IDAHO TREE FARM PROGRAM

9:30am-12pm, Thursday, July 16, 2020

U of I Extension Office, 1808 N 3rd St., Coeur d’Alene, ID 83816

IDAHO TREE FARM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1. **Call to Order**

Committee Chair Hammond called the meeting to order at 9:32a.m. Those present for all or part of the meeting were:

Sean Hammond, ITFC Chair/ Tree Farmer at Large

Erin Bradetich, ITFC Vice-Chair/ Communications Committee Chair

Madeline David, ITFC Treasurer/Tree Farmer at Large

Andy Eckberg, ITFC District 1 Chair

John Lillehaug, ITFC District 3 Chair

Kirk David, ITFC Executive Committee/Tree Farmer at Large

Doug Bradetich, IFG Industry Rep

Chris Schnepf, UI Extension Forestry Rep

Ara Andrea, IDL Rep

Colleen Meek, ITFP Administrator

2.  **Anti-Trust Statement**

Chair Hammond reviewed the Anti-Trust Statement with the committee.

3.  **January 16, 2020 Meeting Minutes-Approval - Committee**

Chair Hammond asked for any corrections to the 1st Quarter 2020 Meeting Minutes. John Lillehaug moved we accept the Minutes as presented. Doug Bradetich seconded the motion and, with a voice vote, the motion passed.

4. **Current Treasurer’s Report to File for Review - Committee**

Treasurer M. David presented the Treasurer’s Financial Report: April 3, to July 9, 2020. There were no questions regarding the Treasurer’s report. The Treasurer reported that four forestry education event signs & stands (co-owned by ITFP and IFOA) were received. $379.52 is ITFP’s expense share. Madeline also reported that there were two checks received, one from National of $4,904.03 and one from Shell Oil of $50.00, which was a match from a Tree Farmer donation. John Lillehaug moved to file the Treasurer’s report for review. E. Bradetich seconded the motion.  With a voice vote the motion passed.

5. **2020 Budget Review-Treasurer**

Treasurer M. David presented the budget update. As a result of discussion, D. Bradetich will purchase more Tree Farm signs.

6.  **Communications Report-Erin Bradetich**

Communications Chair E. Bradetich received the PLT report emailed from Sandy Koetter.

The 2020 Field Day will be at Sean & Virginia Hammond’s Tree Farm on September 12th.

There’s not much news on the 2021 Standards, yet.

Longtime Tree Farmers Sonny Poirier of Blanchard and Al Farnsworth of Bonners Ferry passed away recently. Mr. Farnsworth was working on developing public use non-motorized trails on his Enchanted Forest property near Bonners Ferry.

7. **Old Business**

a. **2019 ATFS Assessment – Correction Action**

Chair Hammond reported that he has never heard anything back.

b. **Shared cost for Signage**

K. David suggested that, prior to the Field Day, 4 velcro-attached direction arrows be purchased for the event signs. ITFC will notify ATFS for event liability insurance coverage. Chair Hammond explained that, whatever the Governor of Idaho says the protocols for the COVID-19 situation are, that’s what ITFC will go by for the field day.

8. **New Business**

a**. PLT (Project Learning Tree) – Sandy Staff-Koetter**

Sandy Koetter reported the following by email:

2020 was off to a great start, with good enrollments in most PLT workshops.

* March 12-canceled a March13-14 workshop due to COVID. Then canceled workshops through May. Then canceled workshops and forest tour through June.
* Compiled resources (ours and others) for a “Learning at Home” web page: <https://idahoforests.org/content-item/learning-at-home/>.
* Developed 1-credit Virtual PLT workshops-PLT for Pre K-2n, Grades, PLT for K-8th grades, PLT for 6th-12th grades. All three are currently in progress.
* Worked with Idaho Ag in the classroom and Idaho Rangeland Resources Commission to develop a 1-credit Virtual Workshop: “Learn and Teach About Idaho Natural Resources”. The first session is currently in progress. A second session will be offered July 27-August 7. People can watch a short promo video and sign up for the class at [www.idahonaturalresources.com](http://www.idahonaturalresources.com). Please spread the word to teachers.
* I presented about PLT new “Green Jobs: Exploring Forest Careers” unit at the P20 virtual conference today (7/14) <https://p2020csi.sched.com/>. At Least 73 people attended this presentation. (I’m not sure of the actual number. It was hard to pay attention to how many people attended while I gave my presentation and managed the Zoom meeting).
* We have two in-person workshops in Boise next week. Climate Literacy on July 20-21 and Hot Topics-Fire on July 22-23. We made several pandemic accommodations, e.g., meeting totally outdoors. Changed the hours to 7:30am-12:30pm each day +5 hours of out-of-class instruction. Limited class sizes to allow for appropriate distancing. (Both are full at 15 people). Required masks, sanitizer between activities, etc.
* We have canceled in-person workshops through 2020. We will likely offer some of our virtual workshops again in the fall.
* We are working on a robust section of our website to tell the Story of Sustainable Forestry. It will be a collection of videos and other resources that help tell the kinds of stories we tell on forest tours.
* We look forward to the days when we can gather with teachers in-person in the woods. Virtual experiences are better than nothing, and are greatly improving over what they used to be, but they’re no match for experiencing the real thing.

