



Florida EPPC

During the annual business meeting on Friday, May 29th, the membership approved the slate of board members and chair-elect as follows:

James N. Burch Chair-Elect
Big Cypress National Preserve
239/695-1111
Email: Jim_Burch@nps.gov
James N. Burch has provided stewardship of natural systems in southern Florida for the National Audubon Society, Collier County Natural Resources Department, Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, the *US*

Biagio (Ben) Gugliotti
Lake County Water Authority
352-343-3777 ext 37
bgugliotti@lcwa.org
Ben Gugliotti works for the Lake County Water Authority as a Land Resource Project Coordinator. The Water Authority manages over 6600 acres of conservation lands throughout Lake County. Ben oversees the invasive exotic plant control and prescribed fire programs. He also works with listed species and helps with all aspects of land management activities. Ben received his B.S. in Biology from the University of Central Florida in 1996. He has worked in the environmental field for the last 13 years. Ben has also been a member of the Native Plant Society.

Robert L. Farley (1st year)
Senior Landscape Architect,
PBS&J
850-580-7864
rlfarley@pbsj.com
Certifications
Certified Professional Roadside
Vegetation Manager
Registered Landscape Architect,
Florida
USGBC LEED Accredited Profes-
sional
ISA Certified Arborist
Professional Affiliations
National Roadside Vegetation
Management Association
International Society of Arbori-
culture
Education
M.F.A., Fine Arts, Louisiana State
University
B.L.A., Landscape Architecture,
Louisiana State University

Jackie Smith (1st year)
Florida Fish & Wildlife Conserva-
tion Commission
(561) 722-2479
jackie.c.smith@dep.state.fl.us
Jackie served on the FLEPPC board
from 1994 – 1997, and served as
Secretary from 1999 – 2002.

Patricia L. Howell (1st year)
Broward County Parks and Recre-
ation/Environmental Section
(954) 357-8137
phowell@broward.org

Pat Howell is a Natural Areas Specialist with Broward County Parks and Recreation in the Environmental Section. She has been a member of the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council for more than 15 years. Employed by Broward County Parks and Recreation for 22 years, where she has worked for 6 years in regional parks, 6 years in a nature center, and the past 10 years in the Environmental Section. Her responsibilities have included park management, natural area management, park program-
ming, exotic plant removal, pho-
to monitoring, plant and animal
inventories, prescribed burns,
and documentation of rare and
exotic plants. She also serves on
the FLEPPC List Committee.

During the annual business meeting, the following changes to the bylaws were approved:

Article IV. Officers

Section 13.

Officer Chain of Succession: In the event the Chair's service has ended prior to the normal elected term (as defined above) during the first year of tenure, the Past-Chair shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the Chair. Likewise, if the Chair's service has ended during the second year of tenure, the Chair-Elect shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the Chair for the duration of the absent Chair's term, and for the subsequent 2-year term, as elected.

In the event that either the Past-Chair or Chair-Elect has assumed the duties and responsibilities of the Chair or their service has ended prior to the normal elected term, the Board of Directors will elect by quorum a temporary Past-Chair for the duration of the absent Past-Chair or Chair-Elect's one year term. Should the temporary Past-Chair be a replacement for the Chair-Elect, the temporary Past-Chair will serve the duration of the Chair-Elect's term, plus a one-year term as Past-Chair.

In the event the Chair's service has ended prior to the normal elected term (as defined above) during the first or second year of tenure, and if the Past-Chair's or Chair-Elect's (whomever would normally assume Chair duties under the conditions above) service has similarly ended, the Board of Directors will elect by quorum a temporary Chair for the duration of the absent Chair's term.

Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council

OFFICERS

Jim Burney, Chair
jimmy@avcaquatic.com

Scott Ditmarsen, Past Chair
scditmarsen@dow.com

Jim Burch, Chair-Elect
Jim_Burch@nps.gov

Hillary Burgess, Secretary
hburgess@fairchildgarden.org

Dianne Owen, Treasurer
downen@fau.edu

Karen Brown,
Editor, Wildland Weeds
kpbrown@ufl.edu

DIRECTORS

Adam Grayson
goatsby@gmail.com

Dustin Hormann
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Todd Olson
Todd@avcaquatic.com

Ben Gugliotti
bgugliotti@LCWA.ORG

Patricia Howell
phowell@broward.org

Robert Farley
RLFarley@pbsj.com

Jackie Smith
jackie.c.smith@dep.state.fl.us

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

By-Laws
Sandra Vardaman
smvardaman@alachua.fl.us

Education Grant
Jennifer Possley
jpossley@fairchildgarden.org

Finance
Ellen Donlan
edonlan@sfwmd.gov

FNGA/FLEPPC Liaison
Doria Gordon
Dgordon@tnc.org

Legislative
Matthew King
Mking@co.palm-beach.fl.us

Local Arrangements
Mike Bodle
mbodle@sfwmd.gov

Merchandise
Tony Pernas
Tony_Pernas@nps.gov

Nominations
Jim Burney

Outreach
Katy Roberts
Kroberts@ij.net

Plant List
Keith Bradley
Bradley@regionalconservation.org

Research Grant
Betsy von Holle
vonholle@mail.ucf.edu

Symposium Program
LeRoy Rogers
lrogers@sfwmd.org

Training and Field Trips
Donna Watkins
Donna.Watkins@dep.state.fl.us

Vendors
Todd Olson

Webmaster
Tony Pernas
Chuck Barger
bugwood@uga.edu

TASK FORCE CHAIRS

Australian Pine
Tony Pernas

Brazilian Pepper
Jim Cuda
jcuda@ifas.ufl.edu

Carrotwood
Chris Lockhart
chris@habitatspecialist.com

Chinese Tallow
Drew Leslie
Drew.leslie@dep/state.fl.us

Dioscorea
Bill Overholt
billover@ufl.edu

Grasses
Greg MacDonald
pineacre@ufl.edu

Lygodium
LeRoy Rodgers/
Kris Serbesoff-King
Kserbesoffking@tnc.org

Skunkvine
Brian Nelson
brian.nelson@swfwmd.gov

Melaleuca
Francois Laroche
Flaroche@sfwmd.gov

FROM THE CHAIR

Summer greetings from the Chair. So, other than surviving the hot test days in recorded history, can you believe that it is officially summer 2009? Time seems to be moving faster than the spread of *Lygodium* through the southeast. For me, however, time has turned on itself and come full circle. I never thought that I would be addressing the FLEPPC membership as Chair again. But, as fate would have it, I'm back to fill in for the previous Chairs who all have moved on to greater things, like sailing around the western hemisphere, taking charge of invasive plant control in the Pacific, and helping to develop improved crops to feed a hungry world. Given their achievements, I'm proud to hold the fort here in Florida until another insightful innovator, Jim Burch of Big Cypress National Preserve, can take over the leadership of FLEPPC after his one-year stint as Chair-Elect.

This year is proving to be full of challenges new to us, as well as all other professional organizations in Florida; diminished participation due to budgetary travel restrictions. While the enthusiasm and passion of our FLEPPC leadership has not diminished, the ability to conduct meetings (and an annual conference) has greatly been affected. In turn, this has affected the FLEPPC budget much as it has the public, private, and academic entities that employ our general membership. In spite of this short term reality, I would like to express the continued dedication and concerted effort of the FLEPPC leadership to the general membership in regards to fulfilling our goals and mission. We are considering alternative approaches to address these issues, such as teleconferenced quarterly Board of Director meetings, improved e-mail and website communication, co-hosting the annual symposium with another group, and budget restructuring. FLEPPC truly is driven by the creativity of our membership, so if you have any ideas that may help us through the challenges, please contact a Director or send a note through the website.

The bottom line is that even though the current fiscal climate is tough to deal with, the notion of putting research, control efforts, and public education on hold until budgets improve is even tougher to deal with. FLEPPC, with everyone's input, will survive and continue to provide the services and forum that we have worked so hard to achieve, and I am proud to be acting as Chair in this turning point in State history. Let's not forget to thank our family members, friends, and neighbors fulfilling our Nation's missions overseas.

Jim Burney
Chair

FLEPPC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2009 Sugar Sand Park, Boca Raton, FL

The meeting was called to order at 9:20am by Scott Ditmarsen. Minutes were taken by Hillary Burgess. Copies of full reports can be obtained from her.

