

TN-EPPC Board Meeting Minutes
May 27, 2009
Cumberland Mountain State Park

Attendance: Terri Hogan, LinnAnn Welch, Anni Self, Margie Hunter, Andrea Bishop, Dan Brown, Mike Berkley, Pat Parr, Kris Johnson, Nancy Fraley, Jack Gilpin.

Absent (with proxy): Claude Bailey (Andrea), Kevin Fitch (Margie), Bob Parrish (LinnAnn)

Meeting called to order 10:03 a.m. (** denotes action item)

Thanks to Jack for arranging our meeting location.

Minutes: Approved minutes of Feb. 11, 2009

Treasurer's Report: Approved May 27, 2009 report (attached)

Review of Feb. 11 Action Items:

Photos and bios to Richard for Web site – Andrea** and Mike**

Rather than listing pesticide applicators on our Web site, we will provide a link to the TDOA page listing same.

Wildland Weeds publication of new plant list is on hold due to missed window. Will reschedule.

TN-EPPC/TNPS Fall Meeting: Sept. 18-20, 2009 at Linden Valley Retreat in western Middle TN on Buffalo River. Margie** will present Saturday evening program on native plant alternatives. Several TN-EPPC members will attend who can ID invasive plants and discuss control on the hikes. Nancy** is to ask Toby Obenauer if he could attend to assist and perhaps conduct a pesticide workshop Saturday afternoon. Terri** is meeting with TNPS board to discuss registration/funds issues and other questions. LinnAnn** and perhaps Claude** can assist with local publicity.

Registration Review: Pesticide newsletter of TDOA; Anni** will get info on subscription to board.

Invasive Plant List: List is nearly complete; two species require further review to finish (Nancy, LinnAnn, Kris, & Terri**). Categories include synonyms, our rank, county count per grand division, other states info, web sites, comments. All board members are asked to carefully review for any problems. LinnAnn** will write an article for *Tennessee Conservationist* on the new list, and Andrea** will contact Louis Zepp to get on schedule.

State EDRR: Sixteen attended organizational meeting at USFW office in Cookeville for Tennessee Invasive Species EDRR Steering Committee including Jenny Adkins and Kathy Daugherty of NRCS and Greg Armel, UT Ag school. Elected co-chairs Brian Bowen and Greg Armel. Jim Ditillo discussed processes for emergency “incident

command” – gov’t agencies document outlining who is charge and duties. An MOU was drafted (using GA’s as model). Discussed if it should simply start with cogongrass or include more – some reluctant to sign broad docs. Discussed list of departments who should sign. Anni is on Strategic Plan subcommittee that is using two models (wide and narrow frames) to draft action plan and associated tasks. Pat Cox and Brian are on the Watch List Species subcommittee to develop a list – may differ from TN-EPPC watch list.

Web Site: Jed Schneider recommends a new platform called Ruby on Rails as a faster, easier alternative. Our current host will not be able to support it. Jed can host for us and use us as an example of this type in his portfolio. Hosting cost per month would be \$10. Development/design costs should be same. Our current host contract expires in August, we will contact him to discuss termination. Jed is working on first couple of pages which will be ready by end of next week. Jed and Margie** will prioritize development and analyze functionality. No launch date yet, but ask Richard to post that a new site is coming soon on current site.

SE-EPPC 2010 Meeting: To be joint with Society for Ecological Restoration in mid May. John Tobe and Terri have discussed with many good ideas raised and themes suggested (see attached). Attendance could be 90 from SER and 250 (high?) from SE-EPPC. Registration would be online. Top recommended city (from SE-EPPC and TN-EPPC) is Chattanooga. Several sites within Chattanooga were discussed. TN-EPPC needs a planning committee of three – Kevin, Nancy, and Bob were suggested along with Joey Shaw, Richard Clements, and Mary Priestly as possibilities.

NAEPPC: Is working on its bylaws. There is a new EPPC in Oklahoma.

Landscaping Brochures: State Parks will do the printing for us. Mike** will review and adjust the plant lists, and Andrea** will review nomenclature. Sponsor list will be updated to reflect parks involvement, etc., and the more info section will be updated, too. We don’t have software to edit ourselves, and Andrea** will approach Chris Armour for estimate to do work and consult with him on actual brochure layout and printable pdf formats for Web site.

SE-EPPC 2009: 11th annual meeting in Georgetown, SC. Board met to elect Nancy Lowenstein as VP and Karen Brown as secretary, discuss NAEPPC procedures for board, and solicitation of SE-EPPC members to serve on committees: EDDR, CWMA, Policy, Green Industry, Research, Web site, Education & Outreach, and Other. Actual meeting was 2 ½ days (one field trips). Steven Enloe of Auburn requested info on Ailanthus stands for research. Nancy** will forward to TN-EPPC board. A good presentation by Kari Whitley of Scott Horticultural Consulting “Impact of Ornamental Nurseries on Natives, Exotics and Invasive Species.” Check out on Web site.