By Michelle Youngquist, Project Learning Tree/IFPC, 350 N 5th St, #102, Boise, ID 83702

b. **ILRCC (Idaho Lands Resource Coordinating Council) – Ara Andrea**

Ara Andrea presented news from the last ILRCC meeting in February 2020. ILRCC is still focusing on finalizing the Idaho Forest Action Plan and on Shared Stewardship projects. Forest Legacy Program (FLP) update: IFG withdrew their Prichard Creek project. Dawson Ridge has one project completed and is submitting another phase. There are two new FLP Advisory Committee members: Michael Beaudoin and Adrienne Morrow, both from IDL.

Ara also talked about the IDL Forest Practices Act Rule Waiver Request Process. She handed out and talked about the *draft* Waiver and Variance Process Guidance and Class 1 Streamside Tree Retention Revised Methodology-Rationale and Explanation.

c. **2020 Inspections:**

**A. Eckberg submitted R. Easley submitted J. Lillehaug submitted**

1. **Required:** District 1 17-8 District 2 6-1 District 3 0

2. **Optional:** District 1 59-11 District 2 16-4 District 3 3-0

3. **Pioneer:** District 1 0 District 2 1-0 District 3 0

Per Andy Eckberg, he has plans to talk to different foresters about completing the Optionals.

Per John Lillehaug the Southern Idaho Forestry Tour was cancelled, hopefully to resume in 2021.

d. **Combined IFOA/ITFP Field Day in September**

Chris Schnepf had concerns regarding social distancing. He suggested that certain supplies for COVID-19, such as masks and hand wash, may be available from Panhandle Health. Also, the guests should log in for tracing purposes. K. David reminded all that there will pre-registration for the field day and there will be sack lunches that can be pre-purchased for $15.00, or attendees can bring their own sack lunches. The 2020 IOTFOY and IOTFLOY will each be presented their award. Chair Hammond also reported that the Cooke’s were not chosen as 2020 Western Regional Tree Farmers of Year.

e**.** **Parks Brigman is the new Western ATFS Regional Manager**

Parks lives in South Dakota. His phone number is 605-858-6656, and his email is: pbrigman@forestfoundation.org.

f. **Next ITFC meeting: Thursday, 10/15/2020**

Suggestions are needed for the meeting venue, in case the fire hall isn’t available.

The Extension office is no longer available. They are relocating, but are not certain yet where.

9. **Other Business-Committee**

Andy Eckberg would like to retire as District 1 Chair at the end of year.

ITFP was asked to donate to the 9B Trails project in Boundary County for non-motorized public trails on Al Farnsworth’s Enchanted Forest. K. David moved for ITFC to make a $500.00 donation through the IFOA-Education Foundation to help fund forestry interpretive signage on the trails in honor of Al and his life of dedication to Tree Farming and forestry education. Andy Eckberg seconded the motion and, with a voice vote, the motion passed.

Kirk also reminded the Committee that it should start deciding now on nominations for 2021 IOTFOY and IOTFLOY awards so that preparations for the awards are ready before next March’s award presentations. Chair Hammond asked the District Chairs to put feelers out to inspectors for suggestions.

10. **Adjourn**

Chair Hammond adjourned the meeting at 11:35a.m.

Thank you for attending!

Respectfully submitted by Colleen Meek,

ITFP Administrator admin@idahotreefarm.org