



Florida EPPC

Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council

OFFICERS

Jim Burney, Chair
L1J2@aol.com

Mike Bodle, Past-Chair
mbodle@sfwmd.gov

Dianne Owen, Secretary
dowen@fau.edu

Kristina Serbesoff-King, Treasurer
kserbesoffking@tnc.org

Karen Brown, Editor, Wildland Weeds
kpb@mail.ifas.ufl.edu

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Roger Clark
roger@leegov.com

Robert Egan
HabitatRR@yahoo.com

Amy Ferriter
aferrite@sfwmd.gov

Matthew King
mking@co.palm-beach.fl.us

Chris Lockhart
chris@habitatspecialists.com

Jim Duquesnel
james.g.duquesnel@dep.state.fl.us

Drew Leslie
drew.leslie@dep.state.fl.us

Cressida Silvers
csilvers@saa.ars.usda.gov

www.fleppc.org

Message from our new Chair

I would like to take this opportunity to provide the introduction to the latest newsletter on behalf of myself, our board of directors, and in particular our new Secretary, Dianne Owen. The latter is the one that we should all be most thankful for, primarily because Dianne had the fortitude (or lapse of reason) to assume the thankless position of Secretary. This is no small position in that she is not only responsible for taking notes during the cat-herding sessions that we refer to as board meetings, but is also responsible for publishing this newsletter. I'll stop her praises for now (I'll continue them next newsletter).

I would also like to borrow some print to recognize the retiring board members, officers, and committee chairs and express our gratitude to all of their efforts. They have done a fabulous job of carrying out FLEPPC's mission of education, research, and control technologies regarding exotic invasive plants in Florida, as well as contributing to the overall understanding of the invasive plant problem throughout the country.

Lastly, I would like to recognize Mike Bodle, our Past Chair, for his energetic and creative approach during his leadership, although I am quite sure that Mike is not easily overlooked in a crowd. His tenure will be hard to follow as I am not quite the showman or chef he is. However, maybe by using unorthodox means such as conducting a membership contest matching your favorite board member with the invasive plant that most resembles he/she in appearance or mannerisms I can make things almost as interesting.

Keep in mind that as a member, this is your newsletter too. Please feel free to contact Dianne or myself with any suggestions or ideas for inclusion. Until the next newsletter, be safe and give invasive plants no quarter.

Jim Burney
Chair

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting October 12, 2004 Key West, Florida

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 am by Jim Burney, Chair. The following directors, constituting a quorum of the full board, were present:

Jim Burney, Karen Brown, Roger Clark, Jim Duquesnel, Amy Ferriter, Drew Leslie, Chris Lockhart, Kris Serbesoff-King, Dianne Owen, Tony Pernas (as proxy for Mike Bodle), Cressida Silvers. Also Attending: Scott Ditmarsen (Vendor Chair)

Minutes of the previous Board of Directors meeting of July 20, 2004 were distributed to the board by Karen Brown.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, previous minutes were unanimously approved by the Board as written.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

Correspondence - Jim Burney

A letter was sent supporting S144 legislation on federal matching funds for invasive plant control. A letter was sent to TN-EPPC regarding the updated fact sheet. There was some routine correspondence related to the FL-EPPC web site. Jim Burney has corresponded with the SE-EPPC relative to the meeting in Nashville in October.

Treasurer's Report – Kris Serbesoff-King

The FY2003/2004 budget report shows total expenditures for 10/1/03 through 9/30/2004 of \$59,055, not including income of \$2000 still outstanding for 2004 symposium income and the 60/40 split of net profits from 2004 symposium with SE-EPPC. Total income was \$59,477. The balance sheet shows total net assets of \$55,070 as of 9/30/04. The budget report that was distributed to the Board is attached to the minutes.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the FY 2003/2004 Treasurer's Report was unanimously accepted.

Editor's Report – Karen Brown

A total of 2,111 copies of the fall issue of Wildland Weeds were distributed, netting \$3,400. The number printed will be increased from 2,250 to 2,500 for the next issue in order to have more extra copies. Page costs continue to range from \$200 to \$250 and financial support is steady. She would like to see more diversity in advertisements (products and locations) and would also welcome suggestions for additional avenues of distribution.

The Herbicides for Homeowners brochure was reprinted at a cost of \$1000 for 2000 copies. All the reprints have already been distributed, but brochure can also be downloaded from the FLEPPC website as a PDF file. There are no more color FL-EPPC plant lists, but there have not been many recent requests and it is also available on the website.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Editor's Report was unanimously accepted by the board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Local arrangements for Annual Meeting in Key West, May 8-10, 2005

Tony Pernas reported for Mike Bodle that a contract has been signed with Casa Marina for conference facilities and catering. Approximately 200 attendees are expected.

Fort Zachary Taylor is being considered as a site for the banquet - Mark Knapke, Cynthia Snell, Ed Barham can help with arrangements for this. Possible field trip sites being considered are: the Navy Base in Key West; Bahia Honda; Saddlebunch Key; other park locations in the Keys. Dry Tortugas, which could include a visit to Loggerhead Key, is an expensive trip, but Tony Pernas will look into discounts. The price might depend on the number of participants, participants could be asked to pay in advance.

Scott Ditmarsen has sent a letter to vendors requesting support for the Symposium.

Possible themes (Caribbean, Bahamian, Bermuda) and entertainment (Weeds) were discussed. We may want to coordinate with the SEEPPC that will hold its annual meeting in Birmingham close to the same time.

Kris Serbesoff-King/Dianne Owen will send out an announcement/call for papers in November (Karen Brown will provide mailing list). Registration forms will be sent out in early/mid February. Early registration for the Meeting/Symposium will close approx. April 9.

