

TN-IPC Board Meeting
Mar. 3, 2017
Ensafe, Nashville, TN

Attendance: Kitty McCracken, Adam Datillo, Christine Bertz, Andrea Bishop, Mike Berkeley, Margie Hunter, Dave Adams, Katy Kilbourne, Jimmy Groton, Alix Pfenningwerth, Chris Oswalt

Absent: Kris Johnson (Kitty), Belinda Ferro (Jimmy), Pat Parr (Mike)

Guests: Cayce McAlister (GCA), Mark Whited (TDOT)

Meeting called to order 10:10 a.m.

Minutes

Approved minutes of Feb. 27, 2017 board meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Bill Moll of TN Valley Wild ones was invoiced \$50 for brochures April 11. A few board members still owe membership dues for the current year. \$95 was collected and spent for Alix's gift. Current total balance is \$2,293.23. Report is attached.

Web Site

Board voted to remove all individual board member contacts from the site. There have been phishing attempts launched through Kitty's email. TN-IPC's site will rely only on Invasives@tnipc.org address which goes to Christine. Margie will talk with Doug on site security and get a "Donation" button on the home page. Christine will link Facebook to it.

NAIPC

National organization requests donations from individual IPCs and EPPCs to help fund their forum and representation nationally at events. We made a similar contribution regarding development of ASTM standards. The board voted to give NAIPC \$100. Kitty will get Christine the information to send a check.

Memberships vs. Donations

Last year we received \$240 in memberships, mostly from board members. Donations have been collected successfully at public events. TN-IPC could develop business cards and a sticker with name, logo, Web site, and social media handles to distribute. The board voted to move from membership based to donation based organization, but board members will still pay per year.

To get funds, we will need to request donations for specific projects, such as brochures, banners, or workshops, from various board members' agencies, etc. TN-IPC's next board meeting should focus on strategic goal planning for state outreach and develop funding proposals for potential funding partners. We might also consider the possibility of "pint night" fundraisers or a "green drinks" event at places like Tennessee Brew Works in Nashville or similar places in Memphis and Knoxville.

Invasive Plant Symposium

Steve Manning is designing the symposium to focus on tools and technologies but also be a landing place for EPPCs or IPCs that might want to meet. Steve has set up 30 speakers thus far. Session topics include use of drones for monitoring, mapping, and control and strike team models. It was suggested that there be a session on chemicals, including safety, appropriate use, and messaging for general public skepticism of herbicides. Steve will send out a call for papers, host webinars to promote the symposium, organize publicity, and start registration.

Wednesday, there will be space set aside for IPC/EPPC boards to have planning meetings. Thursday will have indoor presentations and sessions. Friday will feature a trip to Two Rivers Park for equipment demonstrations.

TN-IPC can help build the agenda and solicit speakers during the next month. Steve specifically requested our help securing pesticide CEUs in the southeast, mid-Atlantic, and Midwest. When agenda is set, we could also assist as session chairs or moderators. TWRA, county extension, TDOT should be included too.

Steve has booked 150 3-night rooms at the Opryland Hotel, as well as meeting and display space, and can accommodate 200 people right now. Steve plans to offer assistance with on-site parking expenses.

Botany Bill & Weed Wrangles

Cayce McCallister of the Nashville Garden Club reports that TX, LA, and MS are now on board with Weed Wrangles. The president of Garden Clubs of America wrote the Botany Bill, House Bill 1054, currently before Congress. There are four major components including training for botanists in school programs, demand for native plants use in federal projects, and protection of rare plants and ecosystems. It also includes the Weed Wrangle concept. The bill needs additional House and Senate sponsors. She will send us a template to approach our representatives and senators.

Weed Wrangles are going well and spreading nationwide rapidly. In addition to invasive plant removal, there has been discussion on inclusion of a native replanting component and how best to incorporate it. Some areas might want to shift wrangles to the fall season to better blend two activities, or stage a separate fall event. Effective control of invasive species is important to improve success of native plantings. Chemical followup after a wrangle removal may be needed, or cut and treat larger stems and let wrangle participants drag out cut material and focus on pulling smaller stems.

Brochures

Andrea arranged printing of the two native brochures with money from TDEC. Kitty brought copies of the revised invasive brochure. We should charge or suggest a donation of \$0.50 to \$1.00 per brochure for quantities exceeding 20 copies. At the next revision or before reprinting, we could add a donation suggestion to the brochures' text to offset printing costs.

Invasive Plant List Revision

Adam sent out the proposed list to everyone. There is no real feedback as yet. Adam will request help if necessary as responses come in. When compiled, we'll need to layout and print a final list.

Newsletter/Social Media

TN-IPC's electronic newsletter is not being read as well as we'd like and is time consuming to produce. Our best outreach in the current market might be use of social media - Facebook and Twitter. There are apps for scheduling tweets and posts automatically. Katy and Christine will look into the best approach for us and handle our posts. Belinda will produce a final newsletter announcing this change.

SE-EPPC is considering launching a newsletter based on ours and wants something from each state organization. Mike could do his native plant article. We might want to warn them of our newsletter experience.

Webinars, Workshops & Community Engagement

TN-IPC provides links to other Webinars on our Web site and Facebook page. We should resume workshops, using our successful template from Nashville, Oneida, and Memphis in other locations...Chattanooga, Clarksville, Knoxville (Ijams), etc., teaming with TWRA, state parks, the naturalist program, Wild Ones, Tennessee Trails Association, etc., and keeping the registration fee low. At the next meeting, we will plan a couple of workshops.

One idea is to set up a local on-the-ground action project and invite area participation. As an example, Adam suggested a marking party for *Rhamnus divaricatus* in Knoxville, where park staff would follow up with treatment afterwards.

TN-IPC Officers

Nominations are needed for President and Secretary. Kitty wants to step down, but would be willing to continue through the December symposium. Margie is willing to serve one more term. We also need to consider board additions to replace Andrea and Pat who will be stepping down soon. Mark Whited of TDOT would be interested, and perhaps someone from TWRA. Alix will see if any UT students be a good fit for the board.

Meeting adjourned 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Margie Hunter
Secretary

TN-IPC TREASURER'S REPORT – May 3, 2017

GENERAL OPERATING ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance:	(February 27, 2017)	\$5,070.50
Receipts:		
Transfer from Money Market	\$2240.34	
Brochures (Spring Hill Garden Club)	\$100.00	
Memberships	\$320.00	
Donations (Lawn & Garden, Down-to-Earth Festival, Community Foundation of Greater Chattanooga)	\$158.00	
TNPS share of Down-to-Earth Festival Booth	\$25.00	
Contributions for Alix	\$95.00	
Total Receipts: \$2938.34		

Expenses:		
Doug Ingram – Website development	-\$2240.34	
Rose Creek Landscaping, LLC – Privet removal (ASAP Grant Fulfillment)	-\$5000.00	
Banner Reimbursement (Bertz)	-\$42.25	
Total Expenses: \$7282.59		
Ending Balance:	(May 3, 2017)	\$726.25

MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance:	(February 27, 2017)	\$3,025.10
Net Interest Earned:	+\$0.04	
Expenses:	Transfer to Checking	-\$2240.34
Ending Balance:	(May 3, 2017)	\$784.80

TOTAL ASSETS OF GENERAL & MM ACCOUNTS **\$1511.05**

PAY PAL ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance:	(February 27, 2017)	\$782.18
Receipts:	N/A	+\$0.00
Expenses:	N/A	\$0.00
Ending Balance:	(May 3, 2017)	\$782.18

TOTAL ASSETS OF ALL ACCOUNTS **\$2293.23**