

**TN-EPPC Board Meeting**  
**June 12, 2014**  
**Cumberland Mountain State Park, Crossville, TN**

Attendance: Mike Berkley, Margie Hunter, Pat Parr, Kitty McCracken, Jack Ranney, Alix Pfennigwerth, Belinda Esham, Anni Self, Justin Coffey

Absent: Andrea Bishop (Mike), Kris Johnson (Pat), Sara Keubbing (Alix), Marie Tackett (Justin)

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m. \* denotes action item

Minutes: Mar. 11, 2013, approved.

Treasurer's Report: Report attached. Reflects income as \$70 in memberships, and expenses as \$168 Constant Contact fee and \$666.70 SE-EPPC Wildland Weeds.

Officer Nominations: Ballot for officers includes Jack Ranney, president, Kitty McCracken, vice president, and Alix Pfennigwerth, treasurer. This slate was nominated and voted into office. Normally, officer elections are staggered. To return to this format, Jack will serve as interim president for one year. Secretary and president positions will be up in 2015. Newly elected VP and treasurer will serve the typical two-year term.

Newsletter, Twitter, and Web Site: The next newsletter is slated for August 1 but will be delayed until September 1 to include a report on the conference. Belinda requests any news items. Jack\* will write a president's column. Justin\* will write a column on BSF discussing efforts on invasive plants, hemlock woolly adelgid, and relocation of Virginia Spiraea sites. Mike\* will write native plant column featuring Virginia Spiraea. Everyone\* is asked to send any relevant calendar events to Belinda, Alix, and Margie. Margie\* will forward newsletter to the conservation groups that supported our ISAW efforts in 2009 and 2010 and send the list to Alix for Twitter.

Conference TN-EPPC at Twenty: A Look Back, A Vision Forward, August 2, 2014

Agenda: Welcome and closing will be handled by Jack Ranney. Cheekwood's president (or representative) should be invited to be part of the welcome, too. Mike\* will offer them this opportunity. Kitty\* will contact all speakers with directions to leave 5 minutes at the end of their talk for questions, to have their presentations (on flash drive) read to load onto the conference computer no later than 8:30 that morning, and ask their permission to put it on our Web site following the conference. Alix\* (Mac) and Belinda\* (PC) will bring computers. We will have a "5 Minute" sign to notify speakers when their time is almost up. Margie\* will contact Bob about including recognition (asking them to stand) of the founders, all presidents, and all past and current board members. Panelists for the final discussion will include Pat and Belinda and perhaps Lee Patrick. Mike\* will ask Lee. Pat\* will serve as panel leader. Belinda\* and Margie\* will be note takers. As a thank you gift, we will give Dan the new TN-EPPC t-shirt. Wrap-

up should take no more than 5 minutes (not 30) sometime between 4:00 and 4:15 at the latest as Cheekwood closes (locks the gate) at 5:00 p.m.

Registration: Fees are set as \$50 for non-members (includes a half-price, one-year membership), \$40 for members, \$30 students which includes lunch. On-site table will be manned by Kitty,\* Anni,\* and Sara.\* Our registration will be through Eventbrite, and Sara\* will set it up to open ASAP. We will gather information on lunch (“Do you prefer a vegetarian option?”) and plans to attend the Friday social. Eventbrite registration page can link to our Web site with the agenda, Nashville sites map, directions, and lodging recommendations (Bellevue Hampton). Justin\* will do a Google map. Registration will remain open through August 2, but we encourage registration by July 28 to assist planning and insure lunch preferences are honored. Board members and speakers (except Dan and Steve and Lee) should register.

Social: IPC is hosting at their offices, Friday, August 1. Hiking the Hill property will run from 4:00 to 6:00 and the social will continue until 7:00. IPC will provide a keg of beer and hors d’oeuvres. We will provide wine. Anni\* can get wine based on numbers after July 28 or Jack\* can provide some homemade wine. Mike\* will talk to Steve about arrangements to secure hike leaders and paper goods, such as cups, napkins, etc. Margie\* will make road signs for social.

Sponsors: Andrea\* is contacting Cumberland River Compact. Pat\* and Belinda\* have developed levels of sponsorship to defray costs of refreshments, lunch, etc. They have a list of contacts and will begin calling next week. We must list them on our program and provide appropriate recognition on tables and during the welcome. Cheekwood and IPC are already major sponsors. Alix\* and Sara\* will settle treasurer duties to facilitate check deposits. Pat\* and Belinda\* will make any needed table signs for additional sponsors associated with break items or lunch.

