

# ALOHA ARBORIST ASSOCIATION

## Annual Meeting

April 20th, 2016

### MEETING MINUTES

Location: Gordon Biersch, Honolulu

Members in Attendance: Carol Kwan, Desiree Page, Steve Connolly, Jamilee Kempton, Lance Bookless, Cox, J Zambo, Angela Liu-Kelly, John Bell, Kerry Germain, Steve Nimz, Dudley Hulbert, Jolie Wanger  
Guests: Shauna Cox

#### 1) Call to Order & Approval of Minutes

Meeting called to order by President J Zambo at 7:19 p.m. The 03/16/2016 Minutes were approved without changes.

#### 2) Old Business

##### a) Training

- i) WCISA/AAA Tree Fungi in Hawaii workshop – The workshop was well received, at the end of May or early June AAA will have a report regarding the finances.
- ii) Hands On Training at Lyon Arboretum (Jamilee/Steve Connolly) – this topic tabled.
- iii) Tree Appraisals Workshop –September 1, 2016 – Steve Nimz will help as a speaker on the local plant costs if needed.
- iv) Proposed Wood Decay – Resistograph Training – This topic is tabled and will be removed from the agenda until Kevin Eckert reintroduces it. There was a question as to whether this will be a program with Frank Rinn instead. It is unclear what level of interest there would be. Others reported that Frank gives a great talk, and hasn't presented in Hawaii for a long time, and that he would be a popular speaker. Steve Nimz will contact Frank and report back about his availability.
- v) Urban Garden Center Outreach, regular month – The target date is August 13<sup>th</sup> (second Saturday of the month). Dudley will call Jayme Grzebik and confirm the event date. Jayme is interested in holding the event twice annually.

##### b) Legislation –

- i) Resolution for State DOT and City Department of Transportation Services to plant more trees in their rights-of-way. Purposes: Beautification of our roadways; supporting Green Clean and Beautiful Brand and Image as key economic driver of Hawaii's economy. This topic tabled.

##### c) AAA Elections. The proposed Slate of Officers was:

President – Jay Zambo

Past President – Steve Connolly

Vice President – Lance Bookless

Director – Gregory Severino

Treasurer – Steve Nimz

Director – Dudley Hulbert

Secretary – Desiree Page

Director – Carol Kwan

There were no nominations from the floor. Carol Kwan moved to approve the slate, and was seconded by Steve. The motion was approved by acclamation.

#### 3) New Business

##### a) Pest of the Month – Koa Wilt, *Fusarium oxysporum* – The information below was shared at the meeting:

- i) Distribution: Hawaii Island, Maui, Oahu, and Kauai. Has been found in koa trees along Mauna Loa Strip Road at elevations up to 7,000 feet but most diseased trees are found below 3,000 feet elevation.
- ii) Symptoms and Damage: The soil-borne fungus enters through the trees' roots and migrates up through the stem and branches, where it blocks vascular tissue (conducting tissue) and chokes off water supply to the leaves. The leaves then wilt and turn brown. The first sign of infection is usually a yellowing or wilting of leaves on a single branch or part of the tree's canopy. If the branch is cut, usually a dark stain is present in the sapwood. Infected roots may also show dark

staining. Sometimes the cambium, the thin layer of growing tissue between the sapwood and the bark is also stained. Sometimes the bark splits and the trees ooze sap, and sometimes infected trees are attacked by stem borers. Identification: by its brilliant red-orange color and by the thickness of its pileus. In badly infected plantations, 90% of the trees may die over the course of several years. Older and larger trees may be able to wall off or "compartmentalize" the infection and retain a partial live crown.

- iii) Control: It is important to avoid bringing soil or plant parts from infected sites to areas where the disease is not present. Shoes, tools, and truck tires used in infected sites should be well cleaned after leaving the site. Tools such as axes, chainsaws, and machetes should be sterilized after use on infected trees. *Fusarium oxysporum* has occasionally but seldom been found in seed of infected trees. In general, it is best to use locally collected seed from superior individual trees whenever possible. To avoid infection in the nursery, growers should sterilize planting containers if they are re-used.

Resources: [http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/forestry/disease/koa\\_wilt.html](http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/forestry/disease/koa_wilt.html);  
<http://apsjournals.apsnet.org/doi/abs/10.1094/PDIS-06-11-0491>

- iv) Others – No other new items.

### 3) Announcements

- a) Carol Kwan announced that the 2019 Western Chapter ISA (WCISA) Annual Conference will take place in HI, when she will be the WCISA president. She will be asking for everyone's support.
- b) Western Chapter TCC – 3/19-20/2016 at Santa Barbara, CA – Jared Abrojena won the TCC competition; Justin Donahue came in at 6<sup>th</sup> place. "Cowboy" Jeremy Dunivan and Jon Perry also went. Brandon Abrojena who also was there is now living in Kaneohe.
- c) WCISA Annual Conference – "Magic in our Urban Forests", 5/2-5/2016, Anaheim, CA (Disneyland) – Carol Kwan, Dudley Hulbert, and Teresa Truman-Madriaga will be attending.
- d) ISA Annual Conference – 8/13-17, 2016, Fort Worth, TX
- e) Tree Worker/Climber Apprentice ISA Certification Program – The first official conference call took place earlier in April. The program will be in pilot phase in California for its first few years. J Zambo shared the opinion that larger companies are likely to benefit most; the opinion that smaller companies will benefit more also was expressed. Much work will be needed. The topic was tabled, and updates will be provided as needed.
- f) Kerry Germain of the North Shore branch of the Outdoor Circle (OC) was introduced, she is a new member of AAA and she brought information about the Waialua earpod. A DAGS staff member confirmed that it is a boundary tree, and that the tree's trunk is not on state property, it is partly on the shopping center property. The state only trims the tree over the public library next to the tree. There is interest in getting a new Exceptional Tree plaque for the tree. It hasn't been pruned since 1991. OC would like to put together a project, and there would be a tax break [for any work done]. The Exceptional Tree Committee (ETC) can send a letter to the State informing them that they are responsible to maintain the tree since the nomination to make an Exceptional Tree came from the State, indicating State ownership. The first step will be to meet with the shopping center property owner. There will be a meeting of the ETC 6/21/16. The tree may have grown over the property line onto the shopping center, but the state of HI may still need to be responsible for its maintenance. Steve Connolly and Steve Nimz are both attending the Exceptional Tree meeting on 4/21/16, and can follow up on the tree's ownership.
- g) Jolie Wanger is transitioning out of the role as AAA's Administrator; Angela Liu will be taking on the role.

The meeting was closed at 7:47pm.

*The next meeting is scheduled for May 18th, 2016, 6:30pm, Location TBA.*