

**Aloha Arborist Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 16, 2011**

Members Present: Gregory Severino, Carol Kwan, Steve Connolly, Quenna Johnson, Steve Nimz, Mark Leon, Sergio Vasquez

I. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 19, 2011, MEETING MINUTES

A) President Steve Connolly called the meeting to order at 6:57 p.m. The January 19, 2011, minutes were approved as written.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A) Training Workshops

i) Small Workshops

(a) Basic Entry Methods/False Crotch

(i) So far six people are confirmed for the February 26, 2011, workshop. There are three maybes so the final count may go up. The CEU application has been submitted.

(b) Chain Saw Workshop

(i) Tabled

(c) Basic Rigging Demo

(i) Tabled

(d) Aerial Lift Workshop

(i) Greg Severino will be the instructor for this. He's not sure yet if this will be an AAA event or hosted by his company. It will be around the end of March, target March 26, 2011. The price is \$75 per person. Mark plans to attend.

(e) Advanced Diagnostics Workshop

(i) Steve Nimz spoke with Tim Johnson. We're targeting March 24, 2011, but it may slip into the following week due to challenges in getting a venue for that date. We're expecting around 20-25 people total including instructors and volunteers. The price is \$225/person.

(f) ANSI Standards Workshop

(i) AAA's share is \$1,950. The check has been received from WCISA.

B) Research Committee

i) Tabled.

C) 2011 Hawaii TCC

- i) Lyon Arboretum has been confirmed as the venue for April 23rd and 24th. WCISA will insure the competitors at \$15/person. We need to work out the logistics/details on how to get the insurance implemented, but having a commitment for insurance has cleared Lyon Arboretum's concerns regarding liability. There will be a work day preceding the competition, target April 9, 2011. The Certified Arborist and Certified Tree Worker exams are on April 16, 2011, the weekend prior to TCC, so we're avoiding that. *[NOTE: After the meeting, I found out that the exams are on April 9, 2011. The work day will be rescheduled. CK]* It might be better to have the work day on a Sunday so we don't have to worry about visitors to the Arboretum. There will be BBQ to feed the volunteers. Greg and Steve have planned out which trees for which event. Now they need to set the course and get the judges together prior to TCC for training. We also need to work on sponsorships and prizes. Garrick made a commitment last year to sponsor the 2011 TCC. The plan is for the 2011 TCC winner to go to the 2012 WC TCC. Mark Chisholm will not be able to make it because Mark's entire tour to the western U.S. got cancelled. Dave Ross from Stihl will let us know when that gets rescheduled so hopefully we can set up a workshop with Mark.

D) 2011 WC TCC

- (a) Greg reported that Ashlen Aquila placed 6th and Jeremy Dunivan placed 10th. Both of our guys did very well in the competition.

E) Landscape Pest Identification Cards

- i) CTAHR plant pathologist Scot Nelson is willing to write landscape pest identification cards for Hawaii. Writing the cards is covered within his regular work duties and CTAHR will provide the layout. Carol spoke with Teresa Trueman-Madriaga and the printing costs could qualify for a Kaulunani grant. Carol met with Rob Hauff (DOFAW) and Christy Martin (CGAPS) regarding the cards. The plan is to include quarantine pests in the set so some invasive species funding can be applied to the printing costs as well, probably around \$5K-\$10K from Rob's budget. Christy will ask LICH Foundation to support the project too. Carol has volunteered to write the grant application for the May 15, 2011, deadline. DOFAW will be the applicant. The grant funds would be combined with Rob's invasive species funding and DOFAW would provide the funds to CTAHR who would do the printing. If LICH Foundation agrees to provide funding, then the idea is that it will get ~100 sets for free to give to LICH conference attendees and CTAHR would get a booth at the LICH conference trade show to sell more sets. Steve Nimz moved that AAA provide \$500 in support of the Hawaii Landscape Pest Identification Cards project. Carol seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- i) Pest of the Month – Cotton Lace Bug (*Corythucha gossypii*)

- ii) Hosts: Fabaceae, Malvaceae, Annonaceae, Solanaceae Families – soursop, castor bean, orchid tree, awikiwiki, coral tree (*E. crista-galli*), Indian coral tree, wiliwili, red hibiscus, ulu, paper mullberry, white sapote, a'e (soapberry), akia, royal palm, kapok, croton, guava, angel's trumpet,
 - iii) Distribution: Southern U.S., Mexico to Ecuador, West Indies, and Hawaii.
 - iv) Symptoms: Leaf stippling to yellowing to bleaching
 - v) Control: Carbaryl (Sevin) or malathion.
- b) Bills in the Legislature
- i) SB 287 – exclusive use of native plants on all State projects (AAA submitted testimony against). Steve Nimz went to the hearing for this bill. It will be modified to apply to new construction of buildings only (not playing fields, highways, or other open areas). When the natives die, they can be replaced with non-natives. This could apply to State and City projects – whatever projects get funding from the State. The percentage of native plants will be going up from the current 10% to probably 20% of plants for buildings only assuming the bill gets passed and signed into law. For harsh environments, the government would just be throwing money away. It's better to incorporate native plants where they will grow well.
 - ii) HB 632 – noxious plant list (AAA submitted testimony against)
 - iii) HB 633 – streamlines process for HDOA to make changes to the Restricted Plant List (AAA submitted testimony for)
 - iv) HB 95 – leaf blower ban (against) – testimony not submitted because the hearing has not been scheduled. Steve Nimz is working with the Landscape Contractor's Association and LICH on this. They'll be meeting at 3:45 p.m. on February 17, 2011, at Harris United Methodist Church to iron out what LICH's testimony will be on this bill. The proposed compromise is that by 2012 new blowers available for purchase will be rated at 65 db or less.
 - v) For the above bills as noted, LICH president, Chris Dacus, submitted testimony on behalf of LICH and AAA's testimony supported LICH's.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A) WCISA Conference is scheduled for May 11-13, 2011, in San Diego, CA (La Jolla). Steve Nimz and Mark Leon are planning to attend.

V. ADJOURNMENT

- A) The meeting was adjourned by President Steve Connolly at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Kwan

PLEASE JOIN US!

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 16, 2011, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Cattle Company Pearl City.

Attachments:

1. 2011 AAA Membership Application
2. Pest of the Month – Cotton Lace Bug

**2011 Aloha Arborist Association
Membership Application**

Please process my membership with Aloha Arborist Association for calendar year 2011.

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: _____ E-Mail: _____

You may publish this information on the AAA website: Yes No

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!