



Florida EPPC

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

We are approaching the time of year when the annual FLEPPC symposium is in sight. This year's meeting will be held on May 19-22 in Maitland, Florida, and will be in collaboration with the Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS), an organization with which we have much in common. Both meetings will be held the same week, with part of one day common for both meetings, so we will have opportunity to interact with FNPS. Sessions are arranged independently so that no conflicts with meeting schedules occur. This will be a good opportunity to attend two meetings if time permits, and collect information about closely related ecological considerations that significantly affect Florida's native biological communities. We will see updates on exotics treatment strategies, academic reports regarding exotic plants and native plants, native area restoration, and information about new products and their uses. Participants will be able to obtain CEUs to help maintain applicator's certifications, and the state Applicator Certification core exam will be administered.

As a state-wide organization of conservation and land management professionals, FLEPPC is affiliated with larger organizations including the Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council (SE-EPPC), and the National Association of Exotic Pest Plant Councils (NAEPPC). Karen Brown regularly attends SE-EPPC meetings, serving as secretary, and editor of *Wildland Weeds*. Karen has successfully promoted significant interaction of other EPPCs in the southeast so that contributions to *Wildland Weeds* now contain information from outside Florida; this is valuable material that supplements our own knowledge of exotics in our area. Tony Pernas and I attended the annual meeting of NAEPPC last October, where there was discussion of considering national standards related to procurement and distribution of funding, and the possibility of a National EPPC meeting in the future. Also last fall a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was approved by NAEPPC to promote collaboration with the National Network of Invasive Plant Centers (NNIPC), an organization with similar interests and objectives, including an emphasis on early detection and rapid response (EDRR), economic impacts of invasive plants, cooperative weed management areas (CWMAs), stronger national policy and funding for invasive plant prevention and management. The idea here is to maintain communication about planning, research, and policy so that synergy and strength in control of exotics at the national level may build with coordination. So while most of us toil each day on our home peninsula, we are at the same time members of larger organizations with the same goals and objectives. Knowing there are significant numbers of other people and organizations all around the country that share our work interests is important to consider; sometimes it helps when its half way through the work-week. There are lots of others doing similar things around the country.

Please check out the FLEPPC website to look over information about this year's double-shot symposium, and register for the annual meeting. This occasion is always informative, much will be accomplished, contacts will be made, and entertaining stories will be shared- many of these stories will be true.

Jim Burch
Big Cypress National Preserve

Calendar/ News/ Updates/Announcements at a Glance

FLEPPC Symposium May 17- 20, 2011 - Joint FLEPPC/FNPS Symposium May 19-22, 2011 at Sheraton Orlando North in Maitland, Florida
<http://www.fleppc.org/Symposium/2011>

Request for Nominations for FLEPPC Board of Directors

The FLEPPC Nominations Committee is currently seeking nominations from members to fill the four vacating Director positions and the Chair Elect Position. If you know someone that you feel is qualified and willing to serve on the FLEPPC Board of Directors, please email Jim Burney (jburney@avcaquatic.com), Nominations Chair, with the nominees name and contact information. Please take the time to become involved in this important selection process. Without the willingness of people to serve in these interesting and rewarding positions, the daily processes of FLEPPC would grind to a halt. Also, there are many committees that carry out the mission of FLEPPC in a wide variety of ways. Please visit the website and sign on with a committee to become involved, even if you can't commit the time to serve on the Board of Directors.

The committee will be accepting nominations until March 4, 2011.

Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council

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Grant Announcements

FLEPPC Kathy Craddock Burks Education Grant 2011 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council is soliciting grant proposals for nonnative invasive plant education and outreach projects in Florida. These grants provide funding to organizations or individuals who will educate Floridians about non-native invasive plants and their influences on the environment and economy of Florida.

Proposals should involve plants on the FLEPPC 2009 List of Invasive Plant Species (see www.fleppc.org), include an educational message that will reach a large segment of the community, and heighten community awareness about nonnative invasive plant identification, management, prevention, environmental and/or economic impacts. A list of specific evaluation criteria and eligibility requirements can be found in the instructions for proposal submission.

