

TN-IPC Board Meeting
August 10, 2017
Cumberland Mountain State Park, Crossville, TN

Attendance: Kitty McCracken, Adam Datillo, Andrea Bishop, Mike Berkeley, Margie Hunter, Dave Adams, Katy Kilbourne, Jimmy Groton, Chris Oswalt, Belinda Ferro, Mark Whited

Absent: Kris Johnson (Kitty), Pat Parr (Mike), Christine Bertz (Belinda)

Guests: Jamie Herold

Meeting called to order at 10:10 a.m.

Minutes: Approved minutes of May 3, 2017, meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Received donations of \$270, including \$50 from TN Valley Wild Ones for brochures, Knoxville Garden Club (\$100), and Community Foundation of Chattanooga (\$100). Disbursements for the period totaled \$225, including \$100 contribution to NA-IPC. We incurred a returned check fee of \$10 for a bounced \$20 donation check from Upland Wildlife Management. Total funds on hand: \$2,392.12. Report attached. ORNL will be donating \$500.

SE-EPPC Grant: Awarded funds up to \$2,500 may be used for an on-ground project. It requires matching funds, which can include in-kind donations. The proposal is due early to mid September. Kitty knows of a project at Ijams that could get matching funds from Legacy Parks. Ijams has asked her to organize a training workshop(s) and plant pull(s). Invasive species on site include privet, bush honeysuckle, wintercreeper, English ivy, and fig buttercup. New leadership at the nature center sees the value in invasive removal, and they have resources to help with the grant. The grant period starts Oct. 1 with a year to finish. TN-IPC has several people in the area to assist throughout the year. Chris and Belinda will write the grant with help from Jimmy and Adam, beginning early next week. Ben Nanny at Ijams is the main contact. Ijams has a large membership and volunteer base, providing a visible platform for the message of invasive plants.

Ijams Methods Workshop: It will focus on control methods, herbicide selections, etc., and EDDMapS reporting as a lead-up to the plant pull and will target volunteers. The date will likely be early to mid October, but needs to be scheduled around two other conferences in the Knoxville area during that same time period. It can be part of the grant application noted above.

Keen Grant: Their annual grant for projects up to \$10,000 has a Sept. 30, 2017, deadline. The board should keep this in mind for next year and plan a project to submit in 2018.

Donation Boxes: During any TN-IPC event, we should put out a box or jar to collect on-site donations. These funds would support brochure printing, Web maintenance, etc. Katy will compile a list of our public initiatives that would benefit from donations and send it to everyone for review. The list will be on display with the donation boxes during these public events. Margie will send Katy our logos.

Web Site, Social Media: Several good articles have been posted on Facebook by Belinda and Christine. We have over 200 followers. Posting pictures with catchy titles draws people in. Other organizations like and follow us, improving our ability to network. Christine handles Twitter and will add Katy to Facebook.

Updated TN-IPC List: There has been a lackluster response from only 4 of the 21 botanists sent the list thus far. Adam will include those comments received and resend the list in hopes of generating additional responses by August 31.

Liriope was mentioned several times as an addition. Trifoliate orange was also suggested. Comments reinforced listing *Nandina* as an emerging threat. *Murdania* is a regional threat, not bad in the western half but problematic in East Tennessee. Frosty Levy wanted timothy, fescue and barnyard grasses put back on the list, but the feeling is that such plants will undermine the power of the list. *Bromus inermis* has proven invasive in high elevation balds, so Adam will put it back on the list.

Adam will check NA-IPC's site regarding list revision standards regarding the time period for peer review and public comment. The goal will be to initiate a public comment period by mid-September and complete the list revision process by end of the calendar year. The board will assist individual acknowledgement of any public comments.

Margie will ask Doug about a public comment form widget with Wordpress or work with a Google Docs plugin to accumulate public comments. We can post this on the Web site and Facebook, send a Tweet, and use our email list to get the word out.

Brochures: We still have some on hand but will want to reprint before spring. Steve Manning may pay to print some for the symposium in December.

Invasive Plant Symposium Dec. 13-15, 2017: Steve extended the abstract deadline. He is still looking for speakers, and any ideas should be sent to Steve. Adam reports that TVA rare-plant conservation on ROWs is a likely topic that relates to invasive issues peripherally. TN-IPC will give a presentation on the state Weed Wrangles. Time limits for talks range from 15 to 45 minutes. There will be a poster session as well. SE-EPPC will have a half-day meeting session with member states for updates at some point during the symposium.

