

Meeting Minutes – TN-IPC Board Meeting: January 26, 2021

Prepared by Belinda Ferro

Present: Kitty, Belinda, Sam, Margie, Pat, Byron, Christine, Jamie, Kristine, Bill, Jimmy and Ashley (guest)

Absent: Diane

Old Business

- Introduction of our guest, Ashley Kite-Rowland: Urban and Community Forester (works with Diane). Primary interest is urban agroforestry. Involved in community weed wrangles.
- Treasurers report (Christine). Reference report she sent prior.
 - Should be getting almost another thousand dollars coming in from dissolution of SE-EPPC.
 - Christine went through the issues we have had with our tax documents with name changes and dissolution of SE-EPPC. We are now an official TN non-profit with the TN-IPC name. She has updated our mailing address to the P.O. box. The required street address is Christine's house. We now file our own taxes. Much simpler than before. Because we're under 50K, we just file a postcard. It costs \$20 to file that. It has been filed for this year. She is putting together documentation for all of these processes. We are TN-IPC with Regions Bank. She can't do it with the IRS until Lee (Patrick) formally requests it and she has been in touch with him about that.
- Belinda proposed changes to the Bylaws (removal of Article 3 – membership), Christine seconded. Motion passed. Also, alteration to the Bylaws that generalizes who can serve on the Board of Directors (especially that a student can vote and serve office). The motion passed. Belinda will amend the Bylaws and send out to the Board.
- Plant list – Sam led the discussion about Army Corps and TDOT's use of the list. Since we removed some things, they were using it as a guideline and that opened the way for them to plant some things they shouldn't have. Now we have two lists that are equal but different (based on habitats). These were meshed into an excel file that was sent to the Corps. This issue is now closed.
 - Kitty proposed adding a column that delineates the reason you're looking at the list (E.g. Homeowners).
 - Sam proposed that we get a fresh set of eyes.
 - Ashley said she'd like to have one list with the column that Kitty proposed. Margie asked her to go to the website and look at it and give her input because we don't want to ask Doug to change the website again unless we really need to. Ashley said she would give input. She'll send to Kitty and Kitty will disperse to the rest of the group.
 - Margie says that a joint list would be really long (if the two were combined).
 - Margie proposed tabling the list discussion (added column) for now. Kitty requested that everyone send her their input about this issue. What will make the lists more user friendly?
- TN Plant Pest List Revisions
 - Kitty has reviewed the letter we sent to the Commissioner of Ag. Before, in 2007 they had proposed an advisory group that would include two members from

academia/research, 1 plant producer, 1 plant retailer, 1 natural areas non-profit organization, Government agency, 2 general ag and forestry persons (Farm Bureau, Forestry Association, NRCS), 1 TDA regulatory person and 1 TDA forestry person. Before that the letter actually came from TDEC (back in the 90s). Sam requested copies of the successful letter that came from TDEC. Kitty will send that out to the Board. They may be able to send it from TDEC this time as well.

- Kitty brought up the Chattanooga event. Margie said look forward to doing it maybe in March 2022. Belinda seconded.
 - Sam has two videos on methods. Weed wrench, hack and squirt and cut stump. Sam will find them and send us the lists.
 - Byron mentioned that every Tuesday he does a Facebook live video of a method, usually cut stump. He will promote our organization during those from now on. On Reflection Riding's FB page.

New Business

- Weed wrangle updates
- No update on the progress with a state bill
- National Invasive Species awareness week is coming up next month. NAISMA has a series of webinars at that time. Margie has the link on our website.
- We have been invited to participate in two virtual events – the TN Garden Show (Kitty will sign us up) and TN Wild Ones. It will link to our FB, Twitter and website. Kitty will sign us up for both.
 - At the Wild Ones event we could have a table for no charge. Big space, masks, etc. Bill can set up a table there. Plant sale is March 27th. Symposium is the 19 – 21st.
- State Parks will have weed wrangles coming up. If you go to the link on our website then it will show all the weed wrangles. Belinda will share on our Facebook page.
- Tee shirt discussion (look at new and old designs), etc.
- Belinda moved to adjourn and Sam seconded.