The following officers and members, constituting a quorum of the Board of Directors, were present: Mike Bodle, Karen Brown, Jim Burch, Hillary Burgess, Jim Burney, Scott Ditmarsen, Adam Grayson, Dustin Hormann, Matthew King, Dianne Owen, Jennifer Possley, LeRoy Rodgers, Kris Serbesoff-King, Jonathan Taylor, Donna Watkins. Donna served as proxy for Sandra Vardaman, and Kris Serbesoff-King served as proxy for Scott Ditmarsen during a brief portion of the meeting.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes from the previous board meeting were approved unanimously by the board following a motion made by Dianne Owen and seconded by Karen Brown.

Chair Activities

Chair Activities

2009 FLEPPC Symposium Conference Calls; Nov., Dec., Jan.: Everyone agrees that these are useful and going well, so far three have been completed and preparations for the symposium are on schedule. The next conference call is scheduled for February 5th. FLEPPC position on use of Green Island ficus to City of Sunrise: Scott looked into this and where it originated and decided it is not a serious threat at this time. Letter to Division of Plant Industry – FLEPPC position on bioenergy

crop species- Scott sent this out on Jan 15th, it was written by Doria Gordon and explains the issues and FLEPPC's position. At this time there has been no feedback yet, but FNPS gave support. (A copy of the letter can be obtained from the secretary)

Clematis terniflora –

This was a Boynton Botanicals plant of the week. It is highly invasive. Scott will contact Doria Gordon about a potential letter to Boynton Botanicals.

Review and edit of Chair checklist sent to Donna Watkins—

Donna Watkins will post checklists as a multiple page document pdf on our website. The deadline to have edits of checklists to Donna is March 1st. They can then be edited annually.

Treasurer's Report – Dianne Owen

Dianne reported that she is working with Ellen Donlan on the transition into treasurer. She is also working with Hillary for her transition into the role of secretary. She will send Hillary and Scott a copy of the letter that came with a donation of \$300. Scott will send a thank you to these folks. There was a question of an expense item that is listed under Education Grants, she will investigate this and report back to Jennifer Possley. Dianne also reported that there is still some money to be categorized. She designed and gave the registration form for the symposium to Chuck Bargeron to get online, and to Hillary for the upcoming newsletter. Dianne concluded that we are in good financial shape heading into the symposium.

Editor's Report - Karen Brown

Karen is still unsure if the winter issue made a profit, but reported that the fall issue did. She suggested that we increase the SE-EPPC

presence on first page by editing back details on FLEPPC board members. The rest of the board was supportive of this idea.

Secretary's Report - Hillary Burgess

Hillary received a digital copy of the secretary's files from Dianne. The board discussed the possibility of sending out a postcard for the upcoming symposium, early April, to unregistered members. Hillary asked to receive changes to the bylaws, nominations, registration information, and a letter from the Chair by the 15th of February so that the upcoming newsletter can go out by the 1st of March. She will include one day registration on registration form (same as student rate).

The March newsletter will include the registration form and details on the symposium. Hillary is putting together a calendar of deadlines/large action items with a plan to send out monthly reminders for these items. She asked to be made aware of deadlines that anyone would like to be reminded of, or that they would like someone else to be reminded of.

Committee Reports

By-laws – Sandra Vardaman, not present. The Secretary will follow up on the previously proposed change to past chair rules.

Addendum: These changes were voted on via e-mail. On March fourth Hillary motioned to accept the proposed changes, and this was seconded by Todd Olson. On March ninth the board voted and the changes were unanimously approved. The proposed changes appeared in the March newsletter and will be voted on by the general membership during the annual symposium

Checklists - Donna Watkins

Donna reported that all committees/chairs have their checklists. Once she receives changes from committee/chairs, by March 1, she will get these to Chuck to publish them on the website.

Control and Evaluation – chair vacant.

It was reported that the demonstration plots are coming along for the symposium. The question came up of who will monitor them, how this should be scheduled etc. There is a need for SOPs for plans via long term monitoring/field trips.

This committee needs a chair. Jim Burney to get ball rolling on this.

Education – Jennifer Possley

Report available from secretary. Jennifer received nine proposals for the education grants. She will award recipients prior to the symposium and invite all proposal writers to attend. It was discussed that she could give the check to grant recipients at the symposium. It was also suggested that a great way to follow up with recipients would be to have them present an oral or poster presentation at the symposium.

