

**Board Meeting – Chattanooga, TN  
June 28, 2007**

**Participants**

Tony Pernas, Presiding	
Joyce Bender, Vice President & KY EPPC	John Brubaker, SCEPPC
Kristen Allen, Recording	Nancy Fraley, TNEPPC
Karen Brown, WW Editor & FL EPPC	Byron Brooks, KYEPPC
Brian Bowen, Past President	Nancy Loenstein, AL EPPC
Chris Furqueron, NPS	Robin Mackie, USFS
Dave Moorehead, GA EPPC	Meredith Molasse, SC TNC
Chuck Bargaron, Webpage & GA EPPC	Steve Brewer, MS EPPC
Connie Gray, GA EPPC	

*September minutes were unanimously approved with the correction of two spelling errors (Joyce motioned; Brian seconded).*

**Correspondence**

Letter from Doug Johnson will be an agenda item later on in the meeting.

**Treasurer Report – Lee Patrick**

**Checking Balance Sheet as of 31May07**

Starting Balance	03/01	\$17,240.96	
Deposits		\$0.00	
Expenses	03/14	\$1125.00	Newsletter Editor (10/01-12/31/06)
	03/14	\$775.00	Bowen (Reim. For NAA/NIWAW)
	04/10	\$7.50	David Ellis (IRS extension)
	04/11	\$134.82	Bender (Reim for Annual Meeting)
	04/13	\$1915.00	FL-EPPC (Wildland Weeds FY06)
	04/26	\$1125.00	Newsletter Editor (01Jan—31Mar07)
	04/26	\$496.74	Bowen (Reim for Annual Meeting)
	05/22	\$224.22	Allen (Reim for Annual Meeting)
	05/31	\$20.00	State of TN Incorporation
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$5823.28</b>	
<b>Ending Balance</b>			<b>\$ 11,417.68</b>

**Savings Balance Sheet as of 31May07**

Starting Balance	11/30	\$10,016.55	
Deposits		\$19.27	Interest (3 months)
<b>Ending Balance</b>			<b>\$10,035.82</b>

- Since death of accountant, we filed a two extensions (to take us to August), but IRS sent a letter saying that we owed a penalty of \$20 per day. Tony and Lee are trying to work it out with IRS (writing a letter explaining what happened).

- Florida discovered that they have to pay sales tax for any merchandise that they sell (Florida requirement).

### **2008 NAEPPC/NAA Conference – Brian Bowen**

- Lisa Smith is the program chair.
- Prior to teleconference last week, committee of Tony, Brian, Jill Sweringin, came up with program of 70+ subjects. Then on call, got several people to commit to taking on certain topics; Lisa and Brian will work to find others, and will reconvene later;
- Planning is coming along nicely.
- Brian will get details to Karen and she will advertise in the winter magazine.
- Motion for SEEPPC to contribute \$500 to conference from SE EPPC and states to be asked to come up with some contribution (\$200?). MidAtlantic EPPC contributed \$1000. *Unanimously approved*
- Money will be used as seed money for NAEPPC
- Have also been talking about having a benefit concert in Nashville to raise money for NAEPPC.
- Discussion on getting some political presence at the conference; Simberloff is at UT in Knoxville and is close with Gore (would be great to advertise that Gore will speak); Gore lives very close to where the meeting is; Could pick him up;

### **Editor's Report – Karen Brown**

- Summer Issue is 24 pages and just got delivered; Had to print 100 more than usual due to new members from symposiums;
- Lost a lot of support (usual advertisers lost their advertising budgets) so will just break even;
- Karen will be spending time getting some additional support.

### **Coordinator's Report – Brian Bowen**

- Brian wrote an article for the Natural Areas Journal that will be out in July; Whole journal was devoted to invasive species issues paid for by DEP; Article was 3 pages and on SE EPPC; We purchased some copies to have on hand;
- Brian and Tony had interaction with Amy Frankman in March from Michigan regarding MIPC disassociation with us (see past minutes for background). They were supposed to take up matter at April meeting, but did not; Brian contacted her and let her know that we would discuss the matter at our next meeting in June and wanted to let them go; She replied last week requesting that we support them until the end of the year to avoid their having to disband;
  - Discussion: We have given them a lot of notice on this, and they are just now discussing it;
  - All we need to do is let the IRS know; Copy them on that letter and cite the fact that they never attend or participate in meetings even after we have repeatedly been told that they would have to;
  - But would this cause them to speak out against us? It doesn't hurt us to wait until the end of the year; Send a very specific letter that this is it; Connie Motioned; Tony seconded; Unanimously approved

