

ALOHA ARBORIST ASSOCIATION
January 20th, 2016
MEETING MINUTES
Location: The Old Spaghetti Factory, Ward Warehouse

Members in attendance: Carol Kwan, Lance Bookless, Steve Connolly, Steve Nimz, Desiree Page, Dudley Hulbert, Guests: Andy Kaufman, Ilana Nimz

1) Call to Order & Approval of Minutes

Meeting called to order by Vice President Lance Bookless at 6:55 p.m.
The 11/21/2015 Minutes were approved as is.

2) Old Business

a) Guest Speaker Andy Kaufman – Guest – Andy Kaufman (see handout) DOT Tree Research Project – Reduce Damage to Infrastructure in Hawaii.

i) Received funding about five years ago for a two-three phase project over a minimum of 10 years. Currently in the first phase. Collaborators: UH, AAA, City, and ASLA with project funded by Hawaii Dept of Transportation.

ii) Studying 50 trees of two tree species – Hawaiian kou and rainbow shower. At CTAHR Waimanalo Experimental Station. Studying the root path (channel underneath pavement) Using Silva cells (give a path for roots to grow under pavement). Also looking at root barriers – do they work? and how they work. Sidewalk one side – hoping to pour asphalt on the other side next.

iii) Using standard irrigation and fertilization, Superthrive. Taking DBH, vigor, etc. Using BMPs.

iv) Just had a meeting before Christmas – Plan to airspade roots to see what they are doing at 10 year mark.

v) Observations: Dieback on some of the trees – might be beetle problems too. Having beetle problem with shower trees. Steve Connolly – suggest using Imidacloprid – seems to be black twig borers attacking them.

vi) Dudley – any other species? For now just kou and shower

vii) Hoping to get more funding to do other stuff

viii) Dudley – how does the new dean feel about this? Andy- talking but haven't done anything yet. So far he's the only landscape architect – for years. Jay Deputy's position no longer exists. Oahu doesn't have an extension agent. It would help if the Dean hears from the industry. Maybe we could do another meeting with the Dean – and include LICH there too. Steve Nimz – what's Orville doing? Andy – he wants to help with the landscape stuff but his hands are pretty full. No one has replaced Dr. Criley. If AAA, LICH, etc. want to meet with the Dean, Andy can schedule. Maybe invite her to be a speaker at the next LICH conference to talk about what UH is doing for the landscape industry. Steve Nimz, Dudley, and Carol are willing to be there to meet with her. Target mid Feb. Andy will contact Garrett Webb, and propose some dates for Feb 2016 meeting.

ix) Growth rates on trees update – Andy met with HECO, lost two grad students so it didn't work out. Might revisit in the future if he gets funding for the 2nd half of the research project.

b) Training

i) WCISA/AAA Tree Fungi in Hawaii workshop – 3/21 Honolulu, 3/22 Maui, 3/23 Kauai, 3/24 Big Island. Need photos and samples of fungal infestations for Jessie's presentation and for hands on part of the workshop. Are working on getting pesticide applicator CEUs.

ii) Hands On Training at Lyon Arboretum (Steve Connolly) – table – Steve Connolly needs to go there on a weekday and talk to Tristan.

c) Research Committee - See discussion with Andy Kaufman above.

d) Public Outreach/Community Service – North Shore Earpod Exceptional Tree grooming project – haven't picked a date yet. Dudley is communicating with her. She's confirmed it is a private tree

and should not be on the City's bid list. If over a City's road, might call for pruning it back to the property line. It's in a shopping center. The guy should be able to take care of his tree. He gets a \$3K tax credit for doing it. Steve Nimz – if you get the Exceptional designation, you have the responsibility to maintain the tree. There are a lot of other incredible organizations asking for help. The State paid for pruning the tree off of the library next door. Steve Nimz suggests responding to the lady that the Trust can get a tax credit for the tree work and is responsible for maintaining it. Would be liable if a branch drops on anyone. Steve Nimz will have Joshlyn Sand write a letter to the tree owner that they need to maintain the tree and that they'll get a tax credit for maintaining the tree.

3) New Business

- a) Pest of the Month – Coconut Mite (*Aceria guerreronis*)
 - i) Host: coconut palm
 - ii) Damage: Mites pierce tender tissue under the perianth protecting the stem end of immature coconut fruit. As fruit matures, the damaged tissue emerges as a pale patch from the perianth. When exposed to air, the tissue develops a cork-like surface with deep cracks. Fruits may prematurely drop or be deformed, stunted, and scarred.
 - iii) Control: Prune all coconuts in all stages of development to eliminate coconut mite populations. Contact miticides need to be applied frequently and continuously to provide control. Miticides must be EPA registered for use on coconut for human consumption of edible coconut flesh.
 - iv) Reference/Attachment: <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/IP-35.pdf>
- b) Possible Tree Anatomy workshop– no interest
- b) Tree Appraisal – interest for one-day workshop – James would organize/handle registration/take risk. AAA will send out a survey.
- c) Proposed Wood Decay – Resistograph Training – find out how much speaker fees would be before we make any commitment. Also when in the year would they want to put it on?
- d) Dudley – Jayme from Urban Garden Center wants us to be on the permanent list for outreach – regular month. She suggested August – sounds good. We could change topics or just keep doing pruning. Could cover irrigation, something else too. Have different classrooms/stations. Pollinators good to cover – Dudley tried twice to contact bee lady but she never replied.

3) Announcements

- a) WC TCC 3/19-20 at Santa Barbara, CA
- b) ITCC – 4/1-3, San Antonio, TX (go Jamilee!)
- c) ISA Annual Conference – 8/13-17
- d) Greg Severino – sorry couldn't make the meeting – car's in the shop. He's feeling better every day and hopes to make the Feb meeting.
- e) WCISA Conference – 5/2-5/2016 – Disneyland. Dudley is going, Carol is going. Desiree and Steve Connolly would like to go.
- f) Pro Bowl Planting – 1/23 and 1/29 – see Jolie's email. No volunteers from the meeting – send out an email blast and see if can get some from that.

4) Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

*The next meeting is scheduled for February 17th, 2016, 6:30pm, Location **The Old Spaghetti Factory***