FLEPPC Board of Directors Conference Call
April 3, 2018, 4:00 p.m.
Call-in number:

Administrative reports

- Call to Order: 4:25 p.m.; Attending: Mike Middlebrook (2nd – call-in), Cody Miller (2nd), Jimmy Lange (2nd), Craig (1st), Brian Lockwood (1st), Gayle Edwards, Gregg Walker (2nd), Christen Mason (Chair), Katherine Murray (1st), Sherry Williams, Karen Brown (Treasurer), Chuck Bargeron, Deah Lieurance, Aimee Cooper (Secretary), Jim Cuda; Not attending:
- Chair Activities/Correspondence – Christen Mason
  - Gave a presentation to the Dahoon Chapter of the Native Plant Society on common invasives in our yards and how to kill them.
  - Chair report
    - Deah and I completed our petitions for Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*) and cat’s claw vine (*Dolichandra unguis-cati*) to FDACS for inclusion on the State Noxious Weed List. Both were approved unanimously. Deah will confirm when we can expect to see these changes reflected on the state list. On another note, the time dedicated to submitting the application took at most a week’s time.
    - We’re officially Associate Members of the Invasive Plant Management Association (IPMA). For more information go to: [http://flipma.org/](http://flipma.org/)
    - I assisted an HOA with advice on how to manage large melaleuca, Australian pine and Brazilian pepper trees on their golf course.
- Treasurer’s Report – Karen Brown
  - BALANCES:
    - Bank of America
      - Checking $31,373*
      - Savings $21,000**
    - TOTAL $52,373
    (*Includes income from Eventbrite $20,500)
- Editor’s Report: Ruark Cleary (PERMANENT HIATUS)
- Secretary’s Report – Aimee Cooper
  - The minutes from our October 24, 2017 and January 30, 2018 were approved by the BOD via email. These minutes were drafted into our Winter 2018 FLEPPC Newsletter that was be distributed in early March. Please remember: any success stories, upcoming projects, ongoing projects, events, news releases, photos, memorials, etc. that you would like to see in the newsletter, forward them to me at coopera@stlucieco.org.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Bylaws: (IMMEDIATE VACANCY)
  - The following proposed bylaw amendments will be voted on at the business meeting.
    - Eliminate the Editor Officer position
    - Create a Liaison Officer position
    - Modify the nomination process
    - Update the check drafting process
- Checklists: Sarah Laroque
- Control and Evaluation: Greg MacDonald
- Finance:
  - Gregg Walker has volunteered to fill the chair position. Karen motioned, 2nd by Cody, unanimously approved by the BOD.
  - Gregg will send out the budget request spreadsheet to all the committee chairs in time for review and approval at the July BOD meeting.
- Grants:
  - CISMA: Gregg Walker
• The FLEPPC/FISP CISMA Grant Committee award the Six Rivers CISMA $1,455 for the proposal entitled “Eliminating a New Invader in Northwest Florida; managing beach vitex.” The awardee will be officially announced as the winner at the 2018 FLEPPC Conference.

  o Education: Kris Campbell
    • The Kathy Craddock Burks Education Grant received 6 submissions this year. The committee reviewed all 6 and decided to fund 4 projects. All applicant contacts have been sent their appropriate funds from FLEPPC. The projects awarded are as follows…
      ▪ Candice Prince w/University of Florida, “Wetland Sedges of Florida” ($950.00)
      ▪ Dr. Don Spence w/ Bethune Cookman, “Non-Native & Invasive Plants of Canaveral National Seashore” ($755.00)
      ▪ Ernie Franke w/The Shores of Long Bayou HOA, “Restoration of Wood Stork Pond” ($350.00)
      ▪ Kristen Hoss w/Youth Environmental Alliance, “Project ROC, Reclaiming Our Coastline One Invasive at a Time!” ($1000.00)
      ▪ $125.00 of the $3000.00 KCB Ed Grant budget was not awarded this year.

  o Research: Jim Cuda (VACANCY FOLLOWING SYMPOSIUM)
    • Jim is stepping down as Research Grant Chair. Carey Minteer (UF/IFAS) has volunteered to take over. Her nomination will be voted on at the July BOD meeting.
    • We had 5 outstanding applications for the 2018 FLEPPC Julia Morton Invasive Plant Research Grant Program. Once the Chair (Dr. Jim Cuda) received the applications, he invited five Florida invasive plant researchers (three from UF, one from FDACS, and one from FWC) to review the proposals, and rank them based on the following criteria: (a) application complete according to guidelines, (b) clearly defined conceptual framework, (c) clearly defined hypothesis & objectives, (d) experimental design & methods consistent with hypothesis, (d) likelihood of success and meaningful results, (e) importance of study species to FLEPPC, and (f) independent project, clearly run by the student. Based on the reviews, the following two students were each awarded $2,000 research grants for FY 2018-2019:
      ▪ Ms. Kristen Bowers, University of Florida, Indian River Research and Education Center, for the project, “Evaluating the impact of two herbivores on Brazilian pepper, Schinus terebinthifolia.” Awarded: $2,000
      ▪ Ms. Lauren Trotta, University of Florida, Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Department, for the project, “Evaluating environmental drivers of invasive and endangered species relatedness in Florida’s globally imperiled pine rocklands” Awarded: $2,000.

  ➤ Legislative: Deah Lieurance
    • Christen Mason and I submitted petitions for the inclusion of Lonicera japonica (Japanese honeysuckle) and Macfadyena unguis-cati (cat’s claw vine) in the state’s Noxious Weed List on behalf of FLEPPC. The petitions were sent on 3/13. The committee met on 3/28 to discuss and vote on the species. I (Deah Lieurance) presented L. japonica and Christen discussed M. unguis-cati. After a short discussion, the decision was unanimous for both species to be included. The committee did note that we were still waiting for information about the economic value of L. japonica to determine if inclusion requires a formal public comment period, but this appears to be unlikely as this species is only grown at a few (possibly only one) nurseries in the state. Anything bringing in greater than $5 mil requires this public comment period. Overall, the inclusion of these species will limit nursery and internet sales in the state, prevent/deter movement of the species within the state, prioritize management, and raise awareness of the detrimental ecological effect these species have on the landscape.

  ➤ Membership: Gayle Edward
    • Presently we have 195 members but 56 of those are people that attended last year’s conference and have not renewed their membership. So actually is about 140. I expect this to change a little bit before Wednesday but probably not much.

  ➤ Merchandise: Jimmy Lange (Christen Mason, Sherry Williams, Aimee Cooper) IMMEDIATE VACANCY
    • Walking Weeds coffee mugs (72) were purchased for $330.
    • Mike Middlebrook volunteered to serve as chair if none of the current/new BODs wanted to fill the position.

  ➤ Nominations: Jim Burney

  ➤ Outreach: Christen Mason
Set up an exhibit at the A.R.M. Loxahatchee NWR for their Annual Everglades Festival. It was a well-attended event with over 4,600 visitors.

- **Plant Industry Liaison:** IMMEDIATE VACANCY
  - Gary Knox resigned
- **Plant List:** Tony Pernas, Dennis Giardina
- **Scholarship:** Tony Pernas
  - Look for information about dissolving the Scholarship Fund in past minutes. Will continue to investigate.
- **Strategic Planning:** Sherry Williams
  - Strategic Planning Event took place on April 3. We are waiting to hear back from Ed Osbourne (UF)
- **Symposium CEUs:** Christen Mason
- **Symposium Field Trips:** Cody Miller
- **Symposium Local Arrangements:** Sherry Williams
  - Location ideas! We need to send an RFP our ASAP and attempt to get a multi-year contract to lock in competitive price.
  - Do we have to stay coastal?
  - Deah suggested River Ranch, Sherry suggested Safety Harbour, Christen Mason suggested St. Augustine. Sherry will ask for recommendation from the BOD via email and plan to have the RFP out by May but no later than early June.
- **Symposium Planning/Program:** Karen Brown/Sherry Williams
- **Vendor:** Katherine Murray
  - Nine vendors are registered this year.
- **Website:** Chuck Bargeron/Karen Brown (Liaison)
  - Wanted to hold off until after he heard the feedback from the strategic planning.
  - Of big concern is that we don’t have ownership over our domain fleppc.org. This doesn’t affect the design process, but it’s important to figure out how to have our old domain directed to our new domain.

