

MINUTES
Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin
Board of Directors Meeting
July 21, 2011
3:00-5:00
Wisconsin DNR - Central Office, Madison

Board Members present: Tom Boos, Jerry Doll, Mark Feider, Amy Staffen, Clarissa Hammond, Brian Pillsbury, Willis Brown, Greg Bunker.

Also present: Courtney LeClair, Katharine Brenner

Administration

1. Vote on nomination of Greg Bunker as IPAW Board member.
Motion by Boos to elect Bunker as new Board member, seconded by Pillsbury. Motion carries.
 - Boos** will forward Bunker's contact information to Brenner (to update Board member list) and to Vomastic (to update website).
2. Commend Tom Hunt and Bob Frank for their years of service on the IPAW Board.
Motion to formally commend Tom Hunt & Bob Frank by Pillsbury, seconded by Boos. Motion carries. Although we gave a gift to Bob, we still need to send a gift to Tom Hunt. One idea is an IPAW t-shirt.
 - Boos** will contact some of Hunt's friends to ask for gift suggestions.
3. Approval of Minutes
Brown moves to approve the meeting minutes from April 5, 2011 with minor corrections ("Pandian" and "Katharine" are misspelled), Pillsbury seconds. Motion carries.
4. Treasurer's Report
Boos reports that IPAW's current account balance is \$14,680. We will be receiving a deposit from Golden Sands for \$2,800 to administer ISAM 2011. Boos provided a summary of the IPAW annual meeting budget: Basically, we wound up with about \$2,000 of non-covered expenses (the value of the t-shirts). We may try to defray this expense by selling some t-shirts or offering them as a membership incentive (see 12f below). Brown moves to approve Treasurer's Report, Pillsbury seconds. Motion carries.

Old Business

5. Review of Action Items from Feb. 10 Board meeting
 - ✓ **Feider** will send out guidelines for using SKYPE to all Board members and other regular Board meeting attendees. – **Done**.
 - Feider** will run a full SKYPE test before our next Board meeting. -- **Will do at next regular Board meeting. Boos will reserve a DNR room with a microphone that can be plugged into a laptop with a USB cord.**
 - LeClair** will look into having an announcement on the WDNR website describing/linking to the IPAW bounty program. **Not done**.
 - Kearns** will revise list of people from whom Reinartz solicits newsletter submissions. – **Not present to update us on progress of action item.**
 - Renz** will develop a proposal/outline describing a possible challenge grant program for IPAW. Renew as agenda item for next Board meeting. **Not done**.
 - ✓ **Board Members** will send content to our Program Assistant for posting on the Facebook page. – **Done. Boos suggests that Renz send videos to Brenner. Maybe set up to rotate**

these once a month? Brenner has been posting items that go on the listserv. We have about 52 fans. There has been a good bit of activity. Additional initiatives:

- Boos** will work with **LeClair** to encourage CWMAs to use IPAW's Facebook page.
- Boos** will send link to videos to Brenner to post on FaceBook in a rotation.
- ✓ **Doll** will contact Greg Bunker to inquire about his interest in serving on the IPAW Board.
- ✓ **Doll** will offer Katharine Brenner the job of IPAW Program Assistant.
- ✓ **Wilkinson** will secure Room 708 at the DNR for the August meeting once we have a date.

6. Results of Skype trial.

Feider reports that this has not occurred yet. See related action item above.

7. Summary of Anniversary celebration.

Approximately 80 people attended the annual meeting in Cross Plains at Swamplovers Preserve. After words of welcome from Lee Swanson and Jerry Goth (founders and managers of Swamplovers), participants listened to outdoor presentations by Mark Renz on invasive plant mapping, by Jesse Bennett & Jaye Maxfield (and their adorable goats) on grazing, by Bernie Williams on invasive earthworms, and by Craig Annen on his invasive plant control experiences at Swamplovers. A nice lunch was served, the ISAM Awards were presented, Kelly Kearns got a surprise award for her bringing IPAW through its first ten years, and participants finished off the day with field trips. Many pictures from the event are already posted on the IPAW Flickr website.

- Feider** will add his annual meeting photos to the Ipaw Flickr website.

8. Summary of ISAM.

This year, the main focus of ISAM was on giving out the annual Invader Crusader Awards. Seven individuals and one group were presented with the award, many of whom were in attendance at the June 18th event in Cross Plains. Belle Bergner, 2011 ISAM Coordinator, has produced a 14-page report describing all ISAM accomplishments.

