

**Aloha Arborist Association
Meeting Minutes
July 18, 2012**

Members Present: Steve Connolly, Carol Kwan, Jamilee Kempton, Daniel Severino, Dudley Hulbert, Kevin Eckert, Lance Bookless, Justin Donahue, Mike Kraus

I. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 20, 2012, MEETING MINUTES

- A) President Steve Connolly called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Approval of the June 20, 2012, meeting minutes was deferred due to lack of quorum.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A) Training Workshops

i) HIOSH/AAA Basic Tree Care Safety Workshop

- (a) Carol found a formula error in the budget sheet for the Safety Workshop. We had a net loss of \$58.
- (b) Steve asked if anyone had ideas on how we can make money on these types of workshops in the future. One suggestion was to sell the ANSI Z133.1s at the workshops instead of providing one for each participant. Another suggestion was to get a grant to cover some of the workshop expenses.
- (c) Mike asked what percentage of the total industry attended the safety workshops. We don't really know because we don't have figures on how big the industry is, but we estimate that less than 10% attended. Even some people who would normally attend did not show up because the workshops were on weekdays instead of Saturdays. Despite the low turnout as a percentage of the industry, the safety workshops had the best turnout by far that AAA has ever had at any of its workshops.

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

- (a) Pesticide applicator credits are still pending. Carol hopes to get something back within the next few days.

iii) LICH Conference 2012

- (a) Tabled

iv) Possible training Waimea Arboretum

- (a) Jackie Ralya sent an email about a banyan that needs to be removed at Waimea Arboretum and suggested it might be a good venue for a workshop. Maybe Waimea Arboretum could go in for a Kaulunani grant in partnership with AAA. Steve will talk to Josie Hoh about it. He has had problems trying to volunteer there before because of insurance issues and OHA. It would be a good demo project if we can work out the details.

v) Felling Workshop – Mike Kraus

- (a) Steve said that we'd need to find a good venue for holding a felling workshop. We can't use Lyon Arboretum since he doesn't work there anymore. Carol will talk to Mililani Town Association to see if they have any tall trees that they need removed at a recreation center as a possible venue. Dudley suggested Koa Ridge. They have plenty of tall trees.

B) Public Outreach

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

- (a) Carol and Dudley will start working on a brochure for this workshop.

ii) Trees from the Ground Down, March 9, 2013

- (a) Tabled

C) Research Committee

- (a) Dudley hasn't heard back from John Montoya. John is hanging out with Ed Gilman in Florida right now. He should be back soon. Everything is on hold while John is gone.

D) 2012 Hawaii TCC

i) Steve Connolly contacted Rose. There should be no problem in securing insurance for the event.

- ii) Steve is looking for sponsorships – things like donating prizes, volunteering time, providing equipment – however people want to help. We won't have to bring in portapotties because they have restrooms. He hasn't set up a pricing structure for donations yet. He needs to develop the program in detail for advertising purposes as well. Amy said that she'd volunteer to work on a flyer at the last meeting, but she needs the info to put into the flyer. Steve and Dudley will go to the Gardens soon to work out the details on which trees will be used for specific events and the sequence of events. Mike suggested that as long as you're putting the info together, you should send something out a month before the event to get some coverage in the human interest section of the newspaper. The deadline for the next *Landscape Hawaii* magazine is July 19th. Steve will submit a short article about the TCC since that will probably be the last issue before the event.

- iii) Kevin asked whether a budget has been established. We don't have one at this point, but the event should be self-supporting. We generally breakeven or have a little left over to roll over for the next year. Steve would like to see more support from donors so we can do more.

- iv) Steve is contacting some of the people who were here from the Mainland last year to see if they will be coming again. He would like to see more local climbers, particularly average guys who we haven't reached before. They should be given priority in registration.
- v) We should include a geezer competition so Dudley can compete. We could see if Bert Santiago is interested and maybe rally some of the other older guys too.

E) Landscape and Forestry Pest Identification Cards

- i) Nothing new to report.

F) AAA Website

- i) Carol spoke to our webmaster about what it would take to set up AAA's website to accept PayPal for membership dues. It would cost around \$100-\$150 for him to set it up and train Carol. It's possible we could do this for future workshops as well. This will be put on the agenda for August so we can vote on it.

G) Safety Campaign

- i) Steve Connolly, Steve Nimz, and Carol met with Tin Shing Chao regarding industry safety. All the talk at the last meeting about HIOSH coming down on our industry and prohibiting climbing of trees for tree work does not appear to be on HIOSH's radar at this time. They don't have the time or energy to do anything like that.
- ii) Carol is looking into getting grants to develop foreign language training videos. She's proposing four titles at this time. She checked out a possible OSHA grant, but it's not viable so she's looking at local grants (Kaulunani and HEI Charitable Foundation).
- iii) The OSHA grant that Carol researched could be used to develop safety training workshops at University of Hawaii. Carol spoke with Carl Evenson and forwarded the info to the three people that he suggested in the UH system for their consideration.
- iv) We need to get our non-profit status sorted out so AAA can apply for grants directly.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A) Pest of the Month – Plumeria Stem Borer (*Lagocheirus undatus*)

- i) Hosts: *Plumeria* spp.
- ii) Symptoms: Small hole(s) in the side of the stem with black ooze dripping out, shriveled stems
- iii) Control: Prune the affected branch from the plant and destroy completely. Insecticides are ineffective.

B) Chinese Banyan Stem Galls

- i) Dudley took samples of stem galls from Chinese banyans (*Ficus microcarpa*) at the East-West Center to HDOA. They identified three gall insects attacking it, one of which Darcy didn't recognize. That's the one that is causing the stem galls. Mike has been seeing it on the Big Island too.

C) Monkeypods

- i) Dudley asked if anyone has seen strange things going on with monkeypods. Some are not leafing out for 6 months or more. Mike had one in his yard do that on the Big Island. It had no leaves for a year, then it leafed out, and then the top broke out of it for no apparent reason. There's no known pathogen at this point. Lance commented that they had this problem with the monkeypods at his Association. They treated for monkeypod moth and now the trees look great.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A) Justin Donahue will be competing in ITCC representing the New England Chapter.
- B) ISA Conference *Trees: A Global Necessity* August 11-15, 2012, Portland, OR. Steve Connolly, Dudley, Steve Nimz, and Mike Kraus are going. The AAA meeting scheduled for August 15, 2012, conflicts with the ISA Conference so it was rescheduled to August 22, 2012.

ADJOURNMENT

- A) The meeting was adjourned by President Steve Connolly at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Kwan

PLEASE JOIN US!

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, August 22, 2012, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Sizzler's Kailua.

Attachments:

1. 2012 AAA Membership Application
2. Pest of the Month – Plumeria Stem Borer

**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!