

TN-EPPC Board Meeting
Aug. 1, 2014
IPC, Hill Property, Nashville, TN

Attendance: Mike Berkley, Margie Hunter, Pat Parr, Kitty McCracken, Jack Ranney, Belinda Esham, Anni Self, Andrea Bishop

Absent: Kris Johnson (Kitty), Sara Keubbing (Pat), Marie Tackett (Belinda), Justin Coffey (Mike), Alix Pfennigwerth (Andrea)

Guest: Jamie Herold, Plant Ecologist, ORNL

Meeting called to order at 10:20 a.m. * denotes action item

Minutes: June 12, 2014, approved.

Treasurer's Report: no report

Anniversary Conference: Due to low registration, conference has been moved to Friday, Feb. 27, 2015. We will alter the agenda slightly to have Steve discuss integrated management and control approaches and refocus Chris' talk on trends in forests to include some mention of management and control in order to qualify for pesticide points. This designation will broaden our attendance potential. TDOA advertises these opportunities. Kitty* will check with speakers on date change and titles, and Mike* will check with Cheekwood on dates immediately. IPC approved the social for Thursday afternoon, Feb. 26.

Each board member should put together a list of names to issue a personal invitation and send this list with email addresses to Belinda by the end of August for conference notices. Andrea* will approach state agencies TDOT and TDEC, Anni* TDOA to solicit potential attendees. We should also contact Tennessee Vegetation Management Association and Nancy Dagley for NPS' exotic pest plant management team. Conference could be a good advanced training opportunity for Tennessee Naturalists - Margie* will pursue this.

We will open registration mid October. Belinda* will arrange a "registration now open" email at that time. Alix* or Sara will work with Eventbrite. Our internal deadline for monitoring registration numbers and making any changes is Dec. 31.

Memphis Community Workshop: Feb. 7, 2015, Memphis Botanic Garden. Agenda will include five items:

- introduction to invasives (Andrea - Invasives 101 presentation)
- homeowner management and control with section for city parks (Justin)
- native plant alternatives (Mike)
- Memphis area invasive plants and look-a-likes (Margie)
- EDDMapS reporting (Margie)

Margie* will draft the agenda and send to Anni for pesticide points. Anni* will also send Margie a list of licensed nurseries in Shelby, Tipton, and Fayette counties to share with

MBG for marketing the workshop. Margie* will talk to Allan Trently and Belinda* will contact Barry (NRCS) to get list of good West Tennessee species for the reporting segment. Margie* will contact Justin on the control presentation and check with Charity Siebert regarding fees (\$20) and registration process, which needs to go through MBG.

GSMNP Firewood Ban: Board voted to send the letter of support Sara* is drafting. Belinda* will follow up with her, and Jack* will send on letterhead. Margie mentioned troubles she's seen with firewood sold in the park not burning well. Jack* will mention this to Sara to include in the letter.

Newsletter: Next issue date is Sept. 1. Belinda* will include new conference information and other usual items. She particularly requests help with calendar items. Board members should send any information by August 15.

Board Phone List: Jack* will be in charge of the contact list, keep it updated with new board members' numbers, and diagram a calling tree.

We should revise our list of interested people to invite to board meetings. Andrea will send old list we have to update and include Steve Manning and Chris Oswalt as well as others.

This list could provide potential board members. Board recruitment suggestions include: state parks, TVA, Brenda's colleague (Barry Hart) in West Tennessee, UT Martin, Jackson State, Allan Trentley TDEC, universities in Nashville area, Nashville Garden Club, new person at Williamson County Extension, Annie knows someone working with nursery industry in McMinnville, Shawn Wolfe at Arnold Engineering (TNP). We should consider inviting some of these individuals to a board meeting. Need to put them on the newsletter list and send them minutes.

Shirts: We have some green polo shirts in large and medium, plus t-shirts. Andrea* will bring them to the conference.

Brochures: Andrea updated addresses on alternative brochure and printed 5,000 copies. We've also printed copies of the plant list. Landscaping brochure printing of 10,000 was paid by state parks' Iris Fund.

Presentations: We should organize canned presentations on various subjects, such as native plant alternatives organized by area of the state for cultural success. Presentations should include both aesthetic (an area choked with invasives and one without) and ecological implications. We need to build a core presentation as the centerpiece and create various side pieces to choose among depending on audience. We will use our next board meeting (Nov. 6) to begin this assembly. Margie* will check with Justin regarding electrical outlets for computers and projection equipment. Everyone should bring any relevant images or slide presentations on thumb drives.

National Organization Name Change: NAEPPC is now NAIPC - National Association of Invasive Plant Councils. Do we want to change? EPPC is awkward and confusing (insects). The word "exotic" has issues. We should approach this question in

conjunction with SE-EPPC and consider it regionally with other state EPPC organizations.

Hemp Bill: Hemp bill has passed to grow industrial hemp in Tennessee, and TDOA is working on permitting rules, particularly THC levels. Deadline to apply is Feb. 1. Commercial market is greater for seed production than processing fibers for rope. It spreads by seed and exhibits invasive behavior. Anni* will send TDOA's press release to Belinda for the newsletter.

Membership Brochures -- We've needed a good brochure for a long time for workshops, and other public events. Alabama has a good one, and we would need someone to design ours. Jack* will check with other state chapters on their design and effectiveness. We also need to change our address from the Fairview PO box. Andrea* will check with Roger McCoy about using TDEC's Natural Areas address.

Next Meeting -- Nov. 6 at Obed.

Meeting adjourned 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Hunter
Secretary