Finance – Ellen Donlan

Ellen is looking for input from the strategic planning committee. They will regroup at symposium.

Legislative – Matt King, not present

Report available from secretary. Matt sent a letter to add *Arundo donax* to the state noxious weed list.

*Merchandise – Tony Pernas, not present-no report.**Nominations – Jim Burney*

Jim contacted all of the nominees.

He is still awaiting responses. An email vote will go out within a couple of weeks for slate.

Addendum: Two votes took place on March 13 and were motioned by Todd Olson. These were to accept the slate of nominees as presented by the Nominations Committee and to replace the chair position with Jim Burney and Past Chair position with Mike Bodle effective April 1, 2009, due to the departure of Scott Ditmarsen. These were seconded by Karen Brown and approved unanimously by the board on March 18. The proposed slate of nominees appeared in the March newsletter and will be voted on by the general membership at the annual symposium.

Outreach – Katy Roberts, not present-no report. Karen will look into a .pdf poster option for FLEPPC display.

Plant Industry Liaison – Doria Gordon.

Doria phoned in and gave an overview of her work on the issue of biofuels. She described the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Biomass rule

that now applies to all species intended for cultivation of more than 2 acres that have not been grown in Florida for food, forage or forestry. Unless such a species is identified as non-invasive by UF IFAS, DPI now requires a permit specifying management practices and a bond to cover clean-up costs if the site is abandoned. Those funds do not cover control of the species outside the cultivation site. The determination by IFAS of invasiveness is through the IFAS Assessment of Non-native Plants in Florida's Natural Areas,

which now includes a predictive tool for identifying species with a high probability of becoming invasive in Florida. Doria has been working with the UF IFAS Invasive Plant Working Group to expand use of that prediction tool for species already in Florida whose area in cultivation is likely to significantly increase (e.g., *Arundo donax*, *Jatropha curcas*). FL EPPC will develop a letter supporting this use of the predictive tool.

Plant List – Keith Bradley no report on the 2009 List, Keith usually has it out before the symposium, Scott will follow up.

Research – Betsy Von Holle, not present. Dianne reported they are moving forward.

Scholarship – Tony Pernas, not present-no report. Jonathan says he is trying to get vendors to donate chance drawing items.

Strategic Planning – Roger Clark, not present-no report.

Symposium Local Arrangements – Mike Bodle

Mike reported that there was not much to report, everything is going well.

Symposium Program – LeRoy Rodgers

LeRoy is awaiting a response from potential biofuels presenters. He also mentioned that TIME magazine published an article on *Jatropha* without mention of the invasive species issue. LeRoy suggested that someone write a letter to the editor.

Karen Brown motioned and Donna

Watkins seconded to compensate Nate Shaw for his symposium artwork with \$100 dollars and a merchandise item. This was approved unanimously by the board. Nate wants to copyright his work. Creating posters for sale at the symposium was suggested. LeRoy will follow up with Nate.

A person from Kenya and a person from Hawaii are interested in coming to the symposium. LeRoy plans to use his budget to support their involvement. Scott may also use discretionary funds.

Donna made a motion to support workshop leaders by paying for their registration, this was seconded by Karen and approved unanimously by the board.

Jim Burney motioned and LeRoy seconded providing six one day complimentary registrations to City of Boca Raton Parks employees. This was approved unanimously by the board.

CEUs – Katy Roberts, not present-no report. Katy will apply for CEUs; others need to cover sign-in and handing out CEUs.

Symposium Field Trips – Donna Watkins. Donna calculated that the cost of the bus donated by the SFWMD would be 700 dollars, so about 7 SFWMD registrations for the symposium could be compensated. Donna reminded Dianne that she needs to be at the drop off place for the box lunches to pay for them.

Training-no report.

Vendor-Todd Olson

Todd reported that everything is on schedule. He estimates that we have 13-17 vendors for the symposium.

Website – Tony Pernas, not present-no report.

Kris made a motion and Karen seconded accepting the chair and committee reports. These were accepted unanimously by the board.

Liaisons with other organizations

SE-EPPC Liaison – Karen Brown/Tony Pernas. Report is available from the secretary. The strategic planning meeting was attended by Karen. The executive committee and the part time coordinator position were dissolved. They created a national liaison position.

