

**TN-EPPC Board Meeting Minutes**  
**March 10, 2010**  
**Dan Brown's Farm, Burns, TN**

Attendance: Terri Hogan, Margie Hunter, Anni Self, Andrea Bishop, Claude Bailey, Mike Berkley, Dan Brown, LinnAnn Welch

Absent (proxy): Kris Johnson (Terri), Nancy Fraley (Dan), Bob Parrish (LinnAnn), Jack Gilpin (LinnAnn), Pat Parr (Anni), Kevin Fitch (?)

Guests: Harry Quarles, ORNL

Meeting called to order at 10:15 a.m. (\*\* denotes action item)

Many thanks to Dan and Ginger for the use of their home, lunch, and farm tour.

Minutes: Approved minutes of Nov. 9, 2009.

Treasurer's Report: Strong membership renewal and registration for SE-EPPC Annual Meeting represent most of the approximately \$1,600 in receipts. Web site design, postage & printing for membership cards and Wildland Weeds insert, board member polo shirts account for \$1,400 in expenses. Armour and Armour's fee for revised Landscaping w/Native Plants brochure was \$1,100. Total assets on hand: \$4,880.94. Treasurer's report attached.

Board Terms: Andrea, Anni, Terri, Kris, Pat, Mike, and Claude have agreed to another two-year term on the board. Dan, Bob and Jack are still deliberating. Kevin is not returning. Open officer positions are President and Treasurer. Andrea is willing to be co-president, facilitating the meetings and developing the agenda, with another board member serving as the public face and contact for the group. LinnAnn is willing to serve as Vice President or Treasurer if necessary. Dan\*\* and Anni\*\*, as the nominating committee, will finalize the slate for election at the May meeting. Terri\*\* will review the current board list to see what openings we have for new members, and she will also consult with Bob on any revisions to the bylaws to allow a co-presidency. John Froeschauer is a good candidate for the board.

Landscaping Brochure: The proofs printed by the state were out of proportion and their preferred size of 8.5 by 11 was so small as to be unreadable. Chris is generating a proof for printing and sending it to Andrea. The brochure should be ready to distribute by the May meeting. A printer-friendly version is already posted on the Web site.

SE-EPPC/SERI Annual Meeting: May 11-13, Chattanooga. Space and speakers are set. Web site info is up and registration is open. Deadlines need to be added. Abstract deadline is now Apr. 1. Early registration – Apr. 2. Hotel reservations – Apr. 16. Large room will serve joint sessions, posters, silent auction items, and social.

Schedule – Begins 1:00 p.m. Tuesday with keynote and plenary sessions, snack break, a concurrent session, poster session (10 so far, mostly students), and evening social. Wednesday – meetings all day with a couple of snack breaks and buffet lunch membership meetings for SE-EPPC and SERI. Thursday – 6 field trips with boxed lunch – three require transportation (Cherokee, Little River & Lookout Mtn -- Nancy\*\* is checking locally), two carpools, and one walk (Aquarium). Each trip can accommodate 15 to 20 people max.

Silent Auction – Dan & Margie (& Nancy) met with Andrea to Brian for ideas on potential donors. Letters and donor form are ready. List of donors is underway, which Dan distributed, asking everyone to review and suggest any personal contacts or additional potential donors. Looking for a contact or two in Chattanooga to assist locally – Richard Clements, Christine Boch, Kris Johnson’s sister, or Paola Craddock. Terri\*\* will contact other state EPPCs for donations.

Sponsors – Andrea & Bob along with Brian for SE-EPPC have commitments from Helena Chemical, Dow Agra, and IPC. Mills Foundation declined.

Board responsibilities – Promote conference to interested individuals. Margie\*\* will post more info on our Web site. Arrive early Tuesday a.m. for set up including silent auction items. Nancy\*\* is bringing SCA students to help with labor. Anni\*\* and Chuck Bargeron need to coordinate registration info.

