

TN-IPC Board Meeting 23 June 2020

Roll call:

Belinda Ferro, Kristine Johnson, Kitty McCracken, Margie Hunter, Bill Moll, Diane Warwick, Jimmy Groton, Pat Parr, Christine Bertz, Jamie Herold, Sam King

Guests: None

Treasurer's report:

Found at end of document, \$4551.03 total for all three accounts

We are set-up for the chip reader for taking payments in Pay Pal, you can use your personal Pay Pal and select friends and family to donate and save some cents, Christine is working on getting us registered, taxes are up to date. Motion to accept report, Kitty makes the motion, Belinda seconds, all say "I"

End of report

Old Business:

Bi-laws, Belinda reviewed the bi-laws, we can have a liaison from any other organization, special projects, but not officially appointed to the board

Need to update the titles, no restriction on the number of members from one single organization

Antiquated language about meetings need to address this, structure is 4 officers, and the past immediate president (if possible) and up to 15 voting members

Workshop status: Due to Covid-19 things are up in the air right now, our format for the workshop is ready when we can get together again in groups

Changes to state laws usually comes from the trades and involved from the beginning, need to investigate the sales of non-native invasive plants, need an industry member to visit as a guest, before we move forward with inviting them to the board, need someone with more clout and able to reach more industry members to tell our story

"New normal" with all uncertainty we can't know what will happen. Tools we need to use to engage people through this pandemic...field tours , three experts gave mini virtual talks along the trails. Students watch videos, and it turned out very well. The students were engaged and interested. These talks can be used for multiple purposes. We can develop videos for TN-IPC if we need to engage people and get our message out there safely. Virtual field tours may be a great way to spread the invasive message. Participate with other organizations and get the word out even to more folks.

NAISMA webinars that are very educational, Kristine will check and see if we can access those webinars.

Christine is going to check on a Zoom account to see if we can use this technology. Wild Ones use Zoom, worked well with this group. Special email account that everyone can access. Host should be different from the person running the meeting. Host function would be to mute everyone and officiate the meeting. Belinda would like for Christine to check into the feasibility of using Zoom. Possible to record the webinar and then post it on a u-tube site. Usage will be limited since we only have 4 meetings a year.

Start with a monthly account and see how it works. Wild Ones will be willing to let us check this out. During the day these accounts are not being used.

Federal accounts for Zoom do not exist, they cannot host the meeting. Account would be held by TN-IPC and other can participate.

Weed Wrangles this year...did they happen? I believe most were cancelled.

Wrangle is scheduled for Aug. TCWP.

National IPC meeting brief 21 April, Belinda attended. Legal and non-legal lists, differences in organizations who produce lists, interest in filing a national template for generating these lists. Have a way to track these plants across the US. With the disparity, it will take a lot of work to follow these templates. TN-IPC decided to use two categories of plants and make it simpler. Our current list maybe we need two lists (Margie's idea), one for homeowners and one for land managers. These may have different species for these different areas. Need to help educate some of these gardens and home improvement stores about the invasive plants they are selling. Webpage can clearly direct you to the proper list for your needs. Good time to partner with other organizations, get information out there, do a neighborhood project, or how ever we can engage people. Naturalist programs, Wild Ones, Native Plant society and others we can partner with. What are those projects that are going to work?

Wild Ones has a program to map your yard. Showing people who are enrolled in the program. Various tiers of membership according to what your property holds. Tap into our TN pride by using plants native to the area. Free the trees! TN-IPC badge of honor for controlling native plants. Bill or Margie, can you check on some of the other organizations that may want to partner with us? Bill will take the lead in contacting Wild Ones, then move to the Native Plant Society and investigate possibilities for partnership. Possible to use grant to produce the signs.

Innovations Conference...do we know if this event will be happening? Plans are still going forward for this conference.

Weed free quarry:

Kristine report. Certify quarries as weed free. Terry Hogan is interested in this, Ft. Collins, Colorado. Accepted practice to have certified weed free gravel. We can help drive this market. If folks refuse to buy contaminated gravel, then it will be a driver for quarries to clean up their material. Important to get

TDOT to buy into this concept. Hit them in the pocketbook! Demonstrate the savings in cost by having to spray herbicide by using weed-free gravel. Federal projects are mandated by executive order to use weed-free gravel on any projects. How can we most effectively reach out to state and county officials that use gravel to get them informed about this initiative? Kristine has a PowerPoint demonstrating the benefits and cost savings of using weed-free gravel. TVMA (TN Vegetation Management Association) might be a good partner to bring this message to. Jimmy will begin a list and contacts for federal and state potential partners for the clean gravel initiative. Craft a letter to send out introducing the idea and asking for interest. End of report.

Proposed plant list for regulation vs. warning labels:

Katy and Sam are not available for this meeting. Katy proposed a different way to approach the process. Consider a regulatory approach, but from a warning label approach. We wouldn't prohibit nurseries from selling the plant but have a "warning" label that must be attached to the plants themselves. Delineate the criteria for each invasive plant that we identify for regulation, have a QR code on the warning label that takes you to TN-IPC and gives alternative native plants in place of this plant. We need to develop this with the state and reps from industry...let's ask Katy for guidance. We will revisit the list and pick the top five maybe and begin a conversation. Begin with Adam Dittilo and find the data that drove the list in the beginning. Compare to the distribution of these plants in the interim.

Other business?

Getting articles in TN Conservationist...can we get some info out to them? Opportunities exist to get the message out.

Host the next meeting, set location and date, develop agenda, moderate and lead the meeting...

Jimmy is volunteering. Diane can still set up a WebEx if virtual meeting is the choice. Margie will put agenda, doodle poll, for some time Sept. – Oct. Decide if meeting in person or virtual or combo of both.

Name change? For the meeting in the next meeting. By-laws subcommittee? Who were members?

We need to be TN-IPC not TN-EPPC. 2011? when name change happened, Christine needs the documents where we officially changed the name. TN-EPPC is still the name in our Bi-laws. Margie is taking care of this and will send Christine the bi-laws and minutes from meeting.

Sam got kicked off the connection. Belinda will email his input.

Motion to adjourn Belinda, seconded by Diane

Treasurer's Report:

GENERAL OPERATING ACCOUNT		
Beginning Balance:	(January 21, 2020)	\$311.73
Receipts:	2020 Board Dues	\$50.00
	Memphis Area Master Gardeners Presentation (Bertz)	\$250.00
	Total Receipts:	\$300.00
Expenses:	P.O. Box Reimbursement (McCracken)	-\$72.00
	Dogwood Arts Home & Garden Booth	-\$50.00
	Total Expenses:	-\$122.00
Ending Balance:	(June 23, 2020)	\$489.73
MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT		
Beginning Balance:	(January 21, 2020)	\$3,236.12
	Interest Earned January - May	\$0.14
Ending Balance:	(June 23, 2020)	\$3236.26
PAYPAL ACCOUNT		
Beginning Balance:	(January 21, 2020)	\$529.21
Receipts:	Workshop registrations (N = 19)	\$380.00
	Board Dues/Donations	\$157.00
	Donations (Lawn & Garden + online)	\$123.00
	T-Shirt Sales	\$36.00
	Total Receipts:	\$696.00
Expenses:	Workshop registrations refunded (N = 19)	-\$380.00
	Paypal fees	-\$14.82
	T-Shirt Shipping (reimburse Bertz)	-\$5.35
	Total Expenses:	-\$400.17
Ending Balance:	(June 23, 2020)	\$825.04
TOTAL ASSETS OF ALL ACCOUNTS		\$4551.03