Instructions for proposal submission, a list of past projects funded, and further information may be found on the FLEPPC website (www.fleppc.org/edgrants.html). Requests for funding should not exceed \$1,000 and all funds awarded are to be used within one year of receipt. If full funding is not available, partial funding may be awarded. Applicant/organization must present a summary of results at the FLEPPC annual meeting (poster or presentation) or provide a summary article for *Wildland Weeds* magazine.

The deadline for proposal submission is 5PM on Friday, April 1st, 2011. The FLEPPC Education Grant Committee will review all applications. Winners will be announced during the business meeting in May at FLEPPC's annual conference.

For further information, contact:

Jennifer Possley, jpossley@fairchildgarden.org

FLEPPC Julia Morton Invasive Plant Research Grant Program REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council (FLEPPC) has available funding for a small number of research grants/scholarships for students conducting studies related to invasive exotic plant management in Florida. The deadline for proposal submission is April 8, 2011. Written proposals should be no more than three pages in length, including detailed methods for the research to be conducted, as well as references and budget. Requests for funding should be no more than \$2,500. The proposal should include a summary of the research project and its relationship with Florida exotic pest plant management problems. Proposals longer than three pages in length will be returned without review. Particular plant species involved in the study should be one or more of the Category I or Category II exotic pest plant species listed by FLEPPC (see: www.fleppc.org). In addition, the applicant should provide complete contact information and a detailed budget, with an explanation of how the funding will be used. Examples include (but are not limited to) travel funds for field work, funds for research equipment or supplies (or temporary use of specialized equipment), a stipend for applicant's project work time not otherwise supported, travel funds for presentation of the research at the annual FLEPPC meeting, etc. In developing the budget, funds requested are to be used for the direct costs of conducting research on the proposed project and are not to be used for indirect costs incurred by the student's university.

Proposals will be evaluated and ranked on the critical management need for scientific results in the area of study and on the clarity of the submitted request.

Basic eligibility requirements:

To be eligible for funding, applicants must be an undergraduate or graduate student enrolled at an accredited institution of higher learning anywhere within the United States. However, the research must be on a listed Florida invasive plant (<http://www.fleppc.org/list/list.htm>). An accompanying letter of recommendation from a faculty advisor is strongly encouraged.

Proposals are due by 5:00 p.m. 4/8/11. Send proposals by e-mail to: Dr. Betsy Von Holle, vonholle@mail.ucf.edu using the following naming convention: "LAST NAME_First name_proposal" and "LAST NAME_First name_recommendation".

Minutes from Florida EPPC Board of Directors Meeting

July 22, 2010 (10:00AM)

Conference call

APPROVED AT 10/14/2010 BOARD MEETING IN MAITLAND. (kb)

Administrative

Call to Order/Roll Call – 10AM

Minutes taken by Karen Brown and Dianne Owen.

Attendees: Dan Bergeson, Karen, Jim Burch, Jim Burney, Bob Farley, Ben Gugliotti, Erin Myers, Dianne Owen, Pat Howell, Mike Renda, Mike Yustin, Hillary Cooley, Mike Bodle

Approval of Last Minutes: tabled until later to give board members time to read the minutes as they were sent out late. (Subsequently approved by e-vote, 8/13/2010.)

Chair Activities:

2010 FLEPPC Conference Calls (see New Business)

FLEPPC Position Paper (see Old Business)

Secretary position: Mike Bodle/Erin Myers motioned to nominate Hillary Cooley as secretary. All present voted in favor of approving Hillary Cooley as secretary. No one opposed.

Treasurer's Report – Dianne Owen:

To date, FLEPPC income exceeds expenses for FY2009-2010 by \$3000. The 2010 Symposium realized a net gain of \$9790, offsetting the cost of the Education and Research grants, and the printing of the Plant List. The FY2009-2010 YTD Income Expense Report is attached.

To begin FY2010-2011, I am looking into how we can reduce bank fees and credit card charges, and will be contacting Chuck Barger on about this, since this will entail changes to the membership payment site. Also for FY2010-2011, I will be moving the books from Quicken to SimplyAccounting, an inexpensive accounting software package that supports double-entry accrual-basis accounting.

