

Lane Small Woodlands Association Minutes: April 21, 2023

Meeting Time 1:30 PM-3:45 PM **Meeting Location:** ODF Eastern Lane Office

Board Members Present: Kate McMichael; Tom Bauman; Wylde Cafferata; Gordon Culbertson; Tim Gurton; Dan Kintigh;; Rick Olson; Chuck Volz;; Dan Menk

Guests: Steve Cafferata; Becca Fain; Theresa Hausser

1. Welcome
2. Review, Amend, Approve, Adoption of Agenda
3. Review, Amend, Approve Minutes from February 2023
4. Review and Approve Treasurer's Report
5. Old Business
6. On-Going Business
7. Updates
8. New Business
9. Announcements/Partner News & Note/Other
10. Recap/Action Items
11. Adjourn

<p>1-4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kate McMichael called the meeting to order at 1:35 PM and welcomed everyone.• Kate reviewed the new format for the agenda and its content, and it was approved unanimously.• The minutes from February 4th were approved unanimously after so moved by Rick Olsen and seconded by Dan Kintigh.• Gordon Culbertson presented the Treasurer's Report<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Total Lane County SWA fund as of March 31, 2023, are \$39,456.53.○ Lane County SWA IRS 990-N form filed February 14, 2023○ All 2023 tree sale funds and inventory accounted for in the above totals.○ Because our ending balance is \$194.02 more than our ending balance last year at this time, including all donations and other expenses, Gordon concluded that LCSWA is in healthy shape.○ Tom Bauman moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Dan Kintigh seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.
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<p>5. Old Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Seedling Sale Recap:</u> Lindsay sent the Board a detailed account of the seedling sale. Our profit was approximately \$9,500. The Board discussed the benefits of having a central site announcing all county tree sale events, potentially on the ODF website.

<p>6. On-Going Business</p> <p>A. <u>Committee Overview, Discussion, Establishment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kate explained that establishing committees would help get LCSWA's tasks accomplished without undue efforts from any one person. She suggested the following committees: Communication; Seedling Sale; Tree Farmer of the Year Selection; Program/Events; Membership.• Board members discussed the idea, and agreed, adding that committee membership should not be limited to board members.• Kate asked each board member to consider which committee/committees they
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wished to serve on, and that they could announce their choices during the Action Item section of the agenda.

B. Membership Update/Status of Little Green Light Reconciliation Process

- Rick Olson announced that Dave Ehlers, OSWA Executive Board Member, is updating the Little Green Light (LGL) OSWA database, and has reached out to OSWA chapter Membership Chairs for help.
- Rick and Wylida explained we have a list of LCSWA members in the LGL database, and we have an email list of members. The names on the LGL list are members who either have paid their dues for the year, or who have not yet paid and may be dropped if they do not do so.
- Rick distributed a list of the members on the LGL database who have not paid their dues, and asked board members to sign up to call names they know. He and Becca gave each board member a jar of honey as a thank-you for calling. After each board member completes the calls, he/she is requested to contact Rick with the results.
- Board members discussed whether or not to drop names from our email list if they are not OSWA members. It was decided to keep the names on the list as part of our outreach to Lane County small woodland owners, and encourage them to join as opportunities arise.

C. Lane County Tree Farmer of the Year

- Tim Gurton distributed copies of the nomination packet for Sue Zeni and noted that she would be an excellent Lane County TFOY and candidate for State TFOY.
- The Board voted unanimously to approve her selection as Lane County TFOY.
- Tim asked for feed-back on the nomination package. Board members expressed appreciation for his work in completing it, and suggested he put Sue's objectives in list format and save the narrative for subsequent sections of the report.

D. Quarterly Bark: Current Status/Options for Moving Forward

- Wylida explained that the April issue of the Bark will be the last one since no one has stepped forward to be Editor.
- The Chairs of Lane, Lincoln, Benton, and Linn County are meeting on 4/24/23 to discuss the future of the Bark. A person has been found willing to edit an on-line version if chapters would like this option.
- Board members discussed whether or not an on-line version would be better than no version at all. Most expressed preference for a hard copy, but were reminded they could print their on-line copy. Board members agreed that an on-line version would be better than no version at all. Hard copy costs were discussed as well as the additional labor involved.
- Wylida mentioned that it has been suggested that the Bark be eliminated as a 4-county newsletter, and be expanded to a state-wide newsletter, potentially combining with Tree Farm to become a new version of the Family Forest News. Board members expressed concerns that several chapters already have successful newsletters and would neither want nor need to give them up, and a newsletter covering all the chapters would be too bulky. It was suggested that if an on-line version of the Bark is established and successful, chapters who do not have their own newsletter could be invited to participate.

7. Updates.

A. Legislative Update:

- The Board discussed HB 3019 that dismantles OFRI. OSWA is opposed to this bill and encourages members to testify against it. Examples of testimonies are on our LCSWA website. (See Action Items for further explanation.)

D. OSU Extension Update

- Lauren Grand's baby daughter Aurora is doing well. Board members signed a card for Lauren. Wylida will purchase and send Aurora a forest-themed book (and/or frog) from the Board.
- OSU is in the process of filling the vacant Starker Chair faculty position in the College of Forestry Engineering, Resources, and Management. This position includes 25% service to small landowners, and SWO's are represented on the search committee by Wylida. Kate, Theresa, and Gordon serve on a sub-committee, as well as representatives from Northeast OR, Washington, Benton, and Douglas Counties. It is hoped to have the position filled by June of this year.
- OSU is in the process of filling the vacant MWM/WOWNet Coordinator position formerly held by Tiffany Hopkins. Kate, Wylida, and Theresa all serve on the search committee.
- OSU Extension is in the process of hiring an assistant for Lauren Grand. Kate and Theresa are on the search committee. The assistant will be shared with the Small Farms Program.
- Kate suggested that the Board send a letter of support for the OSU Statewide Budget that includes funding for Extension as well as forestry research and agricultural research. The Board agreed unanimously.

E. ODF Update:

- Kate reported that Dan Menk's recent surgery was successful, and Dan added that he is back to work part time.
- Dan Menk reminded the Board that Justin White has been hired as the SFO (Small Forest Owner) Forester for Eastern Lane and Lane County South Cascade District, and is working out of the Sweet Home office.

F. Other: Gordon Culbertson explained that the Lane County Ballot Measure formerly known as the Watershed Bill of Rights has had its title challenged and will be rewritten and then put out for signatures. Gordon warned the Board that this misnamed measure provides for citizens to trespass to protest legal management activities undertaken on private property. It is similar to a measure recently passed in Lincoln County and then declared unconstitutional.

New Business

A. Events Already on the Calendar

- Watershed Tour June 1 in partnership with Lane Families for Farm & Forest. This is an invitation only tour for Lane County decision-makers. Board members discussed how useful such partnerships are. Wylida moved that LCSWA donate \$500 to support LFFF, Kate seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Board members may attend and should contact Gordon if they wish to do so. Board members agreed to renew our LFFF membership.
- Oregon Family Forest Convention, June 22-24th. Becca announced that Dave Rankin will donate a cigar-box ukelele to the silent auction from Lane County.
- OSWA Annual Meeting in Springfield October 9. Board members discussed our responsibilities as a hosting chapter. It was decided to offer a mill tour of Swanson Brothers' mill followed by a social meet-and-greet in the evening, potentially including a short talk and book-signing by Steve Beda, author of *Strong Winds &*

Widow Makers: Workers, Nature, and Environmental Conflict in the Pacific Northwest Timber Country. Gordon will make arrangements with Swanson Brothers.

B. Events to Calendar/Consider

- Diane Kaldahl, Lane County Tree Farmer of the Year 2022, Tour in July. Wylida reported that Diane is excited about the tour and that her granddaughter will do a drone demonstration. The board agreed that mid or late July would be a good time so as not to conflict with the Family Forest Convention.
- Working Lands Program Tree Farm Tour. This tour is to explain forest active management processes to the Working Lands Program Coordinators. This is a casual bring-your-own lunch tour that includes three tree farms in the coast range. Contact Gordon if you wish to attend.
- Other Ideas for Program Committee
 - Meet-and-Greet with new SWO forester.
 - Tour of USFS Genetics Lab in Dorena, where work is being done on Ash trees resistant to the Emerald Ash Borer.
 - Book signing with Steve Beda
 - Program including speech by Tessa Geyer, high school student with award-winning speeches centering on forestry issues.
 - Harrisburg Harvest Festival
 - Tour of Laurie & Don Parsio's place. Kate explained they have a small, actively managed acreage and that it would be good for many of our members who also have small properties to see. The Board agreed that such a tour would increase our inclusivity.

Announcements/Partner News & Notes; Other

- Kate announced that we had a LCSWA query about low-impact log removal. Dan explained about a tractor attachment, and will forward information to Kate.
- Dan announced that Mast Forestry in Washington is creating a carbon credit program that may fund forest reforestation. He encourages members to check out the website.
- The Oakridge/Westfir Tree Planting Festival is May 5-7, with the Parade happening on May 6.
- The OSWA Board meeting is May 9th, 8-10 AM via Zoom.
- The OTFS Board meeting is May 16, 8:30-10:30, via Zoom.
- The Forests Today & Forever Soiree fundraiser is June 8th, with volunteers requested.

Recap/Action Items

- Committee Members are as follows:
 - Membership: Rick & Becca
 - Communication: Kate & Wylida
 - Program: Gordon, Tom, Becca, Theresa
 - Tree Farmer of the Year: Tim, Dan, Steve
 - Seedling Sale: Tom, Lindsay, Chuck, Dan, Theresa
- Kate will oversee all committees.
- All members of LCSWA may serve on committees. Wylida and Kate will work on a letter to members explaining committees.
- Wylida and Kate will work on a "Ten Reasons to be LCSWA Members" hand-out.
- Kate and Wylida will prepare a letter to the membership requesting letters in support

of OFRI, and letters in support of the OSU budget request.

Adjournment:

- Next Meeting June 6th in Florence, at 1:30 in the Florence Library, 1460 9th Street, Florence.
- Kate Adjourned the meeting at 3:45.