

**Aloha Arborist Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2007**

Members Present: Steve Nimz, Carol Kwan, Chris Hudnall, Mark Leon, Sergio Vasquez, Jackie Ralya, Randy Liu, Rodney Nakashima, Kevin Eckert, Pat Oka, Dave Ringuette

Guest: Teresa Trueman-Madriaga

I. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

- A) Secretary Carol Kwan called the meeting to order at 6:41 p.m. The January minutes were approved as written. The balance of the meeting was chaired by former Vice President Mark Leon in the absence of other current officers.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A) 2007 ISA Conference & Trade Show

i) ITCC/Field Day

- (a) ISA is processing the paperwork for UH Saturday 7/28/2007. It has agreed to pay for the parking area adjacent to Campus Center to enlarge the Field Day area.
- (b) Sunday 7/29/07 at Sheraton. The paperwork is being done through the Mainland office. No problems are anticipated. Randy noted that the coconut grove will be undergoing renovation but the exact dates are unknown. Some of the area could be ripped up where the event will be held. Kevin expressed concerns about the available space being limited and the visual impacts to the area.

ii) Opening Reception

- (a) ISA does the agenda.

iii) Opening Ceremony

- (a) This is scheduled by the minute. It will be discussed further at the 2007 ISA meeting to be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, 2/23/07, at Sheraton Waikiki, 4th Floor, Ewa Wing, in the Regional Sales Office. Those interested in more detailed info on this and other 2007 ISA items may attend, subject to space availability.

iv) SCA Tour

- (a) A volunteer sign up sheet was passed around. Mark will be helping Steve with the tour.
- (b) SCA cancelled the bus tour per Steve. If there's a way to do it at another time it might be considered, but they don't want to go that late on Wednesday afternoon. The decision is up to the SCA Board. Kevin noted that the program was supposed to be set by 2/19/07 so it's late to be making changes.

- (c) Steve is planning to have a buffet lunch around \$10 or so over by the Natatorium. He's estimating 150-200 people including SMA people. It should be set up around 11:30 a.m. Proposed menu items include teriyaki beef, haupia, rice, mahimahi, and macaroni salad.

v) Beach Olympics/Makahiki Games

- (a) Mark Leon is in charge of the Beach Olympics. They will be held on Sunday at 9-11 a.m. or 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Teresa suggested 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. to be less rushed. Proposed activities include spear tossing, tug-o-war, a raft event to the buoy, a shave ice giveaway, ball rolling, stone toss between two spikes, and maybe rolling a coconut. SCA is willing to market it and help get sponsors. T-shirts are the biggest cost items. Rodney suggested having beach mats and suntan lotion for prizes.

vi) Fundraising

- (a) The goal is \$30K in cash with more in kind. WCISA has around \$7K so far. This will be discussed further at the Friday meeting. Once we've identified resource needs, we'll need to come up with ideas on how to cover the costs.
- (b) Carol e-mailed AAA's 2006 and 2007 membership lists to Rose for solicitation letters to Hawaii.
- (c) Teresa anticipates that Kaulunani can issue a grant for \$10K to cover costs for leis, scholarships, etc.

vii) AAA T-shirts

- (a) Tabled

viii) Educational Exhibits – Trade Show and Hotel

- (a) The cost for educational booths is \$200 each. Sharing booths is prohibited. One suggestion was to purchase several booths and take out the dividers for sharing booths between several non-profits. However, all of the non-profits involved would need to purchase their booths at the same time and even then the booth layout could change. There are also concerns that our normal volunteers will be and unavailable to man the booths. Possible educational booth activities suggested were having a show and tell with a coconut grinder, having a woodworking display by HFIA members, and having weavers from Kualoa Ranch.

ix) Decorations

- (a) Pat Oka will assist Jackie with decorations. He noted that flowers were mostly donated at conferences in the past. When the American Association of Nurserymen came, the displays were tremendous. Teresa asked Randy if Sheraton will have its usual nice arrangements around or if we will need to provide those as well. Randy will check with Grant. He also noted that Sheraton has a room full of motif types of

things for different themes. Jackie will take a look at it and see if there is anything appropriate. We need to identify the budget and all of the locations where flowers will be needed. Mark offered to donate gingers from his yard.