Clean Quarries: Kris’ efforts with quarries in East Tennessee is catching on as larger companies seek inspection to clean up their sites for contract considerations. Federal Highways sees value in this for the GSMNP and needs to broaden application. Same

with state. More documented evidence of invasive spread through gravel is needed. Kris's checklist and plant stabilization recommendations will be put on TN-EPPC Web site.

Bylaws Review & Recommendations: In a review of the text, the board recommends changes below and wants to ask Bob if we could incur liability if it was shown that we failed to follow the bylaws as a corporation.

Change any generic reference to "exotic pest plant(s)" to "exotic invasive pest plant(s)"

Article II h.) add "and NAEPPC" at the end

Article III, Sec. 1 does cover commercial memberships

Article III, Sec. 2 replace "university, college or junior college" with "educational or academic institution"

Article IV, Sec. 2 was deemed to be OK as written

Article V, Sec 1 replace "ten (10)" with "up to fifteen (15)"

Article V, Sec 3 delete "death" in two places

Article V, Sec 5 replace "their proxies" with "board-approved proxies"

Article V, Sec 10 amend to read "fail to attend 3 consecutive board meetings *without proxy*"

Article V – add "Section 11. The Directors may invite representatives of other organizations or resource experts as liaisons to the board."

It was also agreed that the board should add a life membership category and research to determine appropriate amount.

Liaison Request: Terri** will draft a joint letter to the president and executive director of the Tennessee Nursery and Landscape Association inviting them to be a liaison on TN-EPPC board. It will tell them of our next meeting date, time, location. It is important to begin establishing a record of outreach.

On Cal IPC's Web site are good notes from a meeting regarding working with horticultural professionals on invasive issues. Plantright.org

Next meeting: August 11-13 (Tues-Thurs) in Chattanooga, perhaps at Reflection Riding or Pot House.

Adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Attached: Treasurer's Report, Terri's Action Items, SE-EPPC 2010 meeting notes

Respectfully submitted,
Margie Hunter

TREASURER'S REPORT – May 27, 2009

TENNESSEE EXOTIC PEST PLANT COUNCIL

GENERAL OPERATING ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance: (February 10, 2009) **\$4770.32**

Receipts:

Memberships \$240.00

Cogongrass sponsor \$100.00

Expenses:

Cogongrass Meeting (\$715.00)

Ending Balance: (May 26, 2009) **\$4395.32**

MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance: (February 10, 2009) **\$3935.17**

Net Interest Earned: 1.28

Ending Balance: (May 26, 2009) **\$3936.45**

TOTAL ASSETS OF GENERAL & MM ACCOUNTS \$8,331.77

TN Exotic Pest Plant Council Board of Directors Meeting, May 27, 2009
10AM to 3PM (Central) at Cumberland Mountain State Park

ACTION ITEMS

- Joint TNEPPC-TNPS meeting: September 18 & 19, Linden Valley Baptist Convention Center on the Buffalo River, 10 rooms are being held for TNEPPC. \$15 registration to cover speakers, and does not include food and lodging.
 - **Terri**:
 - send link to Linden Valley Convention Center to board
 - put registration form on TNEPPC letterhead
 - attend Sunday, May 31, TNPS meeting and ask:
 - will TNPS handle money (registration money sent to their contact)?
 - how are funds over and above expenses handled?
 - how soon will they know what the hikes will be? We need to check out site.
 - we suggest door prizes, Mike will donate some plants
 - tell them: Saturday evening speaker will be Margie, Saturday afternoon on equipment or treatment methods using off the counter products (Toby and intern or Terri), co-hikers Saturday afternoon (Andrea, Terri, Pat, Kris, Anni, LinnAnn, Claude, Dan, Kevin, Bob)
 - ask what type of workshop is likely to be most useful to folks
 - is the art show going to be a competition? Is there an opportunity to sell work?
 - we will be arranging for pesticide points in TN
 - **LinnAnn and Claude** check out ways to get information out to local community about the meeting.
 - **Nancy** will ask Toby if he will do the Saturday afternoon workshop.
 - **Anni** check into pesticide points when we have a final agenda
 - **All** talk up meeting and art show
- TIS EDRR:

- **Anni** send the TDA emergency action plan (incident command structure) for pest plants to board when it is completed.
- **Nancy** send the NC emergency action plan (incident command structure) to the board if they have one.
- Web site:
 - **Terri** talk to Richard. Ask him to post that a new site is coming. Find out about Signal data contract. Can we cancel the contract? If so, are there fees or is a 30 day notice required?
- Brochure reprints:
 - **Andrea and Mike** meet to draft changes needed on the brochures. Include TN State Parks as the sponsor.
 - **Andrea** call Chris Armour of Armour and Armour to see about reformatting at least as a pdf for printing from the web site.
 - **Jack** pursue TN State Parks printing funds for brochures.
- SE-EPPC:
 - **Anni** resend Chuck our membership list.
 - **Nancy** email request to board from researcher looking for untreated stands of *Ailanthus altissima* on public lands.
 - **Nancy** send email to the board requesting committee members for SE-EPPC committees.
 - **Everyone** consider serving on SE-EPPC committees: EDRR, CWMA, Education and Outreach, Policy, Green Industry, Web Page, Other
- Clean quarries:
 - **Everyone** look for papers that provide evidence that weed seed is moved via gravel and soil.
- Extraneous:
 - **Anni** send information to board on how to subscribe to registration review.
 - **Nancy** send board summary of Japanese stiltgrass treatment methods.

