

TEXAS INVASIVE PLANT & PEST COUNCIL

FOUNDED 2007

AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EXOTIC PEST PLANT COUNCILS

Conference Planning Phone Meeting Minutes

President Scott Walker (SW) called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm.

1. Roll Call

Board members present were Scott Walker (SW), Justin Bush (JB), Damon Waitt (DW), Ron Billings (RB), Jerry Cook (JC), Paula Maywald (PM), Alex Mathes (AM), Earl Chilton (EC).

2. Secretary Introduction

DW introduced the group to Justin Bush, newly appointed Secretary for TIPPC.

3. Texas Invasive Plant and Pest Conference

a. Conference Venue

- i. DW explained that the University of Texas Marine Science Institute in Port Aransas, TX is hosting the 2014 conference.
- ii. The conference will be held February 26-28.

b. Conference Host

- i. DW shared that Sara Pelleteri, Director of Marine Education Services has offered to be the local host. Sara will serve as the on site liaison for conference and facilities during the conference.

c. Session Chair Assignments

- i. Program Chair
 1. Jerry Cook
- ii. Leadership & Coordination
 1. Damon Waitt
- iii. Early Detection and Rapid Response
 1. Stephen Clarke (USFS)
- iv. Control and Management
 1. Ron Billings
- v. Research
 1. Rob Plowes or Ed Lebrun (BFL)
- vi. Information Management
 1. Jack Hill
- vii. Education and Public Awareness
 1. Earl Chilton

d. Conference Planning Committee Assignments

- Program Chair: Jerry Cook (jcook@shsu.edu)
- Local Host and Facilities: Sara Pelleteri (sarapel@utexas.edu)
- Sponsors and Exhibitors: Jim Reaves (jim@tnlaonline.org)
- Registration: Alexander Mathes (Alexander.Mathes@arcadis-us.com)
- Student Travel Grants: Autumn Smith-Herron (ajs029@shsu.edu)
- Awards: Trey Wyatt (twyatt@austin.rr.com)
- Continuing Ed: Jim Houser (jhouser@tfs.tamu.edu)
- Workshops: Justin Bush (jbush@wildflower.org)
- Field Trips: Mike Murphrey (mmurphrey@tfs.tamu.edu)
- Posters and Student Awards: Autumn Smith-Herron (ajs029@shsu.edu)
- Accommodations, Banquet, Breaks, Lunches: Scott Walker (Scott.Walker@arcadis-us.com)
- Reception: Jim Reaves (jim@tnlaonline.org)

e. Plenary Talk

- i. SW suggested approaching local leadership from Port Aransas.
- ii. PM will speak with Larry McKinney of the Hart Research Institute.
- iii. DW will approach the Director of the UT Marine Science Institute.

f. Sponsorship

- i. JR will facilitate conference sponsorship.
- ii. DW suggested that sponsorship offset costs to TIPPC.
- iii. RB will speak to his organization about sponsorship.

g. Banquet

- i. DW explained that the banquet could be held at a local community center.
- ii. SW suggested that the banquet and reception be held together. He would work with Sara Pelleteri to plan.
- iii. JR will coordinate reception.

h. Field Trips

- i. The group discussed terrestrial and aquatic invasive species in the area and brainstormed opportunities for interesting field trips.
- ii. RB suggested a work event to control Brazilian pepper tree.
- iii. Mike Murphrey (Texas A&M FS) will plan a terrestrial invasive fieldtrip and work event.
- iv. DW will speak with UT MSI to schedule an aquatic invasive fieldtrip.

- i. Workshops
 - i. The group brainstormed workshop ideas, including lionfish, Invaders of Texas trainings and others.
 - ii. JB will coordinate workshops and contact REEF about a lionfish workshop.
- j. Accommodations
 - i. DW explained that the MSI had accommodations for 70 in a bunkhouse setting for students.
 - ii. SW will research Port Aransas accommodations and reserve a block of rooms at a hotel.
- k. Speakers
 - i. JC will issue call for speakers in January.
- l. Student Travel Awards
 - i. Autumn Smith-Herron will coordinate travel grants.
 - ii. The group discussed award amounts for students.
- m. Poster Session
 - i. The group discussed poster presentation ideas.
 - ii. DW shared that the MSI had an area suitable for sessions.
 - iii. SW suggested prizes of \$500 (first place), \$250 (second place) and \$100 (third place) for best student poster.
 - iv. Autumn Smith-Herron will coordinate posters.
- n. Outreach
 - i. DW suggested that everyone send the information to as many colleagues as possible.
 - ii. SW will invite a reporter to the conference.
 - iii. DW and JB will draft PDFs ASAP.
 - iv. JB will highlight the conference in the Oct, Nov, Dec and Jan iWire email newsletter.
- 4. TIPPC Board Meeting
 - a. DW suggested the board meet in Port Aransas prior to the conference.
 - b. SW would like to meet in the afternoon on Monday, February 25th.
- 5. Schedule of Planning Calls
 - a. DW suggested that the group hold conference calls the first Monday of each month at 3 pm.
 - b. JB informed the group the next meeting would be held November 4th at 3 pm.
 - c. SW will send out a meeting announcement prior to November 4.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45

JB 10/20/13