9. Summary of Farm Technology Days.

Pandian was not present to report, so others filled in: Pillsbury, LeClair, Boos, Pandian, Kearns and Doll worked at the event, and reported that many, many visitors to the IPAW display. They sold one Czarapata book and 3 MIPN field guides. Boos was there the last day, who said that the person in the display next to IPAW complained that we were the most popular! After two MIPN field guides were inadvertently taken and/or stolen off the table, only a display copy was put out for viewing.

New Business

10. Committee Reports

a. Education Committee

See conference updates below (11a and b). Boos says that website subcommittee met twice, but not since field season started, will resume this fall. Staffen encourages Bunker to get involved, given his experience and interest in outreach.

c. Newsletter Committee

Reinartz not present. He could still use more material, could send him stuff by Monday.

- Boos** will summarize recent changes on the board, send to Reinartz.

11 Future events and other announcements.

a. NCWSS/IPAW/MIPN Conference

Doll reports that he participated in a conference call on June 7th. Registration fees have been set. The venue can accommodate up to 350 people. An all-invasives agenda was set for Wednesday in the Lakeshore Ballroom area. Thursday will have 2-3 concurrent sessions. The deadline for submitting titles of presentations is September 9th, the abstract will be due in early November, and a final Power Point presentation will be due in late November. All presentations will be available online. They are soliciting sponsors. Staffen volunteers to help coordinate exhibits. CWMAs will be encouraged to meet and share experiences with each other at this meeting; there may be a special session set up just for them.

b. Minn/Wisc Conference

LeClair reports that we will continue to work with MESAC and MIPN, plus invited Iowan representatives. Hotel dates for 2012 are limited; they are looking at late October. They are considering different people to be conference coordinator, and need to hire one soon so that they can negotiate the hotel contract right away. They are hoping that the conference will address all taxa groups, not just plants.

12. Other Business/Announcements

a. New logo for IPAW.

Doll suggests that we consider the one developed for the t-shirt, asks if the designer (Krista) would be willing to design other options. Hammond says she probably would be willing to after August. Staffen suggests using old line drawings.

- Boos** will post announcement on the website soliciting logo concepts, winner will get free membership and t-shirt.
- Boos** will send old line drawings to Krista to incorporate into new designs.

b. Suggestions for new Board members.

Peggy Compton, UW-Extension, was suggested.

- Pillsbury** will ask Peggy Compton if she would be interested in serving on the IPAW board of directors.
- Doll** will push Anne Walker to make a decision about her continuing on the Board, since the time period during which she requested a leave of absence is long overdue. She is still not coming to meetings or participating in email communications.

c. Announcement: NPR had a piece defending invasive species, Boos posted on listserv.

d. Invasives Experts List.

Boos went to a Master's Thesis exit seminar at UW-Madison today. The presenter contacted landowners in southwest WI, and interviewed both people who are actively managing invasives, and their neighbors. One of the barriers identified was lack of connection with experts who can provide guidance. He suggests that we have local experts listed on our website, something akin to the speakers bureau. Tap into existing groups: Master Gardeners, extension agents, farm bureau reps, foresters. We would need to develop a database to list experts with their affiliations. Some people may not want a government employee to come out to advise them on invasive species management, but may trust a non-profit volunteer. Would need to keep updated. Feider says that MIPN did this at the regional level, and suggests encouraging CWMAs to develop local resource lists. Boos counters that we could start by seeking individuals in regions without CWMAs. Staffen developed a list of professional experts for ISAM 2005 that may still be of some utility.

- Doll** will add this topic (Invasives Experts List) to agenda for next meeting.

- Pillsbury** will talk to Peggy Compton about the Invasives Experts List concept when he speaks to her about being a board member.

e. Small Grants.

Boos wonders if we should offer small grants to do control work, get money donated from herbicide companies to support this program. He will flesh this idea out further, needs to talk to Mark Renz about his challenge grant idea.

f. T-shirt sales.

We have about 125 left. They cost \$10 each. Boos suggests that we: sell them at conferences, and/or use them as a 'carrot' for purchasing long-term memberships. LeClair suggests selling them on the website. If we did this, we would need to add shipping and handling to the cost, then Katharine could mail them. Tom says PayPal is burdensome for him. Decision: IPAW will sell the t-shirts for \$15 at conferences, and will offer them as an incentive for purchasing a three-year membership.

g. Stockbridge-Munsee/Menomonee conference, September 12-16.

Invasive species will be just one of the many topics covered at this large conference. Bunker can set up display if it can be sent to him.

- Boos** will send IPAW display to Bunker.

h. Next Board meeting.

- Brenner** will send out Doodle survey to schedule next Board meeting.

Minutes submitted by Amy Staffen, August 8, 2011.