**Liaisons with other organizations**

- **SE-EPPC Liaison:** Christen Mason
- **NAIPC Liaison:** Sherry Williams
  - Webinar Series:
    - April 18, 3 PM ET – Jay Ferrell – Glyphosate, Friend or Foe?
    - July 19, 3 PM ET – Chuck Bargeron and Jerry Caldwell – Customizing EDDMapS Pro for use in Utah
    - October 11, 3 PM ET – Belle Bergner – “PlayCleanGo” and You Can Change Public Behavior to Slow the Spread of Invasive Species
  - Glyphosate comment period is open with EPA (https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/public-comment-period-open-glyphosate-draft-risk-assessments).
    - NAIPC should probably weigh in on this and help get the word out … share with listserv.
      - Some info from Clair on navigating the EPA page …. “Okay, so, to get to the new documents for review, you do have to look in the "Supporting and Related Material" folder within the docket. For some reason, it only shows 3 random documents (the bibliography, a methodology and one appendix), but if you look in the header, there's a "view all" link indicating 56 documents. So click on view all, then using the "sort by" drop-down on the top right, you can sort the documents by order of posting date from newest to oldest to find the new materials.
    - CAL-IPC has been dealing with glyphosate issues (various local groups actively trying to stop use of glyphosate) and have a glyphosate policy posted on their website (http://www.cal-ipc.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Cal-IPC-glyphosate-policy.pdf). Cal-IPC is also working on 'Best Management Practices for Non-Chemical Approaches' for invasive plant control.
  - Next full board meeting on April 17, 2 PM ET

**Operations**

- **Old Business**
  - In an attempt to clarify roles and responsibilities and also give us a little more organization and structure within our Officer positions here are the proposed additions/changes:
• Additions to Chair-elect SOPs
  ▪ Shadows the Chair in all activities and correspondence
  ▪ Fills empty Committee Chair positions
  ▪ Participates on the Symposium Program Committee
• Additions to the Chair SOPs
  ▪ Copies the Chair-elect on all email communication
  ▪ Continues to serve the current Chair for 1 year, following the completion of the two year Chair term

➤ Other News
  o Florida Invasive Species Partnership
    • Coordinator position filled, not sure of start date.
    • Developed draft strategic plan last fall. Will be working on this in May at next meeting in Gainesville.
    • FLEPPC CISMA workshop set for 4/4 9 AM – NOON. Presentation by FNAI on EDRR and develop strategies for CISMAs to use for surveys, outreach, response, etc.
    • Join monthly webinar 4th Wednesday at 1:30 PM.

**Task Force Reports** – need to contact the chairs to see about an annual update (rather than quarterly updates) at the symposium, and also investigate whether these (or other) TFs are necessary at this time.

➤ Australian Pine: Tony Pernas
➤ Brazilian Pepper: Jim Cuda
  o See attached report
➤ Carrotwood: Chris Lockhart
➤ Chinese Tallow: Greg Wheeler
  o See attached report
➤ Dioscorea: Christopher Kerr
➤ Grasses: Greg MacDonald
➤ Lygodium: LeRoy Rodgers
➤ Melaleuca: Francois Laroche
➤ Skunkvine: Robbie Lovestrand

**Meeting Adjourned**
5:50 p.m. motion to adjourn; 2nd by Craig

**Schedule next board meeting**
Doodle Poll will be sent out.

**Email Correspondences**