

**Aloha Arborist Association  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
June 16, 2010**

Members Present: Carol Kwan, Steve Connolly, Dan Severino, Sergio Vasquez, Gregory Severino, Lance Bookless, Steve Nimz, Ryan Kawahi, and Rick Kawahi

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF THE MAY 19, 2010, MEETING MINUTES**

A) President Steve Connolly called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m. The May 19, 2010, minutes were approved as written.

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

A) Training Workshops

i) Small Workshops

(a) Basic Entry Methods/False Crotch

(i) Steve Connolly is working on a schedule and date. He is open to input from everyone on the topics to be covered. Lyon is the easiest venue but it could be rainy. We could have it in the same location as the SRT workshop since there's easy access and nice trees. We can look at alternate venues too if desired.

(b) Chain Saw Workshops

(i) Carol received an email from Ted Kujawski regarding options for Stihl's helping us to put on these workshops. The focus must be on learning, but Stihl authorized dealers could be on the side with sample products to sell. A committee was set up to plan the workshops. The committee members are Steve Connolly, Greg Severino, and Dudley Hulbert. Carol has info on where the workshops were held in 2005 on each island.

ii) WCISA Regional Meeting Fall 2010

(a) AAA agreed to cosponsor the ANSI Standards and Best Management Practices with WCISA this fall. To keep the costs down, the speakers will all be WCISA people. Proposed speakers are Tim Johnson, Bruce Hagen, and Steve Nimz. Steve Nimz will check with Tim on his availability for mid to late October. Carol will check with Stan Oka for McCoy Pavilion's availability and also check with Bruce. The planning committee for this workshop is Steve Nimz, Carol Kwan, Stan Oka, and WCISA.

B) Research Committee/Pearl City Urban Garden Center

i) Steve Connolly, Dudley, Carol, and Steve Nimz will be meeting with Christopher Dunn, Lyon Arboretum Director, on June 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss his possible involvement with the Tropical Urban Forestry Research Center.

ii) Steve Nimz reported that the DOT grant application that was put together by Andy Kaufman, Matt Flach, Stan Oka, Dudley, and himself a couple of years ago has recently been approved. Chris Dacus was one of the major players in getting this going. The

grant is for \$200K over 5 years for research on roots and infrastructure techniques. It's an ambitious project. The City is willing to work with us on using City street trees for research. If the research were to be done at Waimanalo experimental farm, we'd end up spending money doing things like concrete pours. If we can work with the various agencies, like the City, that can make the money go further. Perhaps we could apply for Britton Fund money to support this research as well. Steve Connolly expressed concern that the scope needs to be very specific for a grad student so the work will be publishable. Steve Connolly will join the research committee so he can provide the perspective of a grad student since he's been one.

C) Outer Island Meeting

- i) Postponed indefinitely, to be rescheduled.

D) 2010 WC TCC

- i) Ashlen placed 11<sup>th</sup> out of a field of 25. He did really well based on his scores. Daniel Stevens from Arizona won. Chad Brey placed 2<sup>nd</sup>. Robert Bounds from Hawaii also competed.

E) 2011 Hawaii TCC

- i) Greg reported that he'd picked the fourth weekend in April, but that may be difficult to meet. However, Mark Chisholm is scheduled to be here courtesy of Stihl if we can get a venue. That may help us to get a bigger turnout from the Outer Islands too. If we get him out here, it might be an opportunity to hold a workshop as well. Rigging was suggested because he's awesome at that. He's super at the math too, which is challenging for most people. Some of our local guys could be support speakers. Greg will look at the potential venues that he has on the table for TCC and report back.

F) John Hancock

- i) It was agreed to let members contact Cole and Kelley directly if they want to rather than organizing financial workshops just for AAA members since there probably wouldn't be enough turnout for any one topic. Carol will send out their contact info to the members' email list.

G) Christine Snyder Project

- i) Any of the things that we had proposed to do at Magic Island in honor of Christine Snyder would be considered a donation and would have to go through a process including getting approval from the City Council. It was decided to do two projects in Christine's honor. AAA will pursue doing a renovation of the bench at Magic Island, including going through the City's donation process, and work with The Outdoor Circle to do a tree planting at a school.