NA-EPPC Liaison – Matt King / Tony Pernas- not present, no report.

Florida Invasive Species Partnerships – Alison Higgins, not present.

Kris reported that they are sponsoring/putting together a session about FISP/CISMAs for the symposium. She also reported that funding to support websites for all CISMAs was gained.

Task Force Reports

Designation of status and suggested changes:

Australian Pine - Tony Pernas, not present but it was reported that the project is moving forward and that Tony needs pictures to use for the management plan.

Brazilian Pepper - Jim Cuda- From an e-mail to the board: "Unfortunately, because of the current budget situation not much to report.

On the biocontrol front, I am preparing a release petition for the defoliating moth *Episimus unguiculus*. We also are completing host range testing of the stem boring weevil *Apocnemidophorus pipitzi*, and attempting to establish a laboratory colony of the leaflet galling

psyllid *Calophya terebinthfolii*."

Carrotwood - Chris Lockhart- not present, no report.

Chinese Tallow - Drew Leslie-not present, no report.

Colubrina - Jonathan Taylor-this project has finished.

Dioscorea - Bill Overholt- this project has finished.

Exotic Grasses - Greg McDonald, not present, no report.

Lygodium - LeRoy Rodgers/Kris Serbesoff-King. Active, management plan to include new biocontrol agents

Melaleuca - Francois Laroche-not present, no report.

Skunkvine - Brian Nelson- not present, no report.

Karen suggested that once a brochure/management plan is completed we could remove the committee and just put a contact person on the webpage.

Jonathan Taylor commented that committees that are still working on the project should remain on the board meeting agenda for task force reports, yet completed projects don't need to be on the agenda. If folks have something to say about their species, they can still request to be on the agenda.

It was also discussed that there is a need to follow up on task forces and schedule revisiting these in case there is a need to update over time.

It was also agreed that individual task force reports could be removed from the agenda and that there would be one line for task force updates for active projects only.

The Chair will contact task force people to see status and make sure they are still the point of contact.

Operations

Old Business-

SFWMD in-kind sponsorship of transportation for registrations; definition for vendors (Todd Olson)—Dianne will bring a summary of tax code for the next meeting to figure out the appropriate way to report in-kind contributions.

Reimbursement of Karen Brown travel expenses—was approved with the '09 budget, for the potential to ask for reimbursement for Wildland Weeds travel expenses.

Clematis terniflora correspondence—We need to find out if it has gone through IFAS assessment. Doria Gordon agreed to check and then talk to FNGLA.

Dan Ward recognition—Chair will send Dan a letter to inform him of the intent to give him a Lifetime Achievement Award at the upcoming symposium.

Ornamental Outlook article – Thank you, LeRoy!

New Business

Need to update Checklists, this was touched on earlier
Recruit members/help; symposium follow-up—Karen commented that it is important to take advantage of help and be training people to be future FLEPPC leaders. It is also important to follow up on signup lists from the symposium, LeRoy updates these lists and sends the new version up to chairs of committees following the meetings.

A month following when LeRoy sends out the updated lists the Secretary will send a reminder to follow up.

FLEPPC Training and Control and Evaluation Committees—These are vacant for now, we will put them on

bring it back to the board.

Addendum: In a subsequent e-mail vote LeRoy was nominated as chair of the Control and Evaluation committee and he accepted.

FLEPPC Strategic Planning Committee—We need to get input from membership with the direction of FLEPPC, what we should provide. The Chair will talk with Roger to see if he is still interested in chairing the committee, Jonathan is willing also. There will be an all day strategic planning meeting in the future.

FLEPPC Student Chapter—Karen gauged interest with students and found that there is interest. Scott wondered what FLEPPC would need to do to support this. Karen thought it would be up to students to come up with what they want to do. Karen has a volunteer that has taken initiative to start this and will join the next board meeting to report on what she's found.

FNPS joint annual meeting

We will follow up with this at the next meeting. Karen suggested exploring a joint annual meeting with SE-EPPC also.

Adjourn

At 3:33pm Donna made a motion to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded by Adam Grayson and accepted unanimously at by the board.

Next BOD meeting May 26, 2009, Delray Beach Marriott Resort



FLEPPC
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