

TN-IPC Board Meeting
Feb. 24, 2016
Bells Bend Park, Nashville

Attendance: Justin Coffey, Andrea Bishop, Mike Berkley, Margie Hunter, Kitty McCracken, Adam Datillo, Alix Pfenningwerth

Absent: Kris Johnson (Kitty), Belinda Ferro (Adam), Chris Oswald (Justin), Pat Parr (Mike), Christine Bertz (Alix)

Guest: Nathan Hoover (Div. Forestry), Jamie Harold (ORNL), Steve Manning (IPC), LinnAnn Welch (Metro Parks)

Meeting called to order 10:25 a.m.

Minutes: Board Meeting Nov. 12, 2015, minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: Not much changed, 0.12 interest, one new member, filed tax information with SE-EPPC. Report attached.

Membership: Board members need to pay annual dues. We keep all membership monies now; nothing is shared with SE-EPPC. We need to draft and print a new brochure. Similar to the native plant society, we could offer half price memberships at events like the upcoming Nashville Lawn and Garden Show. Margie is coordinating the booth there. Jamie will cover the Wild Ones conference in Chattanooga, March 5. Board members should think of people or organizations to whom we could offer free memberships for a year. Who should be part of us but aren't? Margie and Andrea will work on brochure text. Kitty has a person to do the layout.

Weed Wrangles: Concept is expanding through the Garden Club of America. It will be pushed regionally in 2017, including TX, MS, LA, AR. They're pursuing a grant to hire a professional in each state through the invasive plant council. Steve will speak at the national GCA meeting next year. The event will continue on the first Saturday in March each year for now. Steve hopes to bring everyone together periodically.

In Tennessee this year, Memphis had 50 people at the talk, and two sites with about 50 people each at end of January. Nashville and Knoxville are scheduled for March 5. Sites need to send emails out now to solicit volunteers. Local representation in Nashville: Fort Negley (Andrea), Glen Leven (Mike), and City Cemetery (Margie). Steve is doing a webinar (Feb. 25, 2:00 p.m.) to explain how to become involved. Lookout Mountain is April 9. Dan Simberloff will give a lecture in Knoxville.

Brochures: "Invasive Plants and Their Effects on Public and Private Lands" was revised by Jamie and 1,000 were printed by ORNL. It will be made available at the Weed Wrangles and other public events.

TN-IPC name change: Nothing more has been done to date. Our new domain name must be renewed in August.

Mission Objectives: Kitty will send five objects discussed at last meeting to everyone and track any recommended changes.

Website: Margie will contact Doug Ingram and begin dialogue on changeover and get prices for various stages. Jamie will send the name of a designer TCWP uses.

NA-IPC ASTM Standards: Sara Kuebbing joined us via video chat to discuss the proposed listing standards. The only snag right now is the perception that the standards may carry regulatory weight. The actual listing criteria will remain unchanged, and we can begin a revision of our plant list following the guidelines. The primary difference for us will be public notification and posting of the revised list for comments to provide transparency.

Plant List: Our list is too long, we need to review it with an ecological perspective in mind and simplify it based on our objectives and the people we believe will use it. Adam compiled a sample list with two categories, "Established" and "Emerging," lumping similar species under the genus name. The list would be dynamic, as species might go on or off. On his sample list, many horticultural species are missing. TN-IPC might create two lists -- one for natural areas and land managers, one for homeowners. We need to develop a framework for this. Sorting by region isn't very practical, as it would only be for a few species based on ranges. We could link to USDA PLANTS or EDDMapS.

Might take the categories "Established" and "Emerging" and make them regional. Invasive (break into sub categories), non-invasive, and needs further assessment or Emerging Threat, basically a watch list, and Severe or Established Threat with full list, and subset lists targeted to land managers or homeowners. Adam will continue to work on list tweaking species and developing a template for evaluation -- categories of ecological impact, things we should take inconsideration assessing species, may not have info for all of them, such as fire cycles, etc. Sarah will send a list of metrics. We can send our evaluation rubric to her for feedback from ASTM standards committee. We will draft a list in house and send out for review and suggestions. A core group will do species assessments, and others will evaluate the recommended list.

Regarding the new standard requirement for transparency, we create additional validity for the list by publicizing it to stakeholders through newsletter and others (horticulture industry) not typically on our contact list, posting on the Web site, etc. There would be an open period for comments by a certain date, usually 45 to 60 days duration. We must allow comments and provide a response to them, but we don't have to change anything based on the comments. We can promote it as a list for green landscaping based on ecological or environmental harm not economic or human health. A report of all comments, commenters, and our responses must be made available publicly. We should send our updates to KY-EPPC—they're updating their list, too.

USFWS cogon grass grant: Adam asked Victor Maddux, CWMA in MS, about surveying the state for cogongrass. He would be willing to do this but thinks presentations might be more beneficial. Such a survey could have good PR value for TN-IPC, especially along the southern border. We might hire students at UT or APSU to survey. We need to include negative data for EDDMapS. Andrea will check with FWS to see if we could use money for this, maybe they have

someone who could do it, and perhaps check with NRCS. Must get any survey set up by flowering time in May.

SE-EPPC: Tennessee's turn to host the joint meeting is 2017. 2016 (Sept/Oct) is with SC. We need to begin the groundwork -- discussing location, dates, talks, field trips, student work and prizes. We share 60% of revenue if money is made on the meeting. Kitty asked the board to bring suggestions to next meeting. Kitty will get more info from SE-EPPC.

Logo: Members present voted to accept the logo featuring an orange circle with white state, and plants in an off-center spiral. Alix will get the designer to create a black and white version.

Clean Quarry Initiative, Rutherford County: Andrea wants to work with local rock quarries to protect glade systems in the area. She will get the state Division of Natural Areas to look into beginning this process.

Envirothon Competition: The featured issue this year is invasive species. We have been asked to assist with the testing. Kitty, Margie, Andrea, Kris Johnson, and Christine Bertz will develop the two 20-25 question tests (regional and state) and a scenario problem for the state competition May 4 and 5 at Clyde York 4-H Camp in Crossville. Regional test is due by March 18, state test and scenario by April 22. Organizers would welcome TN-IPC setting up an information table May 4 and having a board member serve on the panel of judges for the scenario presentation the following day.

Next Meeting: Kitty will send a doodle poll

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Hunter
Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT – Feb 24, 2016

TENNESSEE EXOTIC PEST PLANT COUNCIL

GENERAL OPERATING ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance: (Nov 12, 2015) **\$706.22**
Receipts:

Expenses:

Ending Balance: (Feb 24, 2016) **\$706.22**

MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance: (Nov 12, 2015) **\$4,944.96**

Net Interest Earned: **+\$0.12**

Ending Balance: (Feb 24, 2016) **\$4,945.08**

TOTAL ASSETS OF GENERAL & MM ACCOUNTS \$5,651.30

PAY PAL ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance: (Nov 12, 2015) **\$588.98**

Receipts:

Membership dues **+\$30.00**

Expenses:

Paypal fees **-\$0.96**

Ending Balance: (Feb 24, 2016) **\$618.02**

TOTAL ASSETS OF ALL ACCOUNTS \$6,269.32