

LANE COUNTY SMALL WOODLANDS ASSOCIATION MINUTES: AUGUST 8, 2023

Meeting Time: 1:30-4:00 P.M.

Location: ODF South Cascades District, Eastern Lane Unit Office

Board Members Present: Kate McMichael; Wylda Cafferata; Gordon Culbertson; Tim Gurton; Dan Kintigh; Rick Olson; Dan Menk

Guests: Becca Fain, Theresa Hausser; Lindsay Reaves

Agenda

1. Welcome and Check-in
2. Review, amend, approve Agenda
3. Review, amend, approve June 6, 2023 Minutes
4. Review and approve Treasurer's Report
5. Old Business
6. On-Going Business
7. Up-Dates
8. New Business
9. Announcements/Partner News & Notes/Other

1-4

- Kate McMichael called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- Kate reviewed the Agenda and it was approved by consensus with no amendments.
- Gordon Culbertson moved to approve the June 6, 2023 minutes, Dan Kintigh seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.
- Gordon Culbertson presented the Treasurer's Report. LCSWA is in good financial standing. Since the June meeting, we have had no deposits and have had \$2,112.35 in expenses, which include donations of \$1000 each to ONREF and Forests Today & Forever, and \$100 to Lane Families for Farm and Forests, and \$12.35 for checks. Our Checking Account balance is \$23,56 0.85, and our total funds are \$36,456.09. Gordon noted that our CD interest is not updated by the bank, so our total is slightly more.

5. Old Business

A. Family Forest Convention

- Kate reported that the Convention was well-attended and enjoyed

B. New OSWA Website

- Kate reported that the new OSWA website is in full operation and includes quick and easy access to all but two OSWA chapters.

C. Diane Kaldahl's Tree Farmer of the Year Tour

- Kate reported that the tour went well despite the very warm weather.
- Board members agreed that the attendees enjoyed the social time and pie after the tour. It was suggested that we build social time into future events.

6. On-Going Business

A. Committee Reports

- **Communications**
 - Kate reported that our membership is reading our emails and appreciates the details we provide on events.
 - Kate and Wylde created a “Ten Reasons to Join LCSWA” document for the Board to review. Dan would like to include it in mailings to his customers. Kate can put it in bookmark form. It was suggested to add information on how to join. Gordon suggested we compare our reasons to those that the state organization (OSWA) is preparing so as to remain consistent.
 - Kate announced that the deadline for submitting articles for the October *Bark* is September 15 and solicited ideas for articles. Board members suggested an article on the ODF notification process, including ideas on contacting subscribers; a book review of *Strong Winds & Widow Makers; a Save-the-Date* for the Seedling Sale; and an article promoting the Tree Farmer of the Year program;
- **Membership Committee**
 - Rick Olson reported that we have 202 paid-up members, down 25 from last year. Five of the 25 have either sold their property or passed away. Rick distributed a list of the remaining 20 and asked Board members to contact those they knew. He and Becca will contact the others.
 - Rick explained OSWA’s “Know One-Recruit One” program and seconded incorporating OSWA’s recently-created list of reasons to join with ours. Becca will send Wylde that list.
 - Rick and Becca led a discussion highlighting the importance of reaching out to non-members who attend our events.
- **Program Committee**
 - Board members agreed that our programs should happen regularly throughout the year; should vary in topic; should include tours of both large and small tree farms; and be “lower impact”-i.e. not necessarily include meals or big time commitments. It was also agreed to share sponsorships with other organizations.
 - Planned programs include:
 - Dorena Genetics Research Lab Tour August 24. 4-5:30 PM
 - OSWA Annual Meeting Social September 21, 5-7 P.M., potentially with Steve Beda, author of *Strong Winds & Widow Makers*, as a speaker.
 - OSWA Annual Meeting September 22, 9 AM -4 PM. Group will meet at the Veneta Community Center for the OSWA meeting followed by a catered lunch and a tour of Swanson Brothers. Kate thanked Gordon for working with Rick Zenn and Nicole Wood of OSWA to plan this event,
 - Lane County 2023 Tree Farmer of the Year Tour at Sue Zeni’s tree farm on the morning of September 23rd. Wylde will send out a Save-the-Date notice, and there will be a pre-tour on site planning meeting soon,
- **Seedling Sale Committee**
 - Lindsay Reaves reported she is waiting on availability and pricing, and expects prices to be higher than last year’s. Ponderosa pine, if she can get it, will be at least \$1:00/seedling.