2010 Joint meeting of SE-EPPC and SE-SER

Initial organization teleconference May 13, 2009

Participants representing respective organizations:

Terri Hogan – President of SE-EPPC

John Tobe – vice-president of SE-SER

Notes:

1. Venue for meeting: Nashville TN was chosen as the site for the 2010 joint SE-EPPC and SE-SER

Why Nashville? a. centrally located, b. mayor is supportive of GREEN initiatives, c. Nashville was also the venue for the 2009 natural areas conference which was a successful meeting, d. good options for local field trips, e. many hotels to choose from

2. Financial considerations.

a. any extra monies generated by registration costs will be split by percentage of participation by either group, e.g. if 60% of participants are EPPC members, then 60% of monies goes to EPPC. How will we know membership affiliation? Participants will be required to register as an EPPC member and/or SER member. Note: you will also have the option of dual membership. We'll include a check off box on registration form. For dual members half of their registration fee will go to each organization.

3. Theme for meeting: Since it's a dual meeting, the following are possible themes:

1. Invasive Exotic Control Considerations for Restoration of Healthy Ecosystems– a Joint Meeting of SE-EPPC and SE-SER

2. Management of Invasive Exotics on Restored Lands– a Joint Meeting of SE-EPPC and SE-SER

3. Preserving and Restoring in an Expanding Urban Landscape– a Joint Meeting of SE-EPPC and SE-SER

4. Invasive Management Planning and Restoration of Natural Areas in a Changing World– a Joint Meeting of SE-EPPC and SE-SER

5. Disturbance and Change, Exotics and Paths to Recovery – a Joint Meeting of SE-EPPC and SE-SER

We need to firm up the date of meeting and theme

We have agreed it should be held in May 2010 in Nashville, TN

We will need to think about anyone else we might include in the planning phase for this.

Teri do we need a planning committee? I will represent SE SER on the committee, as we figure out the meeting duties we can begin to include others, e.g. we can ask our respective membership to man the information and registration desk, we can come up with a schedule so that we have volunteers from both organizations doing the day to day activities at the meeting such as registration, symposia and speaker chair, etc.

Important dates for pre-planning phase

May 27th Teri will teleconference with her executive board and relay the information contained in these notes. After this meeting she will send any revisions to these notes to John Tobe.

Between June and August we'll need to pull together ideas, contact venue for meeting events in Nashville and contact all potential keynote speakers and field trip venues and leaders, cost of registration, dates of meeting.

By the end of August, beginning of September 2009 we plan to send out the announcement for the joint 2010 meeting with the following:

1. tentative schedule
2. contact all keynote speakers and get commitment from them
3. a call for abstracts
4. registration information
5. venue information, accommodations, etc.
6. field trip venue and persons to lead field trips
7. include deadlines in registration information, e.g. dates for early registration, dates for late registration, final dates for registration
8. Final date of registration should be in at least 3 months before the actual date of meeting – at this time the tentative date for this will be January 29th (Friday) 2010
9. Send out reminders for the meeting beginning of November and beginning of January
10. If we don't have much interest and registrants by end of January we can consider extending the registration period to include first 2 weeks in February.
11. Why the concern about early registration? One of the best ways to lose money on a meeting such as this is to reserve too many rooms. If we have a good idea of our participant number in advance we are less likely to lose money on unsold rooms.

By the second week of January we would like to have the meeting planning almost complete

1. keynote speakers confirmed
2. number of participants
3. finalized schedule
4. finalized number of field trip attendees
5. finalize any transportation to field trip venues
6. finalize any meals – we should probably offer continental breakfast and lunch in conference price – meals will be on their own

Teri I'll work on a tentative schedule and possible topics for break out sessions.

We didn't talk about it but could you send me a list of possible topics for break out sessions. The following are examples of what we have traditionally included:

Community-Based Restoration
Restoring Natural Capital
Traditional Ecological Knowledge
Agro-Ecology
Cultural Landscape
Biodiversity & Climate Change
Forest Restoration
Wetland Restoration
River & Watershed Restoration
Grassland Restoration
Mine/Extractive Restoration
Wildlife Restoration
Invasive Species
Recreation & Tourism
Funding Opportunities