#### H) 2010 LICH Conference

- i) The LICH Conference is scheduled for September 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Steve Nimz reported that Walt Warriner will be the keynote speaker plus speak on another couple of topics – probably professionalism, privatization, and structural soils. Steve asked for input from members on other topics and proposed speakers. He's on the planning committee for the conference. They want to get topics with broad appeal that will bring in landscape architects, contractors, etc., so *Trees and Law* will be left off the program. They're trying to get Darcy Oishi to come again. Hardy native plants that are available will be one topic. Probably Rick Barboza or Dennis Kim will speak about that. There aren't a lot of natives that work in a harsh environment. Carol noted that we'd suggested many topics in January and she'll send Steve Nimz the list. Steve Connolly suggested Mike Richardson from Climb Aloha as a speaker. He's a federal entomologist. Steve Connolly will ask him if he'd be interested in possibly working with Darcy on a presentation. Julian Yates could talk about termites and trees. Steve Nimz will try to get Goro Uehara to speak too. He makes soils interesting.
- ii) Jay Deputy contacted Carol requesting that AAA sponsor the 2010 LICH Conference similar to what it did in 2009 when James Urban was the keynote speaker. After some discussion, it was agreed that we would provide sponsorship of \$250 for the keynote speaker with the money to go directly to Walt's fees for being here. Steve Nimz will discuss this directly with Jay.
- iii) Steve Nimz will talk to Walt Warriner about possibly doing another workshop while he's here.

#### III. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Pest of the Month – Monkeypod Moths (*Melipotis indomita*, *Ascalapha odorata*, and *Polydesma umbricola*)
  - i) Distribution: all major Hawaiian Islands
  - ii) Hosts: Monkeypods (*M. indomita* also attacks kiawe)
  - iii) Symptoms: Defoliation. Webbing with frass on trunk bark.
  - iv) Management: Management is not usually necessary. If a tree is particularly stressed, insecticide can be applied to the trunk bark.
  - v) Steve Connolly said that he found a huge moth on his porch in upper peninsula Michigan and managed to identify it as the black witch moth (*Ascalapha odorata*). It had shown up 3K miles away from monkeypods thanks to the jet stream.
  - vi) Steve Nimz reported that Hawaii has gone through stages on how destructive the monkeypod moths are. A little wasp helps to control them now. The larvae go up at night and strip the leaves. On mild infestations, you can see new leaves with holes in them.

B) Donating Old Certified Arborist Books

- i) Carol noted that there are three copies of the old *Arborists' Certification Study Guide* in AAA's book inventory. She checked with the Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS) to see if they'd be interested in having these books as a donation and they are. The ones that we donated previously have been well used. It was agreed that AAA would donate the remaining three copies to HSPLS.

C) AAA Sponsorship of Arborist Exam Prep Classes

- i) Greg mentioned that he'd been approached to possibly help as an instructor with an arborist exam prep class on an Outer Island. While he can't because of the new rules about proctors and judges being prohibited from training examinees, the question had been raised as to whether or not AAA would be willing to support the expense of flying someone from Oahu to help with this type of class. It was decided that it would not be appropriate for AAA to sponsor an arborist or tree worker prep class in this way because attendees pay fees for these types of classes and those fees should be sufficient to cover the expenses for the classes.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A) Welcome back to new members Ryan Kauahi, Rick Kauahi, and Lance Bookless.

B) The leaf blower ban will probably be introduced as a bill in the 2011 legislative session. AAA needs a rep to serve on the committee for fighting this. Rick and Ryan will check with Garrick to see if he's willing to volunteer for this and report back at the next meeting.

C) Steve Nimz announced that another CLT class will be starting next week through LICH. CLT training covers trees, planting, mowing lawns, irrigation, etc. They've divided it up now so that you can take parts of the test and don't have to do the whole thing. Chris Dacus at DOT is pushing CLT certification for all of the State's landscaping contractors. Check out LICH's website for more info. Steve Nimz is president of the Landscape Contractor's Association (LCA) which is taking over teaching the classes since Jay Deputy has retired. The money goes to LICH and a small amount is passed on to LCA.

D) Steve Nimz encouraged members to sign up for Dave Ringuette's courses at Windward Community College, particularly the Tree Risk Assessment Course to be offered in Fall 2010. Steve will be teaching some of the course (mostly the classes shown as Saturdays) and would like to have other Certified Arborists in the class to generate lively discussions. This can also help us as an industry to be more consistent in what we observe and in the terminology that we use. The other sessions will be taught by Kevin Eckert, who'll be covering tree biology, and Stan Oka, who will be covering risk mitigation. It's not necessary to attend all of the sessions unless you want to receive a certificate of completion. Classes are eligible for CEUs by going through ISA's post approval process. Registration is open now and WCC classes begin on August 23, 2010 for the Fall Semester.

- E) Power Equipment Hawaii is open now, but it will be holding a Grand Opening celebration July 15<sup>th</sup> through July 30<sup>th</sup>. Please stop by for great deals and to see the new store. See the flyer attached for more info.
- F) Aloha Power Equipment is offering specials to AAA members. See attachment for more info. Prices are valid through July 21, 2010.

## V. ADJOURNMENT

- A) The meeting was adjourned by President Steve Connolly at 8:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Kwan

## PLEASE JOIN US!

*The next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 21, 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 – Monkeypod Moths
3. Power Equipment Hawaii Grand Opening flyer
4. Aloha Power Equipment specials of the month

**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!**