



Aloha Arborist Association
Monthly Meeting
August 17th, 2022 6:30pm- via Zoom

In attendance: : Justin Barrios, Sophia Colella, Kevin Eckert, Angela Liu, Will Loomis, Desiree Page

Quorum: yes, 5 board members in attendance

1. Call to Order and approval of July draft meeting minutes.

- 6:40PM call to order. Minutes approved.

2. Welcome Guests

i. Guest speaker

- Jesse Adams-Quick informational talk about palm species in Hawaii, especially those designated to be targets for the CRB (Washingtonis, Cocos, Phoenix, and Pritchardia) (10-15 minutes). – postponed

3. Committee and Officer Reports

a. Jamboree

- Finalize name for the friendly competition on the Big Island.
 - Tree climbing pā'ina
- Confirm dates in October for friendly competition
 - October 20th-23rd
 - Oct 20th is the volunteer day to prune the monkeypods (Thursday)
 - Oct. 21st will be the set-up day (Friday)
 - October 22nd and 23rd are the event days (Saturday & Sunday)
- Other updates
 - Need to set up insurance, and will have a maximum of 25 spaces
 - 12 volunteers already signed up- Tree Works bringing their crew and Maui volunteers coming.
 - School may prepare food for sale
 - Desiree recommends paying close attention to score keeping logistics due to the significant potential for breakdowns. Scores need to be recorded into the computer spreadsheet during the event.
- Jamboree in February 2023

- Desiree shared Peter Devries is planning to come and would like to judge.
- Courant is interested in sponsoring; she has a few other ideas and will coordinate w/ Jamboree Chair Will.
- Will is expecting to be on Maui September and will start scouting. Presidents' Day Weekend may be an optimal weekend for the event, exploring venues also should be the priority.
- Desiree also recommended different sponsorship levels and will provide details to Will. The aerial rescue event was broached during Dr. Ball's recent program; since it's still part of the ITCC, this event will stay in the Jamboree.

b. Training

- i. Opportunity to take the course to train for the Certified Arborist exam. Currently the course is free only for those who meet the Certified Arborist exam pre-requisites and are planning to take the exam. Unclear if people who just want to take the class without taking the exam will be able to do so. The class is asynchronous, but there's planning to make it possible to meet with the instructor Jolie Dollar.
- ii. Desiree reported that Malama Kauai requested AAA to provide a training event for fruit tree pruning, fertilization, propagation methods, and other similar agricultural tree care. This could be a fund-raising event for AAA. Desiree suggested she would be one of two trainers.
- iii. Justin will add to the Training Committee agenda: coordination with County emergency agencies to develop best practices / procedures that tree care professionals can follow.

4. Unfinished Business and General Orders

5. New Business

i. AAA insurance status (501c) and liability

- AAA will need to get a (new) GE Tax number. Justin is interested pursuing some level of insurance for the group, and asked if Mission and Vision Statement needs to be updated. Justin and Tylor are motivated to get AAA's status up-to-date.

ii. Membership dues and website updates (general housekeeping on AAA website and online payment processing for the membership dues)

- Website member signup and payment is not well integrated, Justin is interested in updating it.
- Desiree and Angela confirmed that the PO box is being checked regularly and the website is being maintained.

- There was a review of roles and procedures related to member data and payment management.
- Justin also encouraged newer members to take on more roles and for those board members and officers who have been involved longer to mentor them.

iii. Verify mission statement & vision statement

Vision statement:

AAA's vision is for Hawaii to have a thriving urban forest that is cared for safely and properly and is valued and appreciated by its residents.

Mission statement:

AAA fosters the appreciation of Hawaii's urban forest by educating the industry and the public in safe, proper tree care. It does this by:

- Providing public education about the benefits of the urban forest and the value of proper, professional maintenance
- Stimulating greater public interest in planting and preserving the urban forest and the environmental benefits it provides
- Supporting industry professionals by providing education on safe work practices and national maintenance standards
- Encouraging credentialing of industry professionals and providing opportunities for Continuing Education Units for credential holders
- Staying up-to-date with current arboricultural information and serving as a communication channel to disseminate the information to others
- Recommending and upholding the ISA's "Code of Ethics"

iv. Meeting schedules

- Next in person meeting- September 2022 at the Lyons Arboretum
- Justin suggested we have meet-ups twice yearly.
- Other options - have an in-person meeting in November and each board member to bring a new person; hold a meeting on Big Island coinciding with the upcoming Tree Climbing Friendly.
- Sophia suggested to meet by Zoom in September since October meeting will be in person on the Big Island.

6. Announcements

i. Certified Arborist Exam & Prep Course- Windward Community College

- **See the Training discussion.**

- ii. Citizen Forester Program w/ Kevin Eckert- Registration is open (sent out Mailchimp email?)
 - Kevin reported that Smart Trees Pacific wants to expand this program beyond inventory data collection. The program has a large pool of volunteer Citizen Foresters who could support community forestry. Sophia also came up through the CF program and highly recommends the training. Desiree is part of a group reviewing and looking for ways to improve the Exceptional Trees program and other City & County tree ordinances, suggested that Citizen Foresters could play a role.
- iii. Desiree shared the following National Association of State Foresters film:
[NASF's newest short film highlights the cultural significance of the tropical world's 'tree of life' - National Association of State Foresters](#)

7. Pest of the Month

- i. Pest of the Month – Tylor and Justin can work with Shanda to select and provide the details for these. Sophia also chimed in that Tylor wants to do Tree of the Month.

Meeting adjourned: 8:11PM

Join us for our next monthly meeting!

September 21st at 6:30pm via Zoom