

**Aloha Arborist Association  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
April 16, 2008**

Members Present: Carol Kwan, Steve Nimz, Mark Leon, Erin Purple, Jon Perry, Dudley Hulbert, Don Bergan, Dan Severino, Gregory Severino, Sergio Vasquez

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 2008 MEETING MINUTES**

- A) Vice President Dudley Hulbert called the meeting to order at 6:54 p.m. The March 2008 minutes were approved as written.

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

A) Climbing Skills Workshop

- (a) A verbal OK from UH has been received. The formal written approval is needed by April 18, 2008, so airfare can be booked for Mainland people and we can apply for insurance. Greg has a sponsorship commitment from PLMI for a round trip ticket for one Mainland climber. Aloha Power Equipment has committed to \$400 towards airfare for the second climber. Another ITCC competitor on Oahu is also interested in helping to facilitate the workshop. Marketing flyers need to be sent out this month plus Carol will write an article for *Hawaii Landscape*.

B) WCISA Regional Meeting in Hawaii

- i) The Committee hasn't met yet. Carol will e-mail a reminder to those who volunteered for this committee.

C) Research Committee

- i) Stan Oka, Steve Nimz, Andy Kaufman, and Chris Dacus gave a presentation to DOT a couple of weeks ago. About 80-90 people were there. Ours was one of four presentations and it went well. Andy did a good job on the slide presentation. This grant would be a combined effort with DOT, the City, UH, and AAA. Chris will let us know if the grant request gets approved or not.

D) 2008 LICH Conference

- i) The conference brochure has been mailed but several people haven't received theirs yet. It's also available at the LICH website, <http://www.lichawaii.com>. Early bird registration is due by May 22, 2008. LICH members get a discount. The arborist track will be about palms.

E) Malama o Manoa 1,000 Tree Giveaway

- i) This will be held on April 20, 2008. The volunteers are ready.

F) Certified Arborist/Certified Tree Worker Exams April 26, 2008

- i) There will be nine climbers and seven aerial lift skills candidates, so we will need at least ten judges. Greg, Mark, Jon, Dan and Erin are confirmed. Dudley and Don will check

their availability and get back to Greg. Additional judges proposed were Helu Alatini, John McComas, and Bobby Midkiff. Greg will check with Stan regarding how many City workers will be able to help. All judges must attend training on Friday, April 26, 2008, 4 p.m. - 6. p.m., to be eligible.

- ii) Greg brought up an issue regarding telescopic lift exams. The skills portion of the exam should mimic how the candidates work in real life. Currently the lift trucks are driving under the dripline and compacting the root zone. He would like to see the exams set up so that candidates can perform the entire exam outside of the dripline of the tree. This is an idea to present to the WCISA certification committee, not for the upcoming exam. Dudley suggested checking with other exam sites if they have a model regarding this issue. Greg is also curious whether other sites are seeing the flood of telescopic lift candidates that we're seeing in Honolulu.

### III. NEW BUSINESS

#### A) Pest of the Month – Eucalyptus Longhorned Borers

- i) Distribution: California. Found by Mark Leon in Wahiawa Heights, Oahu
- ii) Hosts: Eucalyptus species, especially those under stress (e.g. – drought), orchids, monkeypods
- iii) On Hawaii's Noxious Pest list
- iv) Thanks to Mark Leon for proposing this Pest of the Month. He brought one that he'd found on *Eucalyptus robusta* to the March meeting. It looks similar to the Asian longhorned borer. Its antennae are as long as the body and have barbs.

#### B) Noxious Weeds and Pests List

- i) Carol passed around copies of the official Hawaii Noxious Weeds and Noxious Pests lists for reference.

#### C) Thomas Square Earpod

- i) Steve reported that a monkeypod is proposed to be the replacement tree for the Thomas Square earpod that was removed. It's intended to be a Shigo memorial tree with educational training to be scheduled there in the future. There was much discussion regarding the species. Some members felt that monkeypod is overdone and proposed baobab, leopard tree, and African mahogany as possible alternatives. Greg agreed with some of the points made but pointed out that the man who did all of the research on compartmentalization would probably be honored to have the best compartmentalizing tree in the world planted in his honor. Erin added that we need to make sure the tree is well cared for so that it can grow into an exceptional tree. Steve wants something 6"-8" caliper that can be successfully moved with a tree spade. The challenge is the available selection. It's hard to find unusual species. The City wants to do something soon. Steve will talk to Stan about other species but he needs to know if AAA will commit to supporting the educational part of the planting. Carol moved that AAA support whatever training is done with this replacement tree in memory of Shigo. Dudley seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. For this particular project, AAA will allocate up to \$1K

of its Shigo fund to assist the City with the planting and any training associated with the tree. Kaulunani and Stan have money to put into the project too. Dudley made the motion that AAA is in favor of supporting what is done in Shigo's name, but not for planting a monkeypod. Greg seconded the motion. The motion carried.

D) Meeting Format

- i) Carol proposed a revised meeting format where committee chairs e-mail their reports to her no later than the day prior to the meeting so that she can include copies in the handouts along with the agenda. Only questions and items requiring full meeting discussions would be brought up at the meeting. This will help the meeting go faster so there is more time for socializing afterwards. Everyone agreed to give it a try and see how it goes.
- ii) Jon asked if we could move the meeting to Honolulu. Steve noted that finding a venue with a private room without a minimum number of attendees is a nightmare. Carol added that we've tried various locations but Pearl City has worked best in terms of attendance. Jon and Dudley will look around for an alternative venue that we can try.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Jon announced that Lyon Arboretum has a new head Certified Arborist, Ben Burgess. He worked at NTBG for a few months several years ago.

The meeting was adjourned by Vice President Dudley Hulbert at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Kwan

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

*The next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 21, 2008, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Cattle Company Restaurant – Stuart Anderson's at 98-1262 Kaahumanu, Pearl City.*

Attachments:

1. 2008 AAA Membership application
2. Pest Advisory – Eucalyptus Longhorned Borers

**2008 Aloha Arborist Association  
Individual Membership Application**

YES! Please process my individual membership with Aloha Arborist Association for calendar year 2008 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!

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**2008 Aloha Arborist Association  
Company Membership Application**

YES! Please process our company membership with Aloha Arborist Association for calendar year 2008 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!