

MINUTES
Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin
Board of Directors meeting
March 26, 2009
3:00 – 5:00
The Nature Conservancy -- Madison

Board members present: Jerry Doll, Tom Hunt, Tom Boos, Amy Staffen, Bob Frank, Brian Pillsbury, Willis Brown, Gene Roark

Others attending: Kelly Kearns, Brendon Panke, Clarissa Hammond, Alycia Crall

Administration

1. Modification and approval of agenda
2. Approval of minutes
Motion to approve January 21, 2009 Board meeting minutes with minor corrections (Boos); second (Frank). Motion carried.
3. Treasurer's Report
Boos reports that our current balance is \$14,949. Since January 2009, we have received \$130 in