

Aloha Arborist Association
Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2012

Members Present: Steve Connolly, Steve Nimz, Carol Kwan, Lance Bookless, Sergio Vasquez, Andrew Kendall, Brian Fukada, Jamilee Kempton

I. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 25, 2012, ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

A) President Steve Connolly called the meeting to order at 7:23 p.m. The April 25, 2012, Annual 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) Carol donated about \$1K of her time and Kevin will be donating about \$2K of his time to make the workshop break even. The final numbers will be available for the June meeting.

(b) The format of the workshop worked well. It would be nice to continue holding a training event on the major islands every year or two, perhaps with different speakers.

iii) Urban Soils Workshop March 30, 2012

(a) AAA agreed to donate \$500 toward Deenik's non-profit program from the net proceeds of this workshop. The final net will be around \$1,700 after the \$500 is distributed.

iv) TCIA EHAP Workshop June 2012

(a) This will be held at HECO/Honolulu Club. HECO uses the Honolulu Club as its training facility. The workshop does not include certification. The class size is limited to 30 people.

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

(a) Carol will submit an article to *Landscape Hawaii* about this workshop. She's working with WCISA on the flyer and is planning to submit for pesticide applicator credits.

vi) Felling Workshop – Mike Kraus

(a) Steve Connolly suggested that we move this to 2013. He's no longer in a position to host it since he's left Lyon Arboretum. Lance suggested using Bellows Beach.

vii) Trees and Law Workshop

- (a) Based on the survey, there appears to be enough interest to hold a Trees and Law workshop. Steve Nimz knows a guy who is a Certified Arborist and a lawyer in California. He'll try to get in contact with him. This guy gives a good talk on "wiggle words". He's a real showman with a great presentation. Steve doesn't want to be a speaker but perhaps Kevin and Abner might be willing.

viii) LICH Conference 2012

- (a) The conference is scheduled for October 25, 2012. For the Arborist track, Deenik was suggested on soils. We could possibly have him do the whole track. Steve Nimz might do a session, perhaps airspade some roots over at Thomas Square. Steve Connolly can give a talk if desired, perhaps on invasive species – conservation and the urban forest. This would include tree biology and species biology and explain why invasive species are poor choices for the urban environment. There are tradeoffs between growing fast and the ability to compartmentalize. Another possible speaker is the fungi guy from the Big Island. He could do a tickler to build interest for a full day workshop.

ix) WCISA/AAA Regional Meeting August 2013

- (a) Steve Nimz suggested doing a workshop on Hawaii fungi with the fungus guy from the Big Island, Don Hemmes. Carol suggested a workshop on roots and infrastructure.

B) Public Outreach

i) Trees from the Ground Down

- (a) Tabled

ii) Pruning Young Trees and Shrubs, November 17, 2012

- (a) This will be a public workshop for Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens at Ho'omaluhia on November 17, 2012. Dudley and Carol have agreed to be the instructors.

C) Research Committee

i) Literature Review

- (a) Tabled

D) 2012 Hawaii TCC

- i) The venue will be Moanalua Gardens. Dudley arranged to meet with J.P., the owner. Jon Perry and Steve Connolly attended the meeting as well. There will be some minor pruning work to be done in trade, but it's pretty straight forward. The dates being looked at are the last two weekends of September and the first weekend of October. Steve will check Moanalua Gardens' availability then. Hopefully we can get a lot of sponsorship too.
- ii) Andrew noted that it would be great if we could find a permanent home for TCC. We should also have a Master of Ceremonies (M.C.) orchestrating the flow of the program and explaining to the audience what's going on. The spectators are often confused about what's happening, what is the purpose, and when events are happening. That would make TCC more of an event and make it flow a little better.

E) Landscape and Forestry Pest Identification Cards

- i) Tabled

F) International Tree Failure Database

- i) Dudley brought up the International Tree Failure Database (ITFD) at the last meeting. Carol checked with Rose Epperson who said Katherine Jones and Larry Costello are trainers. They're also the same people who wrote *Reducing Infrastructure Damage By Tree Roots: A Compendium of Strategies*, so perhaps the training could be combined with another workshop. Rose said the training takes about an hour.
- ii) Steve Nimz suggested that we set up our own Hawaii Tree Failure Database based on the ITFD format with DOT, the City, and HECO as contributors to the database. He said that it would be nice if we take care of our own locally. The players that he's suggesting have high volume failures and have the capability of collecting data. This would give us statistical backup on why we're removing trees and would help to justify our recommendations as well. Steve Connolly was concerned about whether HECO would be willing or able to participate because most of their tree failure stuff is emergency work and they're so focused on getting the power back on that they don't worry about why the tree failed or the size of the part.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A) Pest of the Month – Asian Longhorned Beetle (Pest Alert)

- i) Hosts: hardwood trees (primarily genera Acer, Populus, Salix, and Ulmus, but also Aesculus, Albizia, Betula, Cercidiphyllum, Fraxinus, Platanus, Prunus, and Sorbus). Acer is the most common.
- ii) Distribution: Native to China and Korea. First discovered in U.S. in 1996. Has been found in New York, California, Washington State, Illinois, and New Jersey.

- iii) Symptoms: Dead trees due to larva tunnels under the bark and deep into the tree. Early – sap leaking from the tree, sudden dieback of larger branches.
- iv) Signs: Round exit holes ~3/8” diameter on trunks and branches, frass at the base of infested trees or branch crotches.
- v) Management: ALB is not currently established in the western U.S. Early detection, reporting, and eradication are needed to prevent its establishment.

B) Western Chapter TCC

- i) Jeremy Dunivan placed sixth. He just missed the Masters competition. Dan, Mark, Justin, and Ash also competed so Hawaii was well represented. All of them finished in the top half of the field. Jared Abrojena won again. Rhonda Wood won the Women’s competition.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A) Steve Nimz attended the WCISA Conference in California. It was at an old YMCA camp built in 1919, so there were no televisions or phones in the rooms. Everything went well except it was a poor venue for the trade show. The vendors weren’t happy. Some of the speakers might be people we want to bring over some day.
- B) Hawaii Landscape and Irrigation Contractors Association (HLICA) is holding a Turfgrass workshop on Friday, May 25, 2012. Some of the topics include discussions on ornamentals. Carol has applied for 2.5 CEUs for the workshop. Speakers include Joe DeFrank and Rey Ito. There should be good info on herbicides and pesticides.

V. ADJOURNMENT

- A) The meeting was adjourned by President Steve Connolly at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Kwan

PLEASE JOIN US!

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 18, 2012, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Sizzler’s Kailua.

Attachments:

1. 2012 AAA Membership Application
2. Pest of the Month – Asian Longhorned Beetle

**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!