- Brian really needs articles for next newsletter by July 15th; Will be out 3<sup>rd</sup> week in July if he gets some articles; MS will send a quick article on upcoming Symposium and any other MS updates; Robin will ask someone in SCEPPC to write something about their most recent meeting;

#### **Book- Southeastern Gardens and the Use of Native Plants – Gill Nelson**

- There will be one chapter on invasive species (i.e. native vs. non-native; invasive vs. non-invasive) to get people to think about these things when they are gardening and purchasing plants;
- Will highlight all EPPC's; There is cost information on impacts of invasive species; Provides a worst invader list and suggested replacements for them;
- Motion to put \$500 toward the book (Joyce); Second (Tony); Motion unanimously approved;

#### **Letter from Doug Johnson - Discussion Let by Tony Pernas**

- Looking for EPPC (non-monetary) support for a group that is meant to provide political support on a national level; Will help in the future with such things as letter writing campaigns, etc.
- Tony will send an email to reps and ask that they take it back to their boards to see if they will support it;

#### **Website – Chuck Barger**

- In August, will get membership database back up on line so each state can add members through a password protected section; Will also add a date column;
- Will be updating SCEPPC information shortly;
- First 4 months of 2007, has received 500,000 hits
- Things are going okay with EDDMaps data with a few snags here and there (for example someone entered location info in wrong projection and it wouldn't work); Got some data from PJ;
- Not getting much data; Per board suggestion, Chuck will put together an announcement to put in newsletter and magazine.
- Has new records from KY, FL, AL;
- Need to find people that have the time personally and those that do it for their job;
- Discussion about privacy issue between Robin and Chuck, but will be hashed out after meeting; Issue is that if you put in a lat long info in, it will come up instantly; Solution is to have state coordinator identified, so that they can take lat long off;
- But, shouldn't put private land owner data up unless you have permission. This is mentioned in training;

#### **2008 Symposium Discussion**

- Looked at locations (Tupelo, Buloxi or Jackson), and identified Buloxi because it is economical and on the coast; Imperial Palace Casino and Hotel: \$5 per person for 150 people for the conference; Has a government rate; Only has one meeting room; Food is extra; Located on Back Bay; Chuck did not have a great experience several

years ago; Offers a lot of field trips (arboretum; cogon grass areas; Black Creek NSR; Barrier Islands); Airlines are available;

- Board suggested having another run at other locations and actually going to locations to discuss rates in person; Asked about Oxford (U of MS)
- Thinking of May, but doesn't have any firm dates.
- Board offered help from those that have done this and asked to be kept in the loop; Also suggested calling visitor's bureau;
- Get it in WW as soon as you can (call for papers; then symposium announcement)

#### **Communications Committee – Chuck Barger**

- Will take FLEPPC brochure and modify it for SEEPPC (Karen will have it ready for next meeting)
- Will modify GAEPPC poster for SEEPPC (Chuck will do) that can be shipped to various board members;
- Going to set up a paypal account so people can join on-line and pay for membership online.
- Discussed Gill Nelson's book, and in addition to SEEPPC donation, suggested states make donation of their choice;

#### **Executive Committee Report – Brian Bowen**

- Committee drew up various scenarios: working in home; Working in cooperation with another NGO or University; Benefits and salary would be self-generated, however, SEEPPC and Non-profit would provide some support; Solicit an NGO and see if they would fund a position working for them in a temporary position (1.5 years) then ED would generate funding; Also set up a job sharing with university such as Bugwood; Position similar to Brian's;
- Discussed hiring process and 13 key responsibilities;
- Need money:
- Chuck: will be putting together a grant proposal for mapping program that could provide some resources/support for this position.
- Tony is working on something through NPS Centennial Initiative that would provide \$2,000,000 to be administered by SEEPPC and interest would be used to cover invasive maintenance projects in perpetuity.

#### **EDRR Update- Chuck Barger**

- Workshop tomorrow to talk about risk assessment as well as mapping program;
- Will flesh out and develop proposal for the grant that John Madsen received; Will work out MOU with U of MS to do required research portion;
- Let Chuck know if you see any opportunities for grants; People have gotten a lot of money to do a lot less than we have already done for practically nothing;

#### **Adjourn**