

TN-EPPC Board Meeting
Nov. 6, 2014
Obed River Visitor Center, Wartburg, TN

Attendance: Mike Berkley, Margie Hunter, Pat Parr, Kitty McCracken, Belinda Esham, Andrea Bishop, Justin Coffey, Alix Pfennigwerth

Absent: Kris Johnson (Belinda), Sara Keubbing (Alix), Anni Self (Andrea)

Guest: Jamie Herold, Plant Ecologist, ORNL; Brian Ross, Stewardship Ecologist, TDEC; Matt Peterson, Biological Science Tech, Obed/BSF; Colby Jenkins, Biological Science Tech, Obed/BSF

Meeting called to order at 11:00 a.m. EST [* denotes action item]

Minutes: Aug 1, 2014, approved.

Treasurer's Report: Reflects approximately \$600 in memberships (mail and online), adjustment of a double payment to Constant Contact, and payment to Phillips Printing for our brochures (\$1,374.28). Total assets \$6,043.39. Report approved and attached.

Anniversary Conference

Social, Hike, and Hospitality: Social and Hill Property hike at IPC Thursday, Feb. 26, 4 to 7. Mike secured Julia Landstreet to lead at least one hike. Alix* will add a hike check box to the social section of Eventbrite registration page to get a better idea of the numbers. Hike groups are restricted to 20 people. We'll plan on two groups, one at 4:00 and one at 5:00. Nashville people will handle social and conference food and drink. IPC will provide food for the social. Mike* will talk to Steve to coordinate details including beer and paper goods (will caterer bring these?). TN-EPPC will cover social drinks and conference food. Margie* will handle lunch orders.

Registration: IPC will cover the first 30 student registrations at \$30 and any additional student registrations at \$15 to cover lunch costs. Belinda* will send agenda and invitation to school/university list from Steve noting the free registration for students. Everyone is encouraged to forward the Constant Contact announcement to others. Mike* will be sure Steve has it. Other activities and group involvements in the "Weed Wrangle" for Saturday, could boost our attendance. Our conference will be promoted as part of this event. Belinda* will send three email blast reminders (Dec. Jan. Feb.).

Agenda: Pat Parr will open the conference welcome and Kitty will do the closing. We will switch the timing for Sara's talk in case she can't come (weather) with an option to leave that space open for a longer lunch. Alix proposed a revolving slide show of old photos during the morning conference registration and welcome.

Kitty* will propose tweaked talk titles to Chris Oswalt [NNIP Distribution and Climate Change Implications for Treatment (or Management)] and Kris Johnson [Trends on Invasive Plant Management in the Smokies], run these by Anni first to be sure they would qualify for 'pesticide points,' send final agenda to Alix, Belinda, and Margie ASAP, and get the agenda to the appropriate person with Dept. of Agriculture for points review.

Expenses/Sponsorships: Pat and Belinda could not find monetary partners. Pat* will check with SAMAB and Brian/Andrea* will check with TDEC. Mike* will call Caroline Stevens about Nashville Garden Club sponsorship. Belinda* will mention sponsorship opportunity in future reminder emails. TN-EPPC board agreed to pay Sara \$500 to cover her travel expenses. TDEC will handle copying of the conference agenda and name tags.

Memphis Workshop:

Saturday, Feb 7, 2015, at Memphis Botanic Garden. Agenda will feature

9:00 - 9:55 -- Andrea (Invasive 101 Intro), she* will ask Barry Hart to come and use part of the time discussing the general invasive issue in West Tennessee, perhaps mentioning the spread of coastal native *Baccharis hamilifolia*.

10:00 -10:55 -- Justin (control methods, small scale and large scale homeowner/city work crew)

11:00 -11:55 -- Mike (native plant landscape/garden substitutes for invasive horticultural species)

12:00 - 12:45 -- lunch break

12:45 - 1:15 -- Margie (WT invasive species identification and step-by-step EDDMapS reporting process) billed as advanced training opportunity for area Tennessee Naturalists. Margie* will choose final plant list (from those submitted/ reviewed by Allan Trently, Barry Hart, and Dwayne Estes) and run it by the board.

