

*~Final~*  
Committee for Family Forestlands  
Minutes  
January 22, 2007

A meeting of the Committee for Family Forestlands (CFF) was held in the Clatsop Room at ODF's Salem compound. Chair Ron Cease called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM.

*Committee members present:*

Ron Cease	Peter Hayes
Bill Arsenault	Ned Livingston
Gary Springer	Vivane Simon-Brown
Fritz Ellett	

*Committee members absent:*

Greg Miller	Mike Cloughesy
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*Staff present:*

Arlene Whalen ODF	Peter Daugherty, ODF
Bernie Bochsler, ODF	Ted Lorensen, ODF
Julie Welp, ODF	Lanny Quackenbush

*Guests:*

Mike Gaudern, OSWA	Sara Leiman, Coast Range Conifers
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**Agenda Items:**

1. Review Agenda
2. Approve Minutes from December 4, 2006
3. Tree Dedication Ceremony for Ilene Waldorf
4. Symposium Update
5. Departmental Budgeting Issues
6. Departmental Legislative Issues
7. January 3, 2007 Board of Forestry Meeting
8. Communications Plan
9. Other Business
10. Determination of Next Meeting and Adjournment

**Approve minutes from December 4, 2006**

The minutes from December 4, 2006, were not approved, as there was not enough time for the committee members to review the draft.

**Symposium**

It was announced that Gail Achterman will not be available to moderate General Session III at the symposium. That role needs to be filled. Also, it would be a good idea to have at least one CFF member at each of the round tables. Viviane and Arlene will be at each one, but we need some more members to attend, if possible.

A brief update on fund-raising showed that 13 of 30 exhibit spaces have been sold.

## **Ilene Waldorf Tree Dedication Ceremony**

The committee had decided several months ago to plant a tree in dedication to Ilene Waldorf, who is a founding member of the Committee for Family Forestlands, and is very involved in the small woodlands community. The ceremony was held along side Mill Creek behind Building C.

## **Departmental Budget Issues**

Peter introduced himself to the committee and described his background and experience, before turning to the budget. The budget picture isn't quite as rosy as we thought. Three Program Option Packages (POPs) are going forward to restore what Private Forests has lost over the last few years, including several positions. The Governor moved forward the bioenergy development POP, as well as the eastern Oregon effectiveness monitoring POP. Ron asked what the CFF can do that lends any real meaning to the staff in the field and landowners. The CFF is an advisory committee to the Board of Forestry but what does that mean to the small landowner? Is the CFF doing enough to communicate to small woodland owners what the department can do for them and communicate landowner needs back to the Board? Ned said one thing that is needed is a market for logs and for slash. That is more of an economic issue, though. The Department is working with other natural resource agencies trying to find a way for forestland owners to perhaps use grant money from these agencies to manage their land in ways that aren't very economically viable, but improve the land. We need to educate some other agencies that the environmental or ecosystems services component of forestlands are part of economic development. We also need to take advantage of federal programs, such as Forest Legacy. We need to concentrate more on incentives rather than on more regulation. One thing that the CFF can do is talk to the legislators, tell them what allows landowners to be successful, how ODF can help, and what investments make good sense. The group discussed other economic and land development issues.

## **January Board of Forestry Meeting**

Gary Springer attended the January BOF meeting and updated the CFF on what occurred. There was no resolution reached on the smoke management program. The two options are: 1) a program fully funded by landowner assessments, or 2) partially funded through the general fund. ODF and DEQ are working together to resolve the issue. Two issues that the Board did approve were the large wood placement rule adoption and forest vitality, or restructuring of the forest trust. The CFF discussion turned to fire suppression and the associated costs, and who is responsible for those costs. This is an issue that needs to be discussed in more detail at an upcoming CFF meeting.

Ted Lorenson provided the group with a handout that included a brief history of forestry in Oregon since the 1800s, sustainability, change in wildland forests, timber harvests, fire and debris-torrents issues, and Measure 37 claims. The group then went on to discuss various timber companies and timber management organizations and the way they are being run, and the forest economy. It was suggested that this topic also be added to a future meeting agenda.

## **Nursery Update**

Lanny Quackenbush updated the committee on the sale of Phipps Nursery. The nursery folks were meeting with DAS to start the formal process to sell the nursery. State and local entities have 30 days to make an offer on the land before the sale can be opened up to the public. It will probably take 4-6 months to go through these two processes. If no one makes a bid, then the sale can be offered through a local realtor for a negotiated sale. The appraised value of the nursery and land is \$2.3 million and the debt is less than \$500,000.

### **Legislative Issues**

Ted briefly explained that the department has looked at small changes to the FPA. They were introduced to the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. The first change relates to scenic buffers and exempting the requirement for scenic buffers in rural residential zones and urban growth boundaries. The second one is to waive the \$5,000 cap on civil penalties for reforestation only, then allow the State Forester to use the money collected under a civil penalty fine to reforest if the owner does not.

### **Communication Plan**

The group reviewed the latest draft of the CFF communication plan. The key is to increase the committee's visibility and accessibility to family forest owners, and to communicate the committee's role as a liaison to the Board of Forestry. The visibility and accessibility of the Department and the Board to the public was also discussed. There are people in the general public who don't know what either entity is or what we do. It's important to get the word out there. Arlene will make some minor changes to the plan and the committee can start implementing some of the strategies.

### **Next meeting**

The tentative dates for the next full CFF meeting are February 19 or 20.

Minutes compiled by Julie Welp.