TIPS: Gearing up for three cogongrass workshops across state. Target groups are TDOT, Forestry, and Ag Extension. First workshop is in Chattanooga May 13. Others set for Paris Landing and southern Middle Tennessee. There will be two 2-3 hour sessions each day, with up to 50 participants expected at each session. Distributed materials, adapted from other states, will include pocket guide, video, and poster of similar species.

TDOT actively surveys roads on regular basis and is 100% committed to this effort. They have their own reporting procedure, along with Forestry. A separate reporting form is for the general public. Allison Ross, Army Corps Engineers, will do mapping with survey data through their system.

Terri is doing two other workshops for UT Forestry on general invasive plants. Should encourage Ag Extension agents to share cogongrass materials with county Master Gardener groups. Might want to alert Beth Babbit on these workshops.

Web site: It is up and functioning well. Will keep past events on the calendar, deleting after a few months. Board members are asked to prioritize which Alert species to feature on the Home page with a rotation at 6 months. Pat\*\* Andrea\*\* Jack\*\* Mike\*\* LinnAnn\*\* Kevin\*\* Claude\*\* and Nancy\*\* are researching species descriptions, history, and control. Please get these finished and sent to Margie\*\* for posting.

Control information copied from James Miller’s Southern Forests book lists commercial products, some unavailable to homeowners. Margie\*\* will send Terri\*\* a list to review and suggest refinements to these entries. Regarding photos, two species are not listed on Invasive.org. and 10 others do not have photos there. Margie\*\* will send this list to board asking for photos or suggestions on good links to photos.

TN-IWAW 2010: There were 58 supporting state organizations for TN-IWAW this year and 14 public events. Emailed press packet to 190 media outlets. Many were returned. Don’t really know the outcome of this effort. Three events are featured on the Web site. Have not received the legislative resolution yet. Margie\*\* will check on that and post it on the Web site.

Lawn & Garden Show 2010: Very productive. Handed out materials to interested people, answered questions. Many people already knowledgeable and sympathetic to invasive plants issue. We need to develop a list of native plant nursery options to distribute (Margie\*\*).

Issues Requiring Response: Claude\*\* and Mike\*\* will work on sawtooth oak response. (See Nov. 9 minutes for details.) Terri\*\* will contact Wayne Clatterbuck on Paulownia booklet.

Grass Symposium, 2010: 7th Eastern Native Grass Symposium, Oct. 5-8, Knoxville. “Native Grasses on Working and Natural Landscapes” will focus on grasses as forage and fuels.

Membership Benefits:

Activities – solicit activities for Web calendar from TN-IWAW supporters (Margie\*\*), consider sending email reminders on certain events

Newsletter – Margie\*\* is researching ways to create an email newsletter independent of email firms like Constant Contact. Sunlight Gardens created one using Apple’s Pages. Newsletter could go out quarterly in advance of or after board meetings.

Postcard renewal reminders – worked very well, positive feedback. Need to send out each January.

Misc.:

Profile Articles – LinnAnn\*\* is writing for *Tennessee Conservationist* on revised list and criteria with a few species profiles (cogongrass). Due Apr. 1. *Southern Inspired* magazine (booth adjacent at Lawn & Garden – free in YMCAs, etc.) might do an article through Margie\*\*.

Margie\*\* will sign TN-EPPC on with sustainable.tn.org to participate next year in their Conservation Education Day (Green Day on the Hill) at the state legislature. 80 people with 30 organizations on 20 display tables participated Feb. 23. The potential for its concurrence with TN-IWAW is nice.

Letters of Support: TN-EPPC sent two letters of support for prospective grants and projects with UT and Auburn Extensions (study effect of reducing herbicide amount used in control) and Wolf River Conservancy (working with high schools on restoration and invasive removal).

Display: Margie\*\* is taking it to Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage in Gatlinburg (Apr. 21-25) and bringing back for Mike’s Native Plant Festival April 30/May1. Mike\*\* will bring it to Chattanooga.