Editor's Report – Karen Brown – Summer issue is in progress. Income is way down due to the economy and we have lost money on the last two issues. Karen plans to hold a meeting late summer to discuss the publication of Wildland Weeds into the future. SE-EPPC members will be included in this discussion. Bob Farley suggested soliciting Florida FWC state contractors for ads. Other ideas were going to three issues per year, going digital, and raising chapter membership contributions. Proposed theme for the Fall issue is biofuels and invasive species, with a report from each state chapter.

Secretary's Report – Dianne and Karen took the minutes until Hillary Cooley is up to speed. Karen suggested attaching committee reports to the minutes for a record. Dianne had been keeping them in an electronic file when she was secretary. Jim Burch agreed that they should be part of the record.

Committee Reports

Bylaws – no report from Sandra Vardaman. Board surveyed to see if anyone wanted to volunteer for this position but no one stepped up.

Checklists – Donna Watkins has resigned, due to professional conflicts. Karen suggested that this effort might be part of the Secretary's duties. Dianne is concerned that it's too much for the secretary and should be the program chair's responsibility. Karen pointed out that the program chair rotates annually and the checklists need a more permanent home. This was discussed. Dianne and Karen both offered to assist and the next program chair will also be involved. This should help distribute the work involved.

Control and Evaluation – LeRoy Rodgers – no report

Education Grant – Jennifer Possley

FLEPPC EDUCATION GRANT COMMITTEE REPORT

Prepared by Jennifer Possley for 7/23/10 BOD meeting (conference call)

Summer is (thankfully) pretty slow for this committee, but I've been working on a few things. Here's the scoop:

Website - The website has been updated with current information (*thanks, Chuck!*)

Funds Returned - One of our 2010 grant recipients returned \$1000 to us because matching funds fell through. After discussion, the Ed Grant Committee opted to send \$250 in additional award money (*thanks, Dianne!*) to four projects that we originally funded at 50%.

More Funds Returned - Coincidentally, a 2008 grant recipient is also returning \$1000. The teacher, despite good intentions, was not able to carry out the proposed program. The Ed Grant Committee would like to return this money to our coffers for next year.

By-laws - The above incidents have made us realize that we need to amend the Education Grant Committee by-laws to include protocols for dealing with returned funds. We will prepare these for the by-law committee in time for vote at the next annual meeting.

Money well spent - Education grant recipients are hard at work. Some brief updates follow.

- East County Water Control District's 2009 "Nurture Nature" program –that's the one with Able Otter— will be featured in the current issue of Wildland Weeds (*thanks, Karen!*). ECWCD recently won the "district of the year" award.
- 2010 awardee Oakland Nature Preserve is already hard at work, restoring a portion of their preserve, with signs explaining the process and thanking FLEPPC for our funding.
- 2009 awardee Gamble Rogers Memorial SRA had a volunteer weed (mostly BP) removal work day in April at North Peninsula State Park, including a press release that resulted in a newspaper article.

Finance – Ellen Donlan – nothing to report but they are looking for direction from the board for objectives. Dianne said Ellen has been trying to set up a meeting. Jim Burney said the committee was set up to review financial information; now waiting for direction. Next item will be reviewing the budget submitted for the next fiscal year.

Legislative – Matt King – no report.

Merchandise – Tony Pernas – no report but Dianne reported that we earned a small amount of money. Machetes were popular in the past; control freak shirts are always popular. Sheaths were suggested for any future machete sales – Ben suggested that this would provide more real estate for branding with FLEPPC info.

Nominations – Jim Burney – no nominees yet.

Outreach – Bob Farley – no report. No outreach activities this quarter. Dianne could use FLEPPC materials in one large poster. Karen will revisit her list of materials available. Bob Farley will look at putting all materials into one poster; Dianne will, as well, as she has a fall event coming up. Jim Burney talked about paid attendance to some meetings in order to use the display materials and suggested that Bob might submit a budget request to pay for attending some different meetings. Bob will research costs. Dianne stated that the Finance Committee needs to consider this issue as well as it would represent another expense.