- Dan Kintigh suggested using band-pots, which he thinks are more protective than bare-root and less cumbersome than gallon pots.
- Lindsay informed the Board that O’Hara Catholic School bought our left-over seedlings to use in their green house and for their sale, and will be willing to do so again this year, she thinks.
- Lindsay reported that the Seedling Committee has been discussing using the wait-time before checkout to gather demographic information on our customers to help tailor the event to their needs.
- The Board discussed the possibility of accepting credit cards, weighing the cost of that service against the loss of customers who don’t have checks or cash. Kate will investigate the costs involved and the Board will revisit the topic at the October meeting.
- **Tree Farmer of the Year Committee**
 - Tim reported that as he makes tree farm inspections, he raises the possibility with tree farm owners. Some are interested but most are wary. Tim explains it is less of a competition and more of a way to shine a light on the good work being done. The Board will prepare a Ten Reasons to be a Tree Farmer of the Year flyer for Tim to use when he makes inspections.

7. Up-Dates

- OSWA
 - Gordon reported that OSWA has completed a by-law review and encouraged Board members to review these prior to the vote on September 22.
 - OSWA will increase dues by 32% in 2024 due to rising costs. There has not been a dues increase since 2015, and the OSWA estimate is that their costs have risen 30% in that time. Currently OSWA is depleting its reserves to cover costs. Chapter rebates will increase 13%. The Executive Board is recommending these increases to the OSWA Governing Board of which Kate is a member.
 - OSWA is emphasizing its “Friends of OSWA” program through a campaign to reach industrial and other large land owners.
- OSU Extension
 - Lauren Grand is back from maternity leave.
 - There is a new WOWNet/Master Woodland Manager Coordinator.
 - A Master Woodland Manager program will be held in Eugene in the spring of 2024.
- ODF
 - Dan Menk reported that Fire Season 2023 is in full swing and described several of the currently-burning fires. It was suggested those who are interested download the Watch Duty app to follow local fires, as well as checking their Face Book pages.
 - Dan advised that the new Steep Slopes maps are available, and that they include fish streams. Some of these have a changed size designation so it is advisable to check the document for streams to note changes,

and/or ask Stewardship Foresters about any changes.

- Dan reminded the group that the changes to Steep Slope rules do not apply to Small Woodland Owners, but that the other Private Accord rules go into effect on January 1, 2024.

8. New Business

- A. Charitable and Political Contributions: The discussion of establishing a budget for charitable and political contributions was postponed to the October meeting.
- B. Monthly Events vs Reality of Calendar/Season: This discussion was postponed to the October meeting. It will include discussion of planning our events without conflicting with those of other organizations.
- C. Annual Meeting
 - LCSWA by-laws show that we can hold the Annual Members' Meeting any time during the first three months of any calendar year.
 - Kate pointed out that we can amend the by-laws by a vote of the membership but must abide by them until such time as a vote can be held. However, we could hold the meeting as late as late March and still follow the current by-laws.
 - Board members discussed disadvantages of holding an evening meeting in January including cold weather, necessity of driving in the dark, and a lessened ability to have family members (children) included.
 - Wylda moved to hold our annual meeting as a day-time meeting in March. Kate seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. It was suggested we hold the meeting in the Walterville Grange. We will plan the event at future LCSWA Board meetings.

9. Announcements

- A. Marion/Polk's SWA chapter is dedicating its August 19th meeting/picnic to the memory of Mark Havel who passed away July 8th. If you wish to attend, register on their Chapter website.
- B. Forests Today & Forever Volunteer Work Party is September 14th, 9AM-2PM. Email Beth Krisko to RSVP if you wish to attend: coordinator@foreststodayandforever.org
- C. Lane Families for Farm & Forests' monthly meeting is August 17th.
- D. The Committee for Family Forests' presentation to the Board of Forestry will be on September 6th and will be live-streamed. The Committee meets on September 14th in Salem.

10. Next Meeting: October 10th at ODF's Western Lane Office at 1:30 PM.

11. Kate adjourned the meeting at 4:05 PM

LCSWA Secretary