

**Aloha Arborist Association
Annual Meeting Minutes
April 25, 2012**

Members Present: Steve Connolly, Steve Nimz, Carol Kwan, Lance Bookless, Amy Nichols, Sergio Vasquez, Dudley Hulbert, Andrew Kendall, Brian Fukada, Jamilee Kempton, Adrian Klasovsky

Guests: Olive Vanselow, Garrett Housley, Paula Perez, Chris Dacus, Jim & Mary Flott

I. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 21, 2012, MEETING MINUTES

- A) President Steve Connolly called the meeting to order at 7:22 p.m. The March 21, 2012, meeting minutes were approved as is.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A) Training Workshops

i) Pruning Workshop at UGC

- (a) Tabled

ii) HIOSH/AAA Basic Tree Care Safety Workshop

- (a) Over 400 people were trained statewide. A full report will be made in May.

iii) Urban Soil Workshop March 30, 2012

- (a) This was a great soils workshop. Deenik was awesome and Steve Nimz did well with his tools presentation. We're hoping to get Deenik as a speaker for the LICH conference.

iv) TCIA EHAP Workshop June 2012

- (a) Tabled.

v) WCISA Regional Meeting – Palms Workshop 8/29/2012

- (a) Carol is working with WCISA and Don Hodel on the flyer. She's also trying to get a better idea about McCoy Pavilion's availability through Stan Oka.

vi) Felling Workshop – Mike Kraus

- (a) Tabled.

vii) Trees and Law Workshop

- (a) Dudley suggested that we hold a Trees and Law workshop. Carol will send out an email survey to find out if there are enough people interested to make this worthwhile.

B) Public Outreach

i) Trees from the Ground Down

- (a) The workshop won't be in July and probably won't be in 2012. Carol is waiting to hear back from Jayme Grzebik about possibly early 2013.

C) Research Committee

- i) Dudley had beer with the boys from UH, but it didn't go very far.
- ii) Dudley asked Chris Dacus about how things were going with the DOT Tree Infrastructure Damage grant. The Notice to Proceed to Andy Kaufman was around 2-3 months ago, so the grant has just started. Andy has a student who seems pretty good. The student will probably do most of the work. Steve Nimz noted that Dudley should be invited to the next meeting for the project. Steve Connolly said that it's good to see the project moving.

D) 2012 Hawaii TCC

- i) Steve Connolly spoke to Stan Oka about TCC. Stan will look at the legalities of securing City properties. Carol also suggested that we look at State parks and Stan suggested that as well. Steve will try to find a venue that's more accessible to the public and centrally located. Moanalua Gardens has also been suggested along with Queen Emma Summer Palace.

E) Landscape and Forestry Pest Identification Cards

- i) Tabled

F) Certified Arborist/Certified Tree Worker Exams April 14, 2012

- i) The exams went well. The next exams are in October.

G) AAA Elections April 2012

- i) Steve Connolly called for any nominations from the floor for any of the offices. There being none, the nominations were closed. Dudley moved that the slate of officers be elected by acclamation. Carol seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. Our 2012-2013 officers are as follows:

President – Steve Connolly for a 1 year extension
Vice President – Sergio Vasquez for a 1 year extension
Treasurer – Steve Nimz
Secretary – Carol Kwan
Past President – Dudley Hulbert
Director – Gregory Severino
Director – Andrew Kendall

III. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Pest of the Month – Hibiscus Erineum Mite
 - i) Hosts: Hibiscus spp., particularly the Chinese red hibiscus
 - ii) Distribution: Hawaii - all of the major islands; Tonga, Fiji, and other Pacific areas; Australia
 - iii) Damage:
 - (a) Unsightly leaf, stem, and twig galls
 - iv) Management:
 - (a) Biological control – predatory mites
 - (b) Cultural control – consider replacing with another type of hibiscus less susceptible or with another type of plant.
 - v) Chemical control – prune to remove severely affected stems prior to miticide application. Repeat applications at least 2-3 times at weekly intervals.
 - vi) This pest has been around for over 10 years.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A) Welcome to Jim and Mary Flott from Washington State. Jim was the instructor for TRACE on April 24th & 25th.
- B) Welcome to Garrett Housley and Paula Perez. Garrett works for Jon Perry at Oahu Tree Preservation.
- C) Welcome to LICH president and HDOT employee, Chris Dacus.
- D) Welcome to former AAA member, Olive Vanselow. Olive was the first woman Certified Arborist in Hawaii.
- E) TRACE on April 24th and 25th. This was a great course, one of the better workshops that Steve Connolly has seen in Hawaii. The course needs more time though. Three days would be better. Kudos to Jim Flott for being able to keep a level of professionalism while jamming through the material.
- F) The WCISA Conference April 29th through May 2nd in Pacific Grove, California. That's next week. WC TCC is after that on May 12th-13th.
- G) The ISA Conference will be held August 11-14, 2012, in Portland, Oregon. Jim said that it will be one of the best conferences in over a decade. They're expecting over 5,000 arborists to show up. People should have a great time.
- H) Dudley brought up the International Tree Failure Database (ITFD). He'd like to get plugged into how to do it and get started. Jim said that the ITFD has been around for more than a decade and has never really gone anywhere. It needs to get kick started again. It began in California and expanded internationally. There are only 6,000 failures in the database after all of these years. There's a protocol for submitting failures and there needs to be local training on how to fill out the form before people can start submitting to the database. The Forest Service was managing it for awhile but they dumped it. He's not sure who is in

charge now. Carol will check with Rose on who we can get to come to Hawaii to conduct a protocol training for us. We could also put a link from AAA's website to theirs.

V. ADJOURNMENT

A) The meeting was adjourned by President Steve Connolly at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Kwan

PLEASE JOIN US!

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 16, 2012, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Sizzler's Kailua.

Attachments:

1. 2012 AAA Membership Application
2. Pest of the Month – Hibiscus Erineum Mite

**2012 Aloha Arborist Association
Membership Application**

Please process my membership with Aloha Arborist Association for calendar year 2012.

Membership: \$10 Student \$25 Government Employee \$50 Individual

\$150 Company \$1,000 Lifetime Member Date: _____

Name: _____

Company: _____

If Company Membership, please designate 3 company representatives*:

Address: _____

_____ **Website:** _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Mobile phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

You may publish this information on the AAA website: Yes No

**Company members may send any of their employees to workshops at AAA member rates*

Please send this completed form to Aloha Arborist Association, P.O. Box 893953, Mililani, HI 96789-0953 with a check made payable to Aloha Arborist Association.

Mahalo for your support!