Membership/Publicity- Katie Roberts (not present)

Katie would like to use graphics from the FLEPPC website to upgrade the Membership display

Merchandise – Bill Synder (not present)

Tony Pernas/Dan Thayer will be taking over Merchandise from Bill Synder. A current inventory of all merchandise will be done and inventory will be tracked in the future.

Plant List – Kathy Burks (not present)

Jim Burney will talk to Kathy Burks about plant list recommendations

Research – John Volin (not present)

Funding for the amount of \$1860 is recommended for research that will be done by F.J. Wessels, a student under the direction of Jim Cuda. John Volin will send addresses of research contacts to Karen Brown to add to the WW mailing list. There was discussion about how to improve the low response to calls for research proposals. Karen Brown proposed that WW publish notices to alert its audience to funding available for research and include articles about research that has been funded by FLEPPC. The 2005 deadline for submitting research proposals is Feb 27.

Symposium Program – Amy Ferriter/ Tony Pernas

Dan Clark is Program Chair. Tentative Keynote speakers are being considered.

Training – Jim Duquesnel

The speakers bureau list should be expanded and put on the FLEPPC web site. FLEPPC should also do more Natural Areas Training for applicators in addition to the training now being done mainly for supervisors.

Jim Duquesnel will submit biographical information about trainers doing CEU training at the Annual Meeting. Training

will be scheduled for Mon, May 8 before the Symposium on May 9-10.

Vendors – Scott Ditmarsen

A letter has been sent to potential Symposium vendors.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee Reports were unanimously accepted by the Board.

BUDGET

The Board discussed the following specific items for the FY 2004-2005 budget that represent changes from the FY2003-2004 budget:

Membership/outreach combined - reduce to \$500

Plant list – not specified, Kathy Burke will be contacted before final approval.

Plant Working Groups – Australian Pine increased to \$1100 to cover cost of reprints, Dioscorea is dropped, others maintained at \$500.

Research – increase to \$5000 from \$4500, more public relations effort is needed.

Education – increase to \$7,700.

Symposium – \$20,000 (this is expenditures only, not the net balance)

Merchandise – not specified, Tony Pernas contact Bill Synder before final approval.

Travel - increase to \$1500.

Wildland Weeds – increase to \$27,000.

CC services – increase to \$1400.

Board approved amendment - \$750 additional contribution to P Myers scholarship fund.

FLEPPC Calendar – \$3600 for printing 1500 copies (new budget item).

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the tentative FY 2004-2005 budget was unanimously approved by the Board. After review by Committee Chairs, the final budget will be sent to Board Members for approval by email (five working days response time.)

WORKING GROUPS

Australian Pine - Rob Egan (not present)

Jim Burney reported that a letter was sent to the City of Key West against their resolution to oppose Australian Pine removal from Fort Zachary Taylor State Park. It was noted that Australian Pine removal after the hurricanes is also an issue in Sanibel/Captiva.

Brazilian Pepper - Jim Cuda (not present)

The report on the Brazilian Pepper Management Plan from Jim Cuda is attached to the minutes.

Plant List - Kathy Burks (not present)

Chris Lockhart reported that Kathy Burks should be notified by Nov. 5 of any invasive plant species to be reviewed for listing in the FNAI/DEP database. The geodatabase of site occurrences can be downloaded at ftp://16.201.56.15. It was suggested that Wildland Weeds would include a notice about using the EPPC site occurrence report forms.

Chinese tallow – Cheryl McCormick.

It was suggested that someone from North Florida be asked to take over this group.

Grasses – Greg McDonald (not present)

It was noted that R. Diaz might like to take over this group.

Lygodium – Amy Ferriter

Jeff Hutchinson is working on revisions to the Management Plan that have been delayed by the hurricanes. Biocontrol release is delayed; Allapattah is a possible site for initial release. The FDEP will pay the operation expenses for the subsequent releases.

Melaleuca – Francois Laroche (not present)

Planned revisions to the Management Plan have been delayed by hurricanes.

OLD BUSINESS

FDACS Listing (Plant List Committee)

Kathy Burks (not present) needs official FLEPPC recommendations for invasive plant species for FDACS listing. It was noted that this should also include new prohibited aquatics and that the FLEPPC should propose species not listed on the FDC noxious list, which doesn't include all the species listed by the DEP (e.g. torpedo grass). Jim Burney will contact Doria Gordon about this.

NEW BUSINESS

*Kris Serbesoff-King reported on information regarding the need for a financial audit of FLEPPC. A full official audit by an independent auditor would cost \$5000-\$10,000, but a less formal financial review may be sufficient. She will investigate this further and report at the next meeting.

*The minutes of every Board Meeting will be published in a quarterly newsletter (paid for from the Secretary's budget). The Secretary will send final minutes to Board members by email for approval before publication.

*Wildland Weeds will publish an article on what to plant/replant in SW Florida after the hurricane. It was suggested that a statewide do-not-plant/what-to-replant list can be included.

*Roger Clark reported that the University of Florida is conducting research on fungal herbicides for grasses.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be at 9:00 am on Tuesday, Jan 11, 2005 in Ft Myers. Roger Clark and Jim Burney will make arrangements for the meeting. (Note: The date for the next meeting has subsequently been changed to 10:00 am on Tuesday, January 18.)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.



**NEXT FLEPPC BOARD MEETING:
JANUARY 18, 10:00 AM
LAKES REGIONAL PARK
7330 GLADIOLUS DRIVE, FT MYERS**