Plant Industry Liaison – Doria Gordon – no report.

Plant List – Keith Bradley – no report.

Research – Betsy Von Holle. Dianne Owen reported that payment was sent to the one grant recipient for 2010/2011. The second applicant needed to withdraw.

Scholarship – Tony Pernas – no report. Karen stated that there is no standard operating procedure for this committee. It has previously been ad hoc. However, a profit has been recorded and there should be a procedure for these activities. Jim Burch will follow up with Tony.

Strategic Planning – Jonathan Taylor – no action; no report.

Symposium Local Arrangements – Mike Bodle/Karina Veaudry – Karina called in and submitted a report. Tues, 5/17/11 – Fri, 5/20/11 are FNPS/FLEPPC meeting dates at Sheraton Maitland, with Tuesday being the board meeting and vendor set-ups only. They don't want to dilute the programs too much by overlapping between the two groups so there is only one day that overlaps. Mike noted that the last joint meeting had one day overlap but were otherwise separate. Karina has signed a contract for 2011 and reserved meetings rooms for FLEPPC. FLEPPC needs will be covered 100% and meeting rooms are free because of the number of room nights being reserved. Thursday, FLEPPC will have a morning half-day of presentations and field trips in the afternoon. FNPS spends the entire day on field trips. Karina hopes to mingle the groups during field trips and for at least one of the socials. There will be a two hour session on Friday on CISMAs at FNPS and perhaps FLEPPC can contribute to that. Karina reviewed the meeting schedule and will work with Mike Bodle on the social. Thursday evening banquet. One half-day is scheduled for Friday. Ben Gugliotti reiterated that Friday is a half-day. Karina asked for a point person and Jim Burch said it was him until a program chair has been appointed. FNPS would like direction on how they can assist FLEPPC in their goals. Karina suggested hosting joint meetings in the future as well. Money is to be kept separate. Food at socials will have to be sorted out.

Symposium Program – Jim has spoken to Jon Lane who will be involved but might not be able to do everything. Jessica Spencer will again assist but is currently on vacation. Dianne suggested a specifically named coordinator. It was decided by Jim Burch and Mike Bodle that another layer was not needed.

Symposium Field Trips – Ben Gugliotti was recommended and accepted. Will work with LeRoy Rodgers and Karina Veaudry on overlapping trips. Elroy Timmer might be a good project to visit (air potato).

Vendor – Bill Kline – no report.

Website – Chuck Bargeron – no report.

Karen moved to accept the committee reports; Dianne seconded. Unanimous approval; no opposition.

Liaisons with other organizations

SE-EPPC Liaison – Karen Brown/Jim Burch – Karen reported that the annual meeting went well in Chattanooga, bylaws were revised; Chuck Bargeron finished his term as President and Nancy Loewenstein stepped up as the new President.

NA-EPPC Liaison – Matt King / Jim Burney / Jim Burch – Karen reported that Chuck Bargeron is the President-elect of this group.

Task Force Reports

None submitted.

Operations

Old Business

FNPS/FLEPPC Joint 2010 Symposium – see Symposium notes above.

Position Paper Committee – Jim wrote an initial paper on procedure and a review of position paper methods from other groups. It was circulated once with some comments received from Doria and from Karen. Jim will recirculate due to new board members. He suggested the Strategic Planning Committee to review the initial paper but Karen pointed out that this committee has not been very active and their mission is more to examine future directions of the council. It was decided to wait until a position paper has actually been submitted to appoint a review committee, and that this might vary depending on the topic.

New Business – none

Next BOD Meeting – should be held at next annual meeting site. October 14th, Thursday, 10AM. Jim will check to see if Karina is available. Oct 15th will be a back up date. Details on exact location of the site to be sent later.

January 2011 meeting will be another teleconference – January 13th, 10AM.

Adjourn – Erin motioned to adjourn; Dan seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1PM.

Reports submitted from: Dianne Owen (Treasurer's report), Jennifer Possley (Education Grant Committee Report), Karinna Veaudry, FNPS (2011 Annual Meeting), and Field Trips.