

Minutes were reviewed and approved at the November 30, 2012 board meeting.

SE-EPPC Board of Directors Meeting

May 8, 2012 – Auburn University

Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM.

Attendees: Nancy Loewenstein (SE-EPPC President), Lee Patrick, Aaron Hayek (MS), Bill Kline, Jimmie Cobb (AL), Alix Cleveland (USFS), Jodie Thompson (KY), Jim Burch (FL), Brian Arnold (GA and SE-EPPC President Elect), Dan Hill (SC), Sara Kuebbing (TN), Chuck Barger (GA) called in.

Officer Reports:

Secretary – Karen Brown submitted minutes from the April meeting. Jimmie Cobb motioned to approve the minutes and Brian Arnold seconded. Unanimous vote to accept the minutes.

Treasurer – Lee Patrick has not invoiced USFS yet on the grant. He has been paying Kevin Willis regularly. The grant ends in September. Lee submitted a balance sheet as of April 30, 2012 showing our total checking and savings balance of \$15,370. (\$5,190 in checking and \$10,180 in savings).

NA-EPPC Liaison – Chuck reported that the Natural Areas Association Call for Papers went out for the Virginia meeting, to be held Oct. 9-12. NA-EPPC will be helping to organize (Chuck Barger and Jil Swearingen). There will be a North American Weed Management Association (NAWMA) meeting in Missouri Oct. 30 – Nov. 1 with the National Roadside Management Association. Chuck will be attending. Jimmie Cobb asked why NA-EPPC didn't meet with NAWMA as they seem more closely aligned. Chuck said that the NAWMA President Elect agreed but NA-EPPC did not. Jodie Thompson asked why NA-EPPC wasn't interested and Chuck responded that NAWMA is more focused on herbicides than NA-EPPC and NAA. 2013 might be a good year for NA-EPPC and NAWMA to co-host a meeting; the NAWMA meeting will be in Wyoming. NAWMA is moving to all taxa but it's really just a name change. There are lots of county weed managers in NAWMA. NA-EPPC wants to discuss the issue more. Chuck also reported that the Weeds Across Borders meeting in Mexico was good.

SE-EPPC Award – Chuck said the SE-EPPC Award will be awarded to Brian Bowen although Brian won't be present to accept it. Bill Kline will make the presentation during the meeting.

Chapter updates:

FLEPPC – Jim Burch reported that FLEPPC will be co-hosting the next SE-EPPC Annual Meeting. Several venues were discussed (Jacksonville, Tallahassee, Pensacola, Panama City Beach). Bill Kline was strongly in favor on Panama City Beach as a good family venue. Aaron Hayek said there were good field trip opportunities (Air Force Base) and a new airport. A large training conference was held by the University of Florida at the Panama City Beach Edgewater Beach Resort and it had excellent accommodations and was on the beach. Karen Brown will research dates so as not to conflict with the Florida Vegetation Management Association – probably late April/early May.

2012 SE-EPPC Conference – Jimmie Cobb reported that there were around 160 registrations. Stephen Enloe will judge the posters and Lee Patrick will get the checks ready for the cash awards.

List-serv – Chuck reported that there are 361 people on the list-serv although total membership is around 900.

Correspondence – The Arbor Day letter was written by Brian Arnold, with help from Randy Westbrook, and it was sent via email to one person. We had no response. Karen recommended sending it again to everyone on their board of directors. Brian thought the letter should come from National EPPC. Brian will follow up. Dan Hill stated that golden rain trees (*Koelreuteria*) kill bumblebees and carpenter bees when flowering. Clemson University's Entomology Department is investigating.

Officers – Nancy stated that although officers may serve consecutive terms, they should technically be re-elected. Nancy nominated Brian Arnold as President Elect and Aaron Hayek seconded. Jim Burch nominated Lee Patrick as Treasurer and Karen Brown as Secretary and Jimmie Cobb seconded. Karen Brown nominated Brian Bowen to continue as NA-EPPC liaison and Nancy Loewenstein seconded. All nominations were accepted unanimously by the board.

There was some discussion about the purpose and value of SE-EPPC. Chapters need to be engaged so Chuck will add all members to the list-serv. It's a great networking venue. Chapters should add list-serv sign-up to every home page and membership page. Chapters should also add an email column to all membership lists. Aaron stated that SE-EPPC added stability and consistency to the state chapters. We need to share ideas about what else we might do. Sara Kuebbing will ask TN-EPPC for input about SE-EPPC and the list-serv.

Nancy motioned/Karan seconded and board meeting was adjourned at 12:15.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING – MAY 9, 2012

Nancy Loewenstein introduced Brian Arnold as the new SE-EPPC President. She also announced that the officers' terms had been renewed by the board of directors.

Awards were announced. Student Poster Awards: 1st place – Sarah O'Sullivan (Auburn University); 2nd place – Jatinder Aulakh (Auburn University); 3rd place – Dawn Lemke – Alabama A&M. Student Travel Grants were awarded to Dawn Lemke (Alabama A&M), Rima Lucardi (Mississippi State), and Sara Kuebbing (University of Tennessee).

Chapter updates:

FLEPPC co-hosted their annual conference with the Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society, taking advantage of the invasive wildlife topic. A feast featured python chops, fried snakehead fish, and tegu lizard gumbo. FLEPPC provided Education/Outreach grants to five groups, and Research grants to

two graduate students. FLEPPC will be the next chapter to co-host the annual SE-EPPC meeting in Panama City Beach.

TN-EPPC assisted with review of the TN-DEC environmental management plan and participated in a purple loosestrife survey.

SC-EPPC (Dan Hill) sent out evaluation forms and created membership brochures with QR codes. They also created a Facebook page. Their website (or Fb page?) has an invasives quiz, before/after photos, and e-news. They've also held workshops.

KY-EPPC (Jodie Thompson) is doing a member survey, producing their annual Least Wanted poster, working with the KY Native Plant Society, and they now have a Facebook page.

AL-IPC has 170 members and has been working hard on putting the annual meeting together.

GA-EPPC (Brian Arnold) reported on Georgia's activities including an invasive plant workshop conducted at the Georgia Green Industry Association's (GGIA) "Wintergreen" Conference. Presentations by board members included "The Problem of Invasive Plants," "Managing Invasive Plants," "New Invasive Plant Threats" and a discussion on EDDMapS. Their annual meeting will be November 8th and the keynote speaker will be Douglas W. Tallamy, Professor and Chair of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware and author of "Bringing Nature Home, How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants".