

Aloha Arborist Association
Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2011

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

I. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 20, 2011, ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

A) President Steve Connolly called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. The April 20, 2011, Annual Meeting minutes were approved as written.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A) Training Workshops

i) Small Workshops

(a) Chain Saw Workshop

(i) Tabled

(b) Basic Rigging Demo

(i) Dudley suggested that he and Steve Connolly organize this workshop at the UGC since Greg is so busy. We can get the opiuma on the ground and fulfill our commitment to UGC. Once the details have been worked out, Dudley will submit them to Bob Speer and Bob can work with the UGC's higher ups.

(c) WCISA Regional Meeting – Plant Doctoring: Science vs. Snake Oil 8/24/2011

(i) Carol is working with the speakers to get the necessary documents to be able to apply for pesticide CEUs by early June.

(d) Proposed WCISA Regional Meeting – Urban Soil Workshop

(i) Tabled

B) Research Committee

i) Dudley made a motion for AAA to support the TUFRC strategic planning grant. Steve Nimz seconded it. The motion passed unanimously. A letter to that effect will be given to Teresa Trueman-Madriaga for inclusion in the grant application.

C) 2011 Hawaii TCC

i) The dates have been set for October 1 and 2, 2011. The proposed venue is Dillingham ranch by the house in the back with the big trees. Insurance for climbers and participants runs around \$15/climber the last time Steve Connolly checked with Rose. We may need general crowd/venue insurance coverage too. Dan, Ash, and Jeremy are very excited and working hard to make this happen. The work day clean up would be a couple of weeks beforehand unless we change the venue. Foster Garden would be nice but we'd need to

work through Austin and ultimately Stan. Steve Nimz suggested checking about Queen Emma Gardens as well. After some discussion, it was decided to keep the venue at Dillingham Ranch in Mokuleia. There people can kick back, have a barbeque, and watch the event. That wouldn't be possible at Foster. The more relaxed atmosphere should draw a bigger crowd of spectators.

D) Landscape Pest Identification Cards

- i) Tabled

E) 2011 LICH Conference

- i) Steve Nimz reported that there will be 5 or 6 tracks this year. Arborists will have a track and we need a few more speakers. One concern is that with so many tracks, we won't have many people to talk to. It's possible the talk could just be a tickler, maybe a summary level of rigging and tell them to come to the full workshop if they want more. Steve Nimz will put in Dudley's and Steve Connolly's names as speakers for now. If something else works out, fine.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A) Pest of the Month – Giant Palm Weevil (*Rhynchophorus ferrugineus*)- pest alert

- i) Distribution: from South Carolina south to the Florida Keys and west to Texas. Native to Florida
- ii) Hosts: Canary date palm, date palm, sabal palm, fishtail palm, coconut, latan palms, royal palm, and Washingtonia spp. Stressed, damaged, pruned, and recently transplanted palms are the most susceptible.
- iii) Symptoms: General decline of young fronds, older fronds may begin to droop, top of the palm falls over, death.
- iv) Management: cultural practices that promote palm health (proper fertilization and irrigation). Avoid wounding palms. Some control from insecticides such as acephate, chlorpyrifos, or imidacloprid, but results are inconsistent. Once infested, there is little chance of saving the palm. Remove and destroy the infested palm material before adults emerge to prevent subsequent infestations. Decline occurs in 3-5 weeks from the time of the initial infestation.

B) AAA Website

- i) We received a suggestion by email that a member's certifications be listed on the website. It was decided that if a member wants his/her certifications listed, he/she will need to submit copies of current certifications along with his/her paid AAA membership application each year. If membership isn't renewed, the entire listing gets taken off of AAA's website. If membership is renewed but copies of certifications aren't included the next year, just the certification portion will be taken off of the website.

- ii) Would it be possible for commercial companies to pay for advertising on AAA's website without endangering our non-profit status? Carol will check with her accountant.
- iii) Doug Behrens, our webmaster, has been putting in a great deal of time updating the website plus AAA still hasn't reimbursed him for the repair costs of the hole we put in his roof during our last volunteer day at Koa Ridge. It was agreed that AAA would give Doug a \$500 Ala Moana gift certificate as a token of our appreciation for his ongoing help with our website. The motion passed unanimously.

C) The Barclay Tree Topping

- i) A landmark banyan has been topped at The Barclay condominium. It's a major eyesore from the H-1 Freeway westbound through town. It was agreed that AAA will send a letter to the Board of Directors of The Barclay that our qualified Certified Arborist members are horrified about such unprofessional pruning on a landmark tree and enclosing 15 copies of *Why Topping Hurts Trees*.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A) Chris Baker from Maui won *Stump the Chump* at the WCISA conference. He got all of the answers correct, an amazing feat. Steve Nimz will submit an article and photo about this to *Landscape Hawaii*.
- B) ISA Conference is scheduled for July 23-27, 2011, in Sydney, Australia. Lester Inouye, Mike Kraus, and Austin Braaten are going.
- C) Aloha Power Equipment is once again a Stihl authorized dealer.

V. ADJOURNMENT

- A) The meeting was adjourned by President Steve Connolly at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Kwan

PLEASE JOIN US!

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, June 15, 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 – Giant Palm Weevil

**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: _____ 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.

Mahalo for your support!