Lunch and Refreshments: Margie\* will place the order from Jason’s Deli. We will purchase drinks separately. Mike\* will check with Cheekwood on refrigeration, coffee maker (urn), and will bring ice tubs if needed. Terri Barnes\* shop at Costo for drinks, break refreshments, napkins, cups, etc. Andrea,\* Anni,\* and Margie\* will work with Mike and Terri on decisions, purchases.

Sundries: Anni\* will check on name tags or buy at Costo and will bring Sharpies. Rather than assembling a packet, we will simply have copies of the agenda available along with any marketing materials from sponsors, which Pat\* and Belinda\* will secure and see if anyone has bags. Mike\* will see if IPC has notepads. Anni\* will bring TN-EPPC posters and rubber bands. We will offer the old and new t-shirts for sale and will have some items for historical display (awards, documents, photos, Margie\* check with Kris and Bob) and our roll-up display. Margie\* will make a parking sign at Cheekwood and assist Alix\* (and her sister) on program design. The program could be two sided, featuring sponsors on back by support level. Belinda\* and Pat\* will send Alix sponsor information. Treasurers should be prepared to make two payments for Cheekwood donation and lunch expenses that day. We will need at least 5 or 6 tables for food, registration, and display.

Publicity: Alix\* can send Tweets. Margie\* will add everything to the Web site. Belinda\* will email a special newsletter as soon as Eventbrite and the Web site are ready. Board members\* can forward this to others by clicking the “Forward this email” link at the bottom.

Internet & Stakeholders Analysis: Jack reviewed various groups with a connection to invasive species and determined that TN-EPPC should strive to network better with the nursery industry, conservation organizations, and state policy makers. The board feels working through the customer base through education (such as our workshops and brochures) is the best way for us to have an impact on the nursery industry. Recent TN-EPPC projects have already made inroads in other areas, as our outreach efforts encompass technical, regulatory, governmental agency, nonprofit, and private citizen components. We will use information from Jack's study as points of discussion in setting our mission goals and a review of our strategic plan at the next full board meeting.

Mission Statement and Goals Draft: Our mission statement is "To protect Tennessee's unique natural heritage from the ecological and economic harm of invasive plants through research, education, and policy." We need to develop our list of goals and can do so as part of a strategic plan review. We may toss informal ideas at the August 1 social and will address this issue completely at the November board meeting to incorporate information from the conference group discussion.

Workshops: Margie is still in contact with Charity Siebert to confirm a date at Memphis Botanic Garden, either Feb. 7 or 28, 2015.

Plant List Improvements: Dwayne Estes and Joey Shaw propose a more useful organization system for our plant list. Margie\* will contact Dwayne to send us a synopsis of their idea for the board to review. We may have Dwayne talk at our February or May board meeting, which could perhaps take place in Clarksville.

Next Meeting: August 1 at 3:00 p.m. for pre-conference final check at IPC just before the social. November 6, 2014, will be our next full board meeting set aside for strategic planning, conference debriefing, and Memphis workshop plans. We will meet at OBED office in Wartburg, TN at 10:00 a.m. EST.

Meeting adjourned 1:50 p.m.,

Respectfully submitted,  
Margie Hunter  
Secretary

## TREASURER'S REPORT – March 11, 2014

### TENNESSEE EXOTIC PEST PLANT COUNCIL

#### GENERAL OPERATING ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance: (March 11, 2014)		<b>\$2,653.97</b>
Receipts:		
	Memberships	\$70.00
Expenses:		
	Constant Contact (annual e-newsletter fee)	\$168.00
	Florida EPPC (annual Wildland Weeds fee)	\$666.70
Ending Balance: (June 12, 2014)		<b>\$1,889.27</b>

#### MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance: (March 11, 2014)		<b>\$3,944.33</b>
Net Interest Earned:		\$0.09
Ending Balance: (June 12, 2014)		<b>\$3,944.42</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS OF GENERAL &amp; MM ACCOUNTS</b>		<b>\$5,833.69</b>

#### PAY PAL ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance: (March 11, 2014)		<b>\$647.50</b>
Receipts:		
	Memberships	\$165.00
Expenses:		
	PayPal Fees	\$5.73
Ending Balance: (June 12, 2014)		<b>\$806.77</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS OF ALL ACCOUNTS</b>		<b>\$6,640.46</b>