

**Aloha Arborist Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2009**

Members Present: Carol Kwan, Dudley Hulbert, Steve Connolly, Gregory Severino, Daniel Severino, Brian Fukada, Kevin Eckert, Lance Bookless, Doug DeMoss, Steve Nimz

I. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 28, 2009, MEETING MINUTES

- A) President Dudley Hulbert called the meeting to order at 6:52 p.m. The October 28, 2009, minutes were approved as written.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A) Urban Forestry Summit/Research Committee

- i) The Urban Forestry Summit was held on November 4th and 5th, 2009. Dudley and Carol represented AAA. The USDA Forestry Service has set their funding up to be competitive between the States. Each State has to have a strategic plan. Hawaii's is due in June 2010. If we don't have one, it can affect our funding for the next 5-10 years. At this point, Hawaii is ahead of putting together a strategic plan for specific projects, but it's a work in progress. One of the projects is a Tropical Urban Forest Research Center at UH. Another project is a LIDAR of the urban forest canopy cover for Honolulu and Kapolei to determine where the holes in the canopy are so we know where more trees are needed. The LIDAR will be performed by the University of Vermont who specializes in this type of work. This is one of the five projects that Hawaii got approved by USDA this funding cycle. There will be some new projects to come out of the strategic planning process. Dudley and Carol will be reviewing things via email as the strategic plan progresses. Kevin is also involved through Kaulunani Council. Carol pointed out that the purpose for forest in Hawaii is water, not timber. Everything along the Ahupuaa from the water sheds to the urban forest down to the oceans is connected. Dudley added that he was thoroughly impressed with the whole mechanism. This is a great opportunity for AAA to step up and be involved. We need to support this in every way we can. Steve Connolly asked how the money works. Kevin responded that money is appropriated by the USDA every year.

B) Research Committee

- i) Dudley doesn't have anything new to add. A lot of our hopes are hinging on the outcome of the Urban Forestry Summit process.

C) Training Workshops

i) Small Workshops

- (a) The first small workshop will be the Single Rope Technique (SRT) Workshop that Steve Connolly is planning. He has an outline and program ready to go. The venue will be Lyon Arboretum. He would like to limit attendance to 15-20 people maximum. It's a subject targeted at advanced climbers. The workshop will probably run for 4-5 hours, not a full day. Climb Aloha will be there selling climbing gear at good prices (at or below catalog with no shipping added.) A tentative date was set for January 23, 2010. The funds raised by the workshop will be earmarked for TCC.

(b) Kevin asked about teaching people how to do false crotches before the next exam. It would be a good program, but we're not sure who could teach it. It can't be a proctor or judge for the CTW exam. The next exam will be held in April. Kevin said that if we just teach false crotches then that should be OK. We'll try to figure out a way between now and April.

ii) Arborist Report Writing

(a) Target date is February 2010

D) Outer Island Meeting

i) Tabled

E) Landscape Pest Identification Cards

i) Carol spoke to a Master Gardener this morning who thought the Landscape Pest Identification Cards was a great idea. She suggested emailing the head Master Gardener about this, which Carol did.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A) Pest of the Month – Coconut Leafroller

i) Hosts: Coconuts, bananas, native Pritchardias

ii) Range: All major Hawaiian Islands. More prevalent in windswept areas, possibly due to wind interference with parasitoids. Believed to be endemic to Hawaii.

iii) Symptoms: Young larvae feed on underside of leaves beneath a protective thin web of silk. They leave the opposite epidermis intact. As they get older, they feed on the epidermis of both leaf surfaces. Older caterpillars attach the edges of the leaf together to create a protective chamber. Spread through: Adult moth

iv) Control: several biological controls present in Hawaii. Chemical control is usually not needed.

B) Arborist Statistics

i) Rose Epperson provided the following statistics for Hawaii. They show good progress in certification from where we were a few years ago.

(a) Certified Arborists – 190

(b) Certified Tree Workers – 62

(c) Utility Specialists – 6

(d) Municipal Specialists – 4

(e) BCMA – 1

C) Special Order of *Up By Roots* Book

- i) Carol has continued to receive requests for the *Up By Roots* book and asked if we want to try to do another special order. The price will be more than \$65 a book but should still be less than the ISA member rate of \$76.95. We need to order at least five books to get the bulk rate. It was agreed that if five or more members want the book, we'll do the special order. The order will be limited to preorders only.

D) High Voltage Demo 12/11/2009

- i) AAA has been invited to be part of the next High Voltage Demo by HECO on 12/11/2009. Greg has seen it twice before. It's a great demonstration. They put a hot wire on a pickup truck, a mannequin touches an arm to the vehicle and the hotdog cooks. It's a graphic demonstration of how unforgiving electricity can be. Anyone interested in attending must respond by December 2, 2009, to Greg.

E) Certification Exams

- i) Kevin reported that the Certification Liaisons met recently. There won't be tree identification samples used on the exam after April 2010. They're changing the tree identification questions to more generic questions. This means it won't be necessary to collect tree samples for the exam anymore. It also means that the exam can be offered electronically at a controlled site to ensure there's no cheating. It will cost the candidate about \$100 more to do that to cover the fee for the site, but a person can take the exam at any time during the year.

F) Pest Samples

- i) Carol brought in samples of galls on Italian cypress. Steve Connolly identified it as a gall wasp and showed the chambers inside the gall where the wasp lays its eggs. The stems beyond the gall were dead except for a gall that still had larvae inside.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A) Welcome to Lance Bookless of Natural Resource Management. He was a Certified Arborist in the past, but deployments messed up his CEUs. He hopes to recertify soon.
- B) Dan Skinner will be leaving Stihl in June 2010. He's planning to move to the Midwest to be closer to his kids. He will try to help us with our non-profit stuff before he leaves. If he's coming to Hawaii before then, we would like to have a dinner for him or something. He's been a wonderful supporter of AAA over the years.

V. ADJOURNMENT

- A) The meeting was adjourned by President Dudley Hulbert at 8:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Kwan

PLEASE JOIN US!

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 20, 2010, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Cattle Company Pearl City.

Attachments:

1. 2010 AAA Membership application
2. Pest of the Month – *Coconut leafroller*

**2010 Aloha Arborist Association
Membership Application**

Please process my membership with Aloha Arborist Association for calendar year 2010.

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!