

**Aloha Arborist Association
Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2013**

Members Present: Steve Connolly, Carol Kwan, Steve Nimz, Jamilee Kempton, Dudley Hulbert

I. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 14, 2012, MEETING MINUTES

- A) President Steve Connolly called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The November 14, 2012, meeting minutes were approved as is.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A) Training Workshops

i) Trees and Biology Workshops (WCISA Regional Meetings)

- (a) The Honolulu workshop is on February 20th at McCoy Pavilion and the Kona workshop is on February 22nd at the Imin Center.
- (b) Steve Nimz asked if there is anything Kevin Smith needs. Steve will be going around with Kevin the day prior to the Honolulu workshop. Steve Connolly is also available to go around with him. We need to find out if we need to arrange for hotels for him. Carol will check.

ii) Trees and Law - 2013

- (a) Steve Nimz spoke to Dennis Kachinic at the ASCA conference. Dennis is an arborist and a lawyer. He's been very active in WCISA for a long time but he's slowing down now. He is interested in coming. Carol asked Stan to check on McCoy Pavilion's availability but she hasn't heard back from him yet. We may need to find another venue due to the upcoming construction project at McCoy Pavilion. Steve said that Dennis covers things like 10 Basics of Common Law, Wiggle Words, etc. Our target is September 2013.

B) Public Outreach

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

- (a) We had 10 people attend this workshop. They were very enthusiastic and the workshop was well received. Carol will let Jayme Grzebik know that this is a possible topic for a future 2nd Saturday at the Urban Garden Center.

ii) Malama the Trees Conference (Maui)

- (a) Ernie Rezens was the speaker at this conference. It was well attended and very successful per Elaine Malina, the organizer for the conference.

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

- (a) Carol, Dudley, Steve Connolly and Jamilee expect to be there. Steve Nimz will try to come too.

C) Research Committee

- (a) Dudley got an email about a committee meeting regarding the DOT grant held on January 8-10, 2013, but he didn't get the email until after those dates. Steve Nimz did not attend. Steve will check with Chris Dacus what's going on. Chris has his eye on some bigger grants too.

D) Landscape and Forestry Pest ID Cards

- i) Arnold Hara submitted his material. The revised target date for the cards to be available is June 30, 2013.

E) 2013 HTCC

- i) Steve Connolly will target early February for the workday at Moanalua Gardens. He'll let Carol know the date to email to members. Steve Nimz would like to play down the volunteer workday and do more to promote the Gardens in any promotional materials.
- ii) The target date for HTCC is in early October.

F) Landscape and Forestry Pest Identification Cards

- i) Carol doubts that the cards will be done by the end of the year.

G) AAA Website – PayPal for Membership Dues

- i) PayPal is now up and running on AAA's website for processing membership payments.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A) Pest of the Month – Coconut Leaf Beetles (*Brontispa longissima* (PEST ALERT) and *Brontispa chalybeipennis* (in Hawaii). Most of the info below is for *B. longissima*.

- i) Distribution: Native to Indonesia and Papua New Guinea. Found in Australia, many Pacific Islands, Malaysia, Singapore, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, the Maldives, Myanmar, and China
- ii) Hosts: Coconut palms preferred, attacks more than 20 palm species including royal palm, Alexandra palm, California fan palm, Mexican fan palm, bottle palm, Chinese fan palm, and sago palm.
- iii) Damage: Attacks palms of all ages but young palms are more susceptible. Larvae chew on the spear leaf. Leaflets curl and turn brown with a scorched and ragged appearance.
- iv) Control
 - (1) Mechanical – blockading and destroying palms up to 3 km from the infestation spot to keep the beetle from spreading

(2) Chemical – several insecticides, but treatments only last 3-4 months.

(3) Biological – 2 parasitoids have been successfully used to control the beetle. There is also a fungus that is promising. HDOA released two biocontrols in 1986 and in 1991 for *B. chalybeipennis*. They would like to schedule a time to be in the field with a tree care company pruning coconuts to check damaged fronds to look for the pest and the biocontrols. Dudley volunteered to coordinate with HDOA on this.

B) Next Meeting Date

i) The next meeting date conflicts with the Honolulu Tree Biology workshop. It was agreed to reschedule it to February 27, 2013.

C) OSHA/HIOSH Local Emphasis Program

- i) Tin Shing Chao let Carol know that an OSHA/HIOSH Local Emphasis Program (LEP) is in the works for the tree care industry in Hawaii. This will increase the number of inspections of work in our industry. Once OSHA/HIOSH get LEP, we will arrange for another meeting between AAA, OSHA, and HIOSH to find out how they are going to do this and how we can help. The offer for AAA to train their inspectors on tree care safety still stands. We want to encourage workers to be safe and the more eyes on safety, the better. Steve Connolly's concern is that they shouldn't just be slapping fines on companies that are large and easy to find. The enforcement on unlicensed contractors is poor and that's a big part of the problem.
- ii) Steve Nimz commented that OSHA oversees safety and issues fines, but HEMIC is the one that really costs tree care contractors money in their workers compensation insurance. Dudley added that the rates only go up, never down – even when the company has no accidents.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A) Steve Nimz announced that LICH is putting on a plant fashion show. All the nurseries who feel like they have good, non-invasive, underutilized plants can present them. Landscape architects and others can come. Ladies from UH fashion division will bring the plants down the runway. It's scheduled for June 14, 2013, at Honolulu Community College. The food will be catered.
- B) Edible Gardens has become a big thing now. Steve Nimz commented that it works for homes but the military and condominiums don't want the fruit due to liability and other issues.
- C) The WCISA Conference will be held May 7-10, 2013, at Indian Wells, CA (Palm Springs).
- D) UH is looking for a new landscape manager. Roxanne Adams got promoted. The announcement has been posted on the UH website under "work for UH".

E) Jamilee Kempton is the new Arborist for Lyon Arboretum.

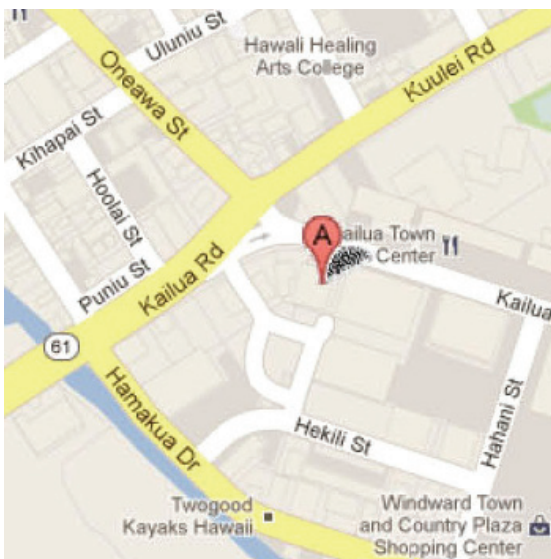
ADJOURNMENT

A) The meeting was adjourned by President Steve Connolly at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Kwan

PLEASE JOIN US!

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 27, 2013, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., at Whole Foods Kailua (tables on the parking lot side of the building).



Attachments:

1. 2013 AAA Membership Application
2. Pest of the Month – Coconut Leaf Beetles (*Brontispa longissima* (PEST ALERT) and *Brontispa chalybeipennis* (in Hawaii).

**2013 Aloha Arborist Association
Membership Application**

Please process my membership with Aloha Arborist Association for calendar year 2013.

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 for voting purposes*:

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. If you prefer, you can pay online with a credit card at alohaarborist.com/index.php/become-a-member/ and send us this form via email (info@alohaarborist.com) or fax (808) 625-4287.

Mahalo for your support!