

ALOHA ARBORIST ASSOCIATION
November 18th, 2015
MEETING MINUTES
Location: The Old Spaghetti Factory, Ward Warehouse

Members in attendance: Carol Kwan, Lance Bookless, J Zambo, Steve Connolly, Steve Nimz, Desiree Page, Andrew Kendall, Dudley Hulbert, Tristan Williams. Guests: Shauna Cok, Ilana Nimz

1) Call to Order & Approval of Minutes

Meeting called to order by President J Zambo at 6:55 p.m.

Carol moved to approve the 10/21/2015 Minutes as is, Steve Nimz seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.

2) Old Business

- a) Guest Speaker Andy Kaufman – deferred to Jan meeting. Andy has laryngitis.
- b) Training –
 - i) WCISA/AAA Tree Fungi in Hawaii workshop – 3/21-3/24/2016. Carol reported that we're working on it.
 - ii) Hands On Training at Lyon Arboretum (Jamilee/Steve Connolly) – tabled.
- c) Hawaii TCC – Competition was a success.
 - i) Results: Jamilee Kempton 1st place, Justine Donahue 2nd place, B.J. Yeager was 3rd. Jamilee won by 3 points.
 - ii) Revenue: to be reported at a later meeting. Food was ~\$300 per Steve Nimz.
 - iii) Sponsorship: Didn't offer any cash prizes this time around, had around \$5K of gear from sponsors so prize packages were sweet. Tree Stuff, Climb Aloha, Wesspur were the sponsors. Steve C took care of thank you letters in the past. J Zambo will need to do this year as president.
 - iv) Publicity: Should get photos of the event on Facebook. Steve C will write a LICH article and include photos. 12/4 is the next LICH deadline. People should send their photos to Jolie at info@alohaarboretist.com for posting on Facebook.
- d) Research Committee - Tabled.
- e) Public Outreach/Community Service – North Shore earpod Exceptional Tree grooming project. Dudley – reported that it's the original earpod, the only North Shore Exceptional Tree. Enthusiastic about it as a volunteer project. Andrew reported that it's on a bid list and someone got awarded the project for pruning it. He thinks Imua won the bid, not positive. Dudley said that's interesting because he understands that the tree is privately owned. There is deadwood and need to raise the canopy. Andrew said its right next to power lines. Steve Nimz noted that the owner gets a \$3K tax credit for maintaining that tree. We can't just go do it because the community wants it, has to be a request from the owner. First need to be sure who owns it. We need more information before proceeding with a volunteer project. Steve Nimz remembers pruning that tree a long time ago for the State to get it off of the library. Andrew will try to find the bid from a few months ago. Steve Nimz can check with Clark if it's on the City's list. If it is private, the owner getting the tax credit should pay AAA the \$3K for pruning his tree.
- f) Arbor Day –
 - i) TreeCircus 2015 was a big hit on Kauai. The host schools were very appreciative.
 - ii) Honowai Elementary School – Planted trees with Johnson Controls as part of a grant through Kaulunani. Big turnout from Johnson Controls. 3 *Podocarpus graciliors*, 3 alaha'e, and 150 *Carex wahuensis*. Finished by 10:30 a.m.
 - iii) Arbor Day Tree Giveaway – Steve Connolly reported that they gave away ~3500 trees. Really nice stock, each tree worth at least \$25/ea. Thanks to Urban Garden

Center, Hawaiian Electric and Kaulunani UCF. Gave away a couple of things that were new – powderpuffs was one. Carol mentioned that the seed pods are used for a red food dye by Filipinos.

3) New Business

- a) Pest of the Month – Pest Alert – Lethal Yellowing of Palm (Pest/Disease Alert)
 - i) Host: Coconut, fishtail palm, triangle palm, Chinese fan palm, Phoenix spp.,
 - ii) Damage: Highly variable between species. Includes fruit drop, flower necrosis, and foliage discoloration (yellowing), death of the apical meristem
 - iii) Caused by: Phytoplasma ‘Candidatus Phytoplasma palmae’
 - iv) Vectored by: a planthopper (*Haplaxius (Myndus) crudus*)
 - v) Attachments: Lethal Yellowing (LY) of Palm, UF IFAS Extension PP-222, October 2005 (revised August 2007, August 2009, August 2012, and October 2015)
 - vi) Per Henry Donsellman, CA palm expert –LY shouldn’t hit Hawaii because our coconuts push out instead of sucking in when wounded. Could think they could attack our Pritchardias and other palms. Carol noted that some of our native loulu palms were on Florida’s list of susceptible species.
- a) AAA sponsorship - Malama the Trees Conference on Maui – Carol will forward an email from conference host - Elaine.
- b) TRAQ – finished today. 10 people took it. Kevin Eckert was the instructor.

4) Announcements

- a) Steve N – going to do a Downtown tree tour 12/16 for Teresa Trueman-Madriaga (Kaulunani). Free. Did this last year. Carol went on it last year – highly recommends it. Great tree stories from Steve. Steve will forward the info when available for sending out.
- b) Fred Hemmings injured in a tree accident. Former State senator, not a tree care professional. Info sent by Boyd Ready.
- c) Do we want to pursue a Christmas event at the Arboretum? We did something a couple of years ago. Steve C., Tristan will chat with Carl Evensen to see if it’s OK. Last time – Saturday, did it later in the day. J – don’t meet again until January, need to get this organized and shoot it out on email.

5) Meeting adjourned by President J Zambo at 7:52 p.m.

*The next meeting is scheduled for January 20th, 2016, 6:30pm, Location **The Old Spaghetti Factory***