



**ALOHA ARBORIST ASSOCIATION**  
**MEETING MINUTES –09/19/2018 – APPROVED**  
**Dixie Grill, Aiea, HI**

Members in Attendance: Desiree Page, Sergio Vasquez, Andrew Kendall, Angela Liu, Kainoa Holt

1. Call to Order and Approval of Meeting Minutes of 06/20/2018, 07/18/18 and 08/28/18 - The meeting was called to order at 6:53 pm. All the minutes were approved.
2. Reports of Officers and Standing Committees
  - a) Treasurer's Report (Andrew Kendall) – Andrew is working to get the organization's accounting compliant for non-profit status. He will be working with an accounting firm and other professional resources as needed.
  - b) Research Committee (Chair: Dudley Hulbert) – Desiree encouraged more research activity, pointing out that AAA at this time has sufficient resources to pursue research topics that may be of value to the group's mission. She also asked if there was an update on Professor Andy Kaufman's grant request to NUCFAC, however no information was available from the members present.
  - c) Training Committee (Chair: Andrew Kendall)
    - i) Aerial Rescue Training (Justin Donahue) – Desiree had taken on the effort of setting up an aerial rescue training event on Maui, working with Jake Kane. She will work with Justin Donahue to divide up the tasks requiring follow-up.
    - ii) UGC Abiotic Disorders, 09/02/18 (Dudley Hulbert) – Dudley, J and Andrew volunteered at this public education event. They reported that the event went very well, with J providing a Powerpoint presentation on the five most common abiotic conditions affecting trees. Having three arborists talk on the topic enriched the presentation for participants.
    - iii) Beginner Chainsaw Safety Workshop (Dudley Hulbert) – Desiree noted that the next step will be for Dudley to coordinate a date with Jayme Grzebik at Urban Garden Center.
    - iv) Proposed Fids and Fibers Rope Splicing Class (Angela Liu) – Mark Przekurat, the instructor, didn't get the enrollment rates needed to hold this event, so it has been cancelled for this year.
  - d) Tree Jamboree Committee (Chair: Andrew Kendall) – Hawaii Island, February 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Mike Kraus is continuing to work out options for a venue; there are backup available in the event the first choices don't work out. Andrew is developing sponsorship for the event based on the sponsors who supported the event last year. Desiree outlined the recognition that sponsors had at the event this year, and will also have next year. There will be exposure on Instagram, Facebook, and an article in WCISA's *Western Arborist*, as well as thank-you letters to sponsors and competitors. Angela and Andrew will work on a budget, and there was a discussion about some of the anticipated expenses. The event format also will need to be decided.
3. Reports of Special Committees
  - a) LICH Annual Conference, Wed. October 10<sup>th</sup> 2018, Blaisdell Exhibition Hall (Sergio Vasquez) – Sergio will offer palms and other plants to help decorate the conference area. J and Angela are volunteering the day of the event – J will be moderator for the Arborist Track, and Angela will be helping with registration. Garrett also asked if AAA could supply two volunteers to help setup on Tuesday before the event. Angela has purchased two good reference books at a steep discount, and will also be getting a bottle of wine, all to be donated as raffle items. Desiree and Angela will

organize to have T-shirt printed so that the board will be able to wear AAA T-shirts, and so that event participants will have souvenir T-shirts they can purchase.

#### 4. Unfinished Business and General Orders

- a) Autumn Volunteer Workday (J Zambo, Dudley Hulbert) – J identified a senior facility that has a large monkeypod they need help with. They are a non-profit, and don't have a budget for getting pruning done. A date in October or November will be set, and Sergio, Kai, J and Desiree will work together to organize and hold the event.
- b) Proposed Changes to AAA Website (Desiree Page) – Desiree reported that AAA's current website was created in the early 2000's, and it now has some significant limitations on its functionality. Ideally, we will soon be converting to a website that is enabled with up-to-date security, storage capacity, modernized server, and other necessary elements. Hosting is expected to be about \$69/year, and a digital (security) certificate will be about \$99/year. Domain name registration (aka dedicated IP address) will be about \$24/year. Migration to the new website will be about \$352. J moved to approve these expenses; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

#### 5. New Business

- a) Homeowner complaints (Angela Liu) – AAA received a consumer request for assistance regarding a pruning job that had not concluded satisfactorily. The homeowner had recounted the circumstances, and asked for help in figuring out how to go forward. Angela focused on maintaining a neutral position, and provided the following recommendations to the homeowner:
  - i. The homeowner should make every effort to contact the contractor, making sure to document the times and dates when calls were made and what results were obtained. The homeowner was encouraged to remember that at times phone messages may go unanswered for any number of reasons including personal emergencies.
  - ii. If efforts to resolve the disagreement were not satisfactory, the homeowner was informed of the option to turn to the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs for further assistance.

A discussion followed during which the point was made that the homeowner's payment to the contractor implied that he had approved the work. There was agreement that this would be a good opportunity to educate the public.

- b) Kaulunani Grant Application "Guidelines for Tree Care Near Manu-o-Kū (White Tern) Nesting Sites" (Angela Liu) – Project documents were completed and returned to Kaulunani, however there are a couple of details that remain unanswered with regard to payment processing. Angela is working with Kaulunani to iron out these questions. The presentation was postponed.

#### 6. Announcements

- a) The calendar of events was reviewed:
  - Sept. 20-23 – **28<sup>th</sup> HI Tropical Fruit Growers Conference "Bringing It All Together"** – Leeward Community College. Also events 9/24/18 through 9/29/18 across the state, see: <http://www.hawaiitropicalfruitgrowers.org/>
  - Saturday Oct 13th – **Certified Arborist / Certified Tree Worker Exam (Coordinated by ISA)**, Honolulu.

**(6a., Continued)**

- Wed 10/10/18 – *LICH Annual Conference*
- 10/15/18 to 10/17/18 – *Landscape Below Ground IV*, Morton Arboretum, Lisle, IL - <http://www.landscapebelowground.org>

b) *Please join us on:*

*October 17th, 2018, 6:30pm – Monthly Meeting at Dixie Grill, Pearl City*

7. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Liu