

Linn County Small Woodlands Association Annual Membership meeting minutes

Jan. 20, 2018

Board members present: Larry Mauter, Lee Peterman, Jim Merzenich, Henry Wolthius, Bonnie Marshall

5 p.m. Doors open at Scio ZCJB Hall

5:30 p.m. Potluck dinner is served. About 75 people are in attendance.

Greetings: Board Vice President Lee Peterman and past president Jim Merzenich led introductions and co-hosts the evening.

6:32 p.m. Forestry scholarships — Scholarship committee chair Katie Kohl introduces Jonah Nicholas and Kimberly Ortiz, two of the seedling sale scholarships recipients. She also read letters of thanks from the three scholars — Daniel Virtue, Gracie Olson and Mikaela Gosney — who could not attend the dinner. The students attend Oregon State University. Kimberly Ortiz is in a dual-enrollment program, attending Umpqua Community College this year as a freshman. Total scholarship money awarded this year was \$5,000.

6:41 p.m. 4-H scholarships — Education committee chair Fay Sallee introduced the 11 4-H Clever Clover forestry students. Students explained projects that were on display at the hall and recounted activities from recent meetings. Scholarship committee judges Steve Kohl, Katie Kohl, Nancy Mauter and Larry Mauter were introduced. Scholarship winners were: Matthew Kincade, Emily Henry and Conner Tye (Gold Plus); Elizabeth Kincade, Jonathan Lever, Haley Tye, Cayden Cormany and Joshua Cates (Gold); Andrew Leever (Silver); Andrew Bradford, Gabriel Bradford, Ryan Henry (Green). Scholarships awarded totaled \$1,600.

7:01 p.m. Keynote speaker Dave Furtwangler was introduced by Jim Merzenich. The Oregon State University graduate has been president of Cascade Timber Consulting of Sweet Home for the past 13 years. He is retiring in February after “40-years plus in forest management.” Furtwangler outlined three areas of major change in forestry he has seen in his career. Ownership of forest lands tied to mills has evolved into timber owned by real estate investment trusts. For small woodlands owners, he said the transition to the next generation is a challenge. Another huge change in the past four decades, he said, is technology — from computers and GPSs to types of wood products that have been developed and seed technology. On the political side, Furtwangler said the industry still struggles getting the message out that proper forest management can benefit overall society and wildlife. He said that is a message that small woodlands groups can help get out.

7:21 p.m. Seedling sale chair Bonnie Marshall presented an update on the Feb 3 seedling sale. “Sales are going great,” she said with 93 pre-orderers returned so far. There are 27 plants on this year’s order list, she said. There has been an increase in varieties of shrubs this year. Goods from the Woods will again be featured along with the seedlings.

Business Meeting

Treasurers Report—Joe Holmberg for Shirley Holmberg:

Information presented at the meeting has been omitted but is available by attending a meeting or by sending a stamped self-addressed envelope to:

Treasurer, Linn County Small Woodlands Association
c/o 39980 Mount Hope Dr Lebanon, OR 97355-9426

Please allow 1 week for delivery.

Election of board members for 2018: Directors Henry Wolthius and Shirley Holmberg were recognized for their board contributions in the past. Nominations for new board members were opened. Incoming board nominees and their term expiration are: Tim Otis (2020), Shirley Holmberg (2021), Jane Strom (2021) and Jim Cota (2021). Motion to approve new board members as nominated was unanimous. Bill Bowling will continue as president and Lee Peterman will continue as vice president.

OSWA report: Jim James, executive director of OSWA, spoke on the importance of membership for the organization. He said Linn County has seen 70 percent of its membership already renews for 2018. Statewide, OSWA is reminding members more frequently about renewals. James promoted the state OSWA meeting, to be held in Springfield June 28-30. The theme this year is “Managing family forests into the future.” Both Gov. Kate Brown and her Republican foe in this year’s governor’s race are being invited to speak at the convention. “We think rural Oregon will be important in the election,” James said.

8:10 p.m. Jim Merzenich opened the “Tree Farmer of the Year” segment recounting the summer tree farm tour hosted by Rebecca and Ivan Wolthius. “It was apparent this was a family effort,” said Merzenich of the family’s restoration of a former Sweet Home Mud Race venue. A video of the Wolthius tree farm was shown with questions following the video. The Wolthius family was presented a Broom Magic Broom with the traditional green jackets to be delivered at a later date.

8:15 p.m. Door prizes donated by members and local merchants were awarded. In an auction, Bonnie Marshall bought a wood duck box donated by Jim Cota. Brad Withrow-Robinson of OSU Extension bought a Broom Magic broom.

8:23 p.m. Good of the Order Brad Withrow-Robinson and Lee Peterman reviewed last year’s activities through a slide show and presented a handout to guests listing scheduled activities in 2018.

Lee Peterman also presented an option for the chapter to take over running the OSWA goods store. He explained it could result in about \$3,000 in annual profit for running the OSWA booth at events.

8:34 p.m. Adjournment: Lee Peterman move, Larry Mauter 2nd motion to adjourn. Unanimous.

— Draft minutes submitted by Larry Mauter, acting secretary for the board