We will set up a vendor booth with our display and also conduct our next board meeting during the symposium. Steve may ask some of the board members to chair sessions, etc. Each board member has to register, and if employers don't assist with the cost, perhaps TN-IPC can help offset personal expenses.

Applicator points need to be applied state by state. Mark will contact SE-EPPC for a list of DOTs and Katy will assist. We will need to check the registration list later to see if other states outside the southeast need to be contacted.

List Citation: For anyone citing our list in a report, it should read as follows with the applicable year date -- Invasive Plants of Tennessee [2009 or 2017/18], Tennessee Invasive Plant Council, www.tnipc.org.

Clean Quarry: Vulcan has approached us regarding development of an invasive plant management plan for their properties. It is not exactly clear what their goal is and what they want from us. Perhaps they are looking for certification is mentioned on our Web site. Dave and Jamie will reach out to them. Regarding management plans, we can provide referrals to businesses that could perform this service for a fee. TN-IPC cannot do that.

We might consider placing a few examples of invasive plant management plans on our Web site as a model to follow.

Mark reports that the mitigation office of TDOT might occasionally specify clean gravel. Younger staff at TDOT are more receptive to invasive issues, presenting an opportunity for protocol revision in the future. They already use TDEC's soil manual, which we successfully revised to include native plant alternatives.

Botany Bill: TN-IPC board members with state or federal associations cannot participate in any advocacy role due to conflict of interest. USDA is already reevaluating participation on boards like TN-IPC, and any hint of an activist role on our part would force certain members to step away. We must maintain an education and outreach profile. We can post information on the bill on our Web site but cannot suggest action.

TN Dept. Agriculture Pest Plant Rule: Katy suggested the board consider proposing the addition of mimosa, Japanese honeysuckle, and maybe three others to the list. We would get the biggest nursery industry pushback on *Nandina* or burning bush.

Officers 2018: No one wants to take on the tradition role of president, a role that does not need to be as rigidly defined as treasurer or even secretary. Perhaps the board can divide the duties and share responsibilities. Kitty will make a list of the various duties she has performed, including conference calls, emails, meeting dates and agendas. The board will share these duties and rotate the role of facilitator for each meeting.

Right now conference calls from SE-EPPC and NA-IPC are quarterly. Perhaps we could convince SE-EPPC to reduce the number of calls from quarterly to semi-annual and reduce the call length, currently running 2 hours or more. Belinda will facilitate the December meeting and draft the agenda. Jamie will be the official "Bringer-of-Cookies." Andrea is officially stepping off the board with Dave taking her place for TDEC.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Margie Hunter
Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT – August 10, 2017
TENNESSEE INVASIVE PLANT COUNCIL

GENERAL OPERATING ACCOUNT	
Beginning Balance: (May 3, 2017)	\$726.25
<u>Receipts:</u>	
TN Wild Ones (Brochure printing)	\$50.00
Membership Donation (Upland Wildlife Mgmt)	\$20.00
Donation: Knoxville Garden Club)	\$100.00
Donation: Comm. Foundation of Greater Chattanooga	\$100.00
<i>Total Receipts: \$270.00</i>	
<u>Expenses:</u>	
Reimbursement (Bertz) for Alix	-\$95.00
NA-IPC Contribution	-\$100.00
Returned Check (Upland Wildlife Mgmt)	-\$20.00
Returned Check Fee	-\$10.00
<i>Total Expenses: \$225.00</i>	
Ending Balance: August 10, 2017	\$771.25
MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT	
Beginning Balance: May 3, 2017	\$784.80
Net Interest Earned:	+\$0.03
Ending Balance: August 10, 2017	\$784.83
TOTAL ASSETS OF GENERAL & MM ACCOUNTS	
	\$1556.08
PAY PAL ACCOUNT	
Beginning Balance: May 3, 2017	\$782.18
<u>Receipts:</u>	
Board Membership	+\$20.00
T-Shirt Sales & Shipping (\$18 x 2)	+\$36.00
<u>Expenses:</u>	
Paypal Fees	-\$2.14
Ending Balance: August 10, 2017	\$836.04
TOTAL ASSETS OF ALL ACCOUNTS	
	\$2392.12