

**TN-EPPC Board Meeting**  
**Tennessee Tech, Cookeville**  
**Nov. 12, 2015**

Attendance: Kitty McCracken, Alix Pfennigwerth, Margie Hunter, Mike Berkley, Justin Coffey, Andrea Bishop, Jimmy Groton, Christine Bertz, Adam Datillo

Absent: Pat Parr (Mike), Kris Johnson (Kitty), Belinda Esham-Ferro (Andrea), Chris Oswald (Alix)

Guests: Steve Manning (IPC), Shawn Bible (TDOT beautification), Sharon Kington (TDEC)

Meeting called to order 10:10 a.m.

Minutes: Approved Aug. 13, 2015

Treasurer: Donated \$250 to Discover Life in America for the bioblitz in Knoxville. We earned \$0.12 in interest and have a total of \$6,240.16 in our two bank and PayPal accounts. Report attached.

Weed Wrangle: Garden Club of America in Nashville, Knoxville, Chattanooga (Lookout Mountain), and Memphis are planning events for 2016. GCA is likely to expand it regionally or even nationally in 2017. They are developing materials and a model guide for other groups to follow. Hands On Nashville and University School will join the Nashville effort this year. All groups are encouraged to pull in local partners, universities, companies, etc. GCA chapters and members have connections and enthusiasm to get things done.

Memphis Jan. 23 (talk 22) Shelby Farms (Christine)

Lookout Mountain (March 12) (Richard Clements, Wild Ones)

Knoxville (March 5) (Belinda, Kitty, Justin)

Nashville (March 5) (Mike, Margie, Andrea)

TN-EPPC can offer overall support in preparation and brochures. The event doesn't have to be removal. It could also be mapping or plant ID. TN-EPPC could help find/create Webinars to teach about tools and methodology (Steve), mapping species (Justin, Margie), and plant identification (Christine, Kitty, Andrea). We might also develop a basic introduction piece that discusses the issue of invasive plants. What is an invasive plant? Why is it important to control them? Why should we care? We can touch on issues such as ecology, property values, etc. Many webinars already exist, and we can simply locate the best ones and provide links.

Weed Wrangle has its own Web site, [www.weedwrangle.org](http://www.weedwrangle.org) with links to cities. Tool banks are needed, Metro beautification has one. ORNL has one. There is cost associated with the purchase and storage of mattocks, weed wrenches, gloves, and safety glasses (PPE). Steve will start tool bank in Nashville with TN-EPPC.

Steve will send Kitty addresses of the GCA contacts in each city to ship brochures. Margie send the PDF of brochures and links to plant profiles to Steve. Kitty

will send copy of ID brochure she has to Margie and Andrea. There might be a use for Teri Hogan's dvd and booklet on invasive plants and control of Chinese yam at Stones River National Battlefield.

\*All board members are to look for ID webinars to post, sending information to Steve and Margie. Alix will look into the ease of possible newsletter signup for interested people at the wrangles. Kitty will check our brochures numbers and communicate with Andrea and Margie. Steve will set up webinar version (voice over) of Justin's mapping presentation and send everyone a list of the top 20 species likely to be targeted during event: privet, autumn olive, bush honeysuckle, multiflora rose, kudzu, vinca, etc.

Name Change: We are investigating a name change from EPPC to Invasive Plant Council. There is paperwork involved including filing an amendment with state and federal agencies to submit name change. Even though our nonprofit status and taxes are through SE-EPPC, we can still change name. Bank accounts, social media, mail, brochures, logo, Web address, etc, all need updating. Alix talked to other IPCs and they said banking changes were the hardest aspect along with coordinating the change among the various platforms. Margie has already purchased tnipc.org domain which is ours until August 2016. We will want to talk with SE-EPPC. Alix and Justin will continue work on the administrative aspect.

The board formally voted to change the name and retain the hyphen in our acronym TN-IPC. Steve suggested Patterson Clark as a possible designer for a new logo, Alix will investigate.

Mission Statement and Goals: Five listed objectives were revised. The following changes were suggested and will be reviewing for any further revision at the next meeting.

1. Disseminate educational materials and provide advisory support on non-native invasive plants and their management.
2. Partner with other organizations in collaborative approaches to invasive plant management.
3. Establish forums to communicate invasive plant issues and policies.
4. Promote use of native plants for good land stewardship.
5. Campaign to prevent further introductions and to develop early detection, rapid response systems.

Donation-based System: Discussion tabled until next meeting.

ASTM Standards: NAIPC has been working on standards for developing plant lists to make the process more transparent and universal. Due to the potential for these standards to be tougher and perhaps influence regulatory implications for list uses (stop grow or quarantine), nursery industry associates such as American Horticultural Society have vetoed efforts to date. Currently at an impasse, NAIPC is working on a second set of standards that would outline how the plant lists may be used and how listed plants might be affected.

Community Events: Fairfield Glade event was well attended. We distributed brochures. Attendees were interested in Fairview's municipal model of plant restrictions.

Web Site: Much of the functionality was restored by Jed Schneider after some contentious discussions. It is a temporary fix only. We will need a total upgrade within 1 to 2 years at significant expense. Jimmy suggested approaching a grant opportunity that supports educational efforts, Temper of the Times Foundation. Their site does not mention Web sites specifically, and Christine will make contact to see if we might qualify. The organization supports environmental advertising out of Montana, offering grants of \$5,000 to \$15,000. Adam and Margie will work on grant application if we qualify. Margie\* will solicit a project budget from Doug Ingram, the Web developer suggested by Belinda to replace Jed.

TN-EPPC Plant List Update: What do we want to revise? What purpose(s) should the list serve? Who uses this list? Shall we look at organizing by regional distribution, ecological distribution, management, planting choices? There seem to be two objectives, sometimes opposing regarding plants on the list:

1. How big a deal is that plant in Tennessee
2. Can anything be done about it?

We could consider two lists organized by ecological impacts and manageability. Ecology and EDDR lists with a regional component. Maybe the Web site could offer a data management component to sort by region. Adam will bring an example of this to next meeting.

Board members are asked to bring a list of people most likely to use our list to the next meeting along with possible survey questions. We can solicit improvements to our list organization for utilization and missing information.

Andrea will approach botanists at the upcoming rare plant meeting to suggest currently unlisted non-native species we should seriously consider adding to list.

Alix will look at Sarah's presentation from our anniversary conference for points of differentiation between proposed ASTM standards and our 2009 protocol. We may be able to bring our current list into compliance with little additional effort.

USFWS Grant: TIPS committee received \$5,000 for cogongrass EDDR. It expired earlier this year, and we requested an extension for one year with the thought of using it for other species such as purple loosestrife populations found along the Nolichucky River involving many different property owners. Adam agreed to look into TVA's possible involvement on this issue, and the board decided to stick with cogongrass. We will investigate paying someone to survey and map likely corridors in May, a botanist that might find other invasive species to put on the radar. Adam will talk to a Mississippi professor about this job. We could also use some funds to sponsor workshop for water services people in southern tier of counties on species ID.

Clean Quarry, Rutherford County: Table to next meeting

EDDMapS Verification: Need a person to serve in this capacity for submissions made in the state. Justin is interested and will ask his supervisor. Andrea will get him information on the work involved.

Next Meeting: Feb. 2016. Kitty will conduct a Doodle Poll on date with a tentative location in Nashville at IPC. Kitty or Mike will check with Steve.

Adjourned 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Hunter  
Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT – Nov 12, 2015  
TENNESSEE EXOTIC PEST PLANT COUNCIL

**GENERAL OPERATING ACCOUNT**

Beginning Balance: (Aug 13, 2015)	\$956.02
Receipts:	
Expenses:	
Sponsorship-Urban Wilderness BioBlitz	-\$250.00
Ending Balance: (Nov 12, 2015)	\$706.22

**MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT**

Beginning Balance: (Aug 13, 2015)	\$4,944.84
Net Interest Earned: +\$0.12	
Ending Balance: (Nov 12, 2015)	\$4,944.96

<b>TOTAL ASSETS OF GENERAL &amp; MM ACCOUNTS</b>	<b>\$5,651.18</b>
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**PAY PAL ACCOUNT**

Beginning Balance: (Aug 13, 2015)	\$588.98
Receipts:	
Expenses:	
Ending Balance: (Nov 12, 2015)	\$588.98

<b>TOTAL ASSETS OF ALL ACCOUNTS</b>	<b>\$6,240.16</b>
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