

OMPHS Minutes October 5, 2023

The meeting began with a presentation given by Tom Dalluge, "Saving American Chestnut Trees" He outlined the historical chestnut complete cover over eastern U.S. from north to south, and then the blight which destroyed most of that from 1904-1940. Chestnuts have thrived on th Old Mission Peninsula since 1840 and Tom cited reasons for that, and the presence of very old "Mother trees" near Dougherty House property. Tom continued with a "chestnut tree primer," in which he discussed attributes of the trees and their chestnut fruit.

Tom then spoke of a few local activities which have and will continue to take place to propagate more local chestnuts and help the American Chestnut Foundation in its long term goal of replanting 1 million acres in chestnuts. He spoke of a potential goal of OMPHS and the Peter Dougherty Society, in partnership with the OMP school to be good stewards and assist in efforts to grow the chestnut population here.

Co-President Tom Dalluge called our business meeting to order after his presentation. 31 members and guests were present. There were additional guests for the presentation. The minutes and financial report were approved. Treasurer Dean Francis thanked those who've rectory paid dues, and asked for dues payments for this fiscal year, which began July 1.

Karen Rieser commented on the new effective lighting at the Replica Log Church There will be a plaque with Past-President John Scarbrough's name on a bench there. There is new landscaping near the church's. Steps. Tom thanked Karen, Dean Francis, and Anita's and Marty Klein for their work at that site.

Dean Francis moved that the. Executive Committee meet to refine the proposal for the historical society to adopt American chestnut preservation here to propose at our November meeting and that motion was approved.

Laura Johnson announced she has possession of plant stakes formerly used at the lighthouse property available for use at Dougherty or any other historical property.

Patty O'Donnell and Ann Swaney will present the November program: "The Story of Center Rd: from a two track to M37 Scenic Byway and Beyond."

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.