B) Urban Tree Care Program

- i) Dave Ringuette reported on the current status of the proposed Urban Tree Care Program at Windward Community College. He attended the TCIA conference and networked with many university attendees there. Most urban forestry programs have evolved from forestry programs. The University of Massachusetts has a more entrepreneurial program similar to what Dave is trying to set up. His focus is towards ISA types of certifications, especially Certified Arborists (CAs) and Certified Tree Workers (CTWs) based on input from his advisory committee. There will be a two-pronged approach. Everyone will be required to take tree biology, chainsaws, felling and pruning. Then CTW candidates would take climbing while CA candidates would take tree risk assessment including hazards in trees, tree preservation, etc. Dave will be relying on professionals from the industry to teach these courses. A total of four classes will be added to the curriculum in addition to existing related courses such as plant science and bugs and weeds. Upon completion of the Urban Tree Care Program, students will graduate with certificates, then take the ISA exams and hopefully be of value to the industry. Steve asked how much time a CTW candidate would spend in a tree. The climbing portion is 45 hrs. Classes will be taught in the late afternoon or on Saturdays.
- ii) Money
 - (a) Dave estimates that the necessary tools and equipment for the program will run around \$6K. People can donate equipment and/or money; all donations are welcome and are tax deductible. Checks should be made out to WCC Agriculture Program. It is acceptable to donate equipment with company names or logos on it so students can see which companies are supporting the program. For more information, contact Dave Ringuette at 236-9265 or ringuett@hawaii.edu.
 - (b) Chris Hudnall will put together a price for Dave's equipment list to given him a better budget estimate.
 - (c) Instructors will be paid around \$3,500 for 45 hrs worth of classes. The instructor will present the program developed by UH.
 - (d) Another issue is the cost of the CA and CTW exams. A lot of students may not be able to afford to take them on their own. Once they are hired, their employers may be able to assist them with the cost.
 - (e) Mark Leon wrote a check for \$500 as an initial donation to the program and challenged other tree care companies to match it.

iii) Schedule

- (a) Dave anticipates that the courses will start in January 2008. This takes into account the review and approval process through the UH system.

iv) Marketing

- (a) As soon as temporary approval is received from the UH hierarchy, Dave is planning to put together a brochure to market the program. This could be distributed at the 2007 ISA Conference & Trade Show.
- (b) Carol suggested contacting Bill Mossman from PMP about doing an article in *Hawaii Landscape*.
- (c) Kevin suggested getting the information out around Asia. No one else in the world has a program in tropical arboriculture. It may attract international students to Hawaii.

C) Shigo Memorial Fund

- i) The first Shigo Memorial Fund training will be Pruning Basics, tentatively scheduled for Friday, November 16, 2007, at McCoy Pavilion. The morning will be lectures and the afternoon will be hands-on pruning breakout sessions. Mark agreed to help with the breakout sessions. Topics to be covered include outer third crown reduction, no liontailing, etc.
- ii) Steve noted that the Shigo Memorial Fund could also be used to support Dave's Urban Tree Care Program. It fits the mission of the Fund.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A) Senate Bill 90 – Landscape Architecture at UH

- i) AAA submitted a letter supporting SB 90 to provide a landscape architecture program at UH. In particular, we hope that landscape architects will be more likely to plant the right tree in the right place having learned about our tropical trees here in Hawaii.

B) Honolulu Municipal Tree Analysis Survey

- i) This survey is being conducted for STRATUM for each climate zone. Since Hawaii is the only tropical area surveyed our response is critical, particularly from commercial tree care companies. Carol e-mailed the survey to AAA members prior to the meeting. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey and send it in.

C) Certified Arborist/Certified Tree Worker Exams 4/14/07

- i) We will need volunteers to help with the exams. The number of CTW candidates is unknown at this time. Mark volunteered to be a judge.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A) *Hawaii Landscape* has a new editor, Bill Mossman. Chris Aguinaldo is still with PMP but working on other papers.
- B) Shawn Ardoin is moving to Maui, where he will be the Wailea Beach Marriott Resort Landscape Manager

The meeting was adjourned by Secretary Carol Kwan at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Kwan

PLEASE JOIN US!

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 21, 2007, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Cattle Company Restaurant – Stuart Anderson’s at 98-1262 Kaahumanu, Pearl City.

Attachments:

1. 2007 AAA Membership application

**2007 Aloha Arborist Association
Individual Membership Application**

YES! Please process my individual membership with Aloha Arborist Association for calendar year 2007 for \$25.00 (\$10.00 for students).

I am a New Member Renewing Member. Date: _____

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

_____ Website: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

You may publish my information on the AAA website:

Please send this form to Aloha Arborist Association, P.O. Box 893953, Mililani, HI 96789-0953 with a \$25.00 check (\$10.00 for students) made payable to Aloha Arborist Association. Mahalo for your support!

**2007 Aloha Arborist Association
Company Membership Application**

YES! Please process our company membership with Aloha Arborist Association for calendar year 2006 for \$75.00. We understand this membership is valid for up to three designated company representatives to receive AAA minutes and for discounts for our employees on certain AAA training workshops.

New Member Renewing Member. Date: _____

Company: _____

Company Members: _____

Address: _____

_____ Website: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-Mail(s): _____

You may publish our information on the AAA website:

Please send this form to Aloha Arborist Association, P.O. Box 893953, Mililani, HI 96789-0953 with a \$75.00 check made payable to Aloha Arborist Association. Mahalo for your support!