Reviewed current display. Photos and some text are faded. Some text is outdated. Who put it together originally? Is artwork still available? Andrea\*\* will check with Brian on these questions. Plan is to update current version and develop a second, perhaps smaller, display (scroll with stand, etc.). One can remain in East TN, one in Middle. Dan\*\* photographed all sections of current display and will email these to Terri, Andrea and Margie. Terri\*\* will talk with person at MTSU printing facility.

Revision to include new photos of featured species, update products offering and organizations list. Overlapping photos should be outlined to facilitate visual separation and names should be in brighter color for contrast.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 12 at SE-EPPC Annual Meeting in Chattanooga, short evening meeting prior to or after dinner. Abbreviated agenda to focus on board election.

Meeting adjourned to tour Dan’s farm and visit GroWild.

Respectfully submitted,  
Margie Hunter

**TREASURER'S REPORT – March 10, 2010**

**TENNESSEE EXOTIC PEST PLANT COUNCIL**

**GENERAL OPERATING ACCOUNT**

Beginning Balance: (November 9, 2009) **\$2,930.85**

Receipts:

Memberships	454.98
SEEPC/SER	1,114.63
Shirts	62.00

Expenses:

Postage/Printing	(2,608.00)
Website	( 835.00)
Shirts	(178.15)

Ending Balance: (March 10, 2010) **\$941.31**

**MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT**

Beginning Balance: (November 9, 2009) **\$ 3938.41**

Net Interest Earned: 1.22

Ending Balance: **\$3,939.63**

**TOTAL ASSETS OF GENERAL & MM ACCOUNTS \$4,880.94**

**TN Exotic Pest Plant Council Board of Directors Meeting, March 10, 2010, 10:00 a.m. to 3PM (Central) at Dan and Ginger Brown's Farm**

**TERRI'S ACTION ITEMS**

- Treasurers report: **Anni** will look for Chris Armour's charge, highlight it in report, and resubmit for board approval
- Spring board terms: list those renewing, list those not renewing,
  - **Terri** ask Bob if the by-laws support co-presidents.
  - **Dan and Jack** notify board on ability/desire to commit to another 2-year term.
  - **Terri** send BOD the number of board positions that are open and the gaps in board representation based on our earlier discussions.
  - **All** compile list of potential board members, John Froeschauer was suggested again, we will pursue.
- Web site
  - **Mike** will send Margie his bio and photo.
  - **All** send Margie activities for calendar
  - **Margie** send chemical control information to Terri (and HARRY perhaps), **Terri (and Harry perhaps)** send feedback on over the counter pesticide options appropriate concentrations of active ingredients.
- Quarterly newsletter: **Margie** is working on it. Terri suggested sending it to contacts who participated in TNIWAW as well as membership.
- Article
  - **All** send LinnAnn invasive plant photos. **Terri** will get photo of burning cogongrass from David Moorhead.
  - **Margie** will submit article to Southern Inspired.
- Annual meeting in Chattanooga
  - **Terri** will ask Chuck to send Anni registration information.
  - **Terri** will send out email to SE-EPPC to bring silent auction items and arrange pesticide points for their states.
- Plant list
  - **All** look at Alert species list, decide which species should or should not be on the rotating highlighted list.
  - **Margie** send reminder to board of plants for which they are responsible to gather information.
- Board t-shirts: **Terri** order XL for Claude.
- Products: **Terri** will try to track down ID card templates.
- Display
  - **Terri** will ask Suma Clark about printing foam core.
  - **Andrea** will ask Brian about printing foam core, where display was done originally.
  - **Andrea** will check into screen displays, prices, companies that produce them.
  - **All** look for photos of Japanese stiltgrass, princess tree, kudzu, Japanese honeysuckle, multiflora rose, Chinese privet, Asian bittersweet, tree-of-heaven.
  - **All** send ideas on TNEPPC products list, list of who individuals can work with on invasive plant issues to **Terri** to compile.

Next meeting: May 12<sup>th</sup>, evening 1-2 hours at Sheraton Read House