Andrea*, Justin* and Mike* will get their talk titles to Margie. Margie* will draft the agenda, send it to TDOA for 'pesticide points' assignment, forward to MBG and TNP for public posting/marketing. Margie* will also firm fee and registration details with MBG, ask them to handle refreshments, and secure local invasive species cuttings for display.

Newsletter: Belinda solicited articles for January. Mike* native alternate, Kitty* president column, Jamie Herold* ORNL management summary.

President Replacement: Jack had to step down for health reasons. Kitty will assume the role of interim president until the next election in Aug. 2015. Belinda will serve as VP.

General Presentation Review: Deferred to future meeting.

Plant List and Field Priority: Margie received clarification on Dwayne Estes and Joey Shaw's proposal regarding invasive species in the field and use of our plant list. While there are some regionally-based discrepancies in degree of invasiveness, their primary issue dealt with an ability to use our list to back their management recommendations. Many plants we list as Severe Threat are beyond effective broad-scale control. Species in manageable populations that pose threats and would respond well to immediate action are ranked much lower. Therefore, our list ranking proved of little assistance in giving their site assessment additional weight and value.

Dwayne and Joey developed a 10-level ranking system that refines our list for use at smaller scales. It could serve as an excellent tool for on-site management evaluation and sorting control priorities based on species found, their numbers, the

success potential for control, their invasion potential in the communities present, their threat to rare species or communities, etc.

Margie proposed that TN-EPPC should (1) review this priority ranking for use among land managers statewide, (2) begin the review process for a plant list update, (3) and include specific community-type threat information to our available data on each species. The latter proposal could boost the effective use of Dwayne and Joey's priority evaluation system by state conservationists. Margie* will email a copy of their system to the board.

Address Change: It is OK with TDEC for us to use their address, though it will be cumbersome and must include very specific information to avoid misdirection. Andrea* will check with Anni on the volume and type of mail we receive.

Historic Materials: Pat found photos and other historic documents, including our original logo file, older presentations, etc., on her computer. She put them on CDs. Andrea will take them for TN-EPPC archive.

Board Members: Jack Ranney and Anni Self are stepping down. Heather Slayton, Division of Forestry, is a possible replacement for Anni, and Brittany Viers, NRCS Jackson has expressed interest. Andrea* will invite them to the conference and our board meeting Feb. 26. We should also ask Steve Manning to join the board.

Next Meeting: Feb 26, 2015, 2:00 p.m., at IPC, Nashville. We will meet new and proposed board members, review Memphis workshop results, and finalize any conference details.

Meeting adjourned 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Margie Hunter
Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT – Nov 6, 2014
TENNESSEE EXOTIC PEST PLANT COUNCIL

GENERAL OPERATING ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance:	(June 13, 2014)	\$1,889.27
Receipts:		
	Memberships	+\$410.00
	Constant Contact reimbursement	+\$168.00
Expenses:		
	Constant Contact (annual e-newsletter fee)	-\$188.00
	Aug. conference refunds	
	Phillips Printing Co (promotional material: handouts, plant lists, etc)	-\$110.00 -\$1374.28
Ending Balance:	(Nov 6, 2014)	\$794.99

MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance:	(June 13, 2014)	\$3,944.42
Net Interest Earned:		+\$0.18
Ending Balance:	(Nov 6, 2014)	\$3,944.57

TOTAL ASSETS OF GENERAL & MM ACCOUNTS **\$4,739.56**

PAY PAL ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance:	(March 11, 2014)	\$806.77
Receipts:		
	Memberships	+\$170.00
	Donations	
	Conference registration	+\$340
	T-shirt sales	+\$18.00
Expenses:		
	PayPal fees	-\$15.52
	Eventbrite fees	-\$15.42
Ending Balance:	(June 12, 2014)	\$1,303.83

TOTAL ASSETS OF ALL ACCOUNTS **\$6,043.39**