to the four criteria used to evaluate nominations. Consideration of the tree's age of 200 plus years, site of the first Oregon State Fair, use by the Clackamas Indians for many ceremonial purposes and dedication as a Bicentennial Tree in 1979 were discussed. The nomination was unanimously accepted.

B. Tulip Tree, Gladstone (Denied)

This nomination was submitted by Harry Senn, current owner of the property on which the nominated tree is located; the nomination was seconded by Fred. Peter report that the tree is a good healthy specimen, but not considered State significant, the house is a Historic Home. The reason for nomination of the tree is to protect pruning intended by the neighbor, as it is located near the property line and branches encroach upon the neighboring property.

Paul informed the committee that the neighbor has the legal right to prune, but not fatally injure the tree. He suggested passing this information along to the owner.

The nomination was denied unanimously. The nomination is to be forwarded to Clackamas County Historical society for consideration of starting a county heritage tree program.

C. Flavel Trees – Astoria (Approved)

This nomination was submitted by Lisa Studts of Clatsop Co. Historical Society; the nomination was seconded by Fred. Al visited the Flavel Trees and reported the group of trees is in good condition with the exception of the Bay laurel. The nominated group of trees was planted in approximately 1886 by the Flavel family gardener. In addition to being associated with a historical figure the trees area also significant due to age and type of tree. The committee discussed the distinction of the site being nominated as a Heritage Tree Grove; which would identify the nine trees nominated, or a Historic Landscape; which would be inclusive of the whole grounds. It was determined by the committee that identifying the nomination as a *grove* would

be the best decision. The identification as a *historic landscape* could include any new plantings on the grounds and would deviate from the mission of the Heritage Tree program.

It was felt due to multiple trees being part of the nomination, the Heritage Tree plaque should list the grove of trees and the Flavel House would identify and label each individual tree. It was suggested that the Heritage Tree program allow use of the logo to be placed on the individual labels.

The nomination was accepted with a split vote.

4. Old Business/New Business

A. Committee Membership – Vacancy Eastern Oregon

Al informed the committee that there is a committee vacancy for the Eastern Oregon position on the Heritage Tree Committee and asked for any suggestions for new members in that area.

B. Committee Membership – Unexcused Absences

Last meeting the Charter was amended to include unexcused absences; *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.* When unexcused absences occur it was recommended that the Committee Chair call or send a note to the absent member acknowledging the absence being unexcused.

5. Updates and Reports

A. 2004 Dedication Events

1. Benedictine Sisters' Sequoia

Jim reported that the Benedictine Sisters' have offered their site as a location for the 2004 Statewide Heritage Tree dedication. The Sisters' asked for ideas that would allow them to identify the trees on their grounds to help people touring. Fred suggested the company he has been using to create identifier labels for them. He will pass the information along to the Sisters.

The committee suggested looking at alternate locations for the statewide dedication since several of the recent years event locations have been in the Willamette Valley. It was agreed to look at the Flavel House Grove and the Pow Wow tree along with the Benedictine Sisters' Sequoia.

2. Frank Lockyear Memorial Grove

The verbiage for the Frank Lockyear Memorial Grove will be finalized by next committee meeting.

B. Financial Report

Jim reported that the Heritage Tree Fund is currently valued at \$26,768.

Upcoming expenses for the Heritage Tree Program are for dedication plaques for the upcoming 2004 dedications which cost \$350 per plaque. Jim is working on an ODF Small Project Funds grant to underwrite the cost. Also slated for 2004 is the update and printing of the Heritage Trees and Historical Markers brochure. This expense will run approximately \$5000 for the update and the printing of 20,000 brochures. This project is also being looked at to be covered by a grant. Jim is attending a meeting after the Heritage Tree committee meeting and will learn if the grant has been approved.

7. Next Meeting

The January meeting will be hosted by Fred Nilsen at the Hoyt Arboretum. The meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 9, 2004 at 1:00 pm. The rest of the years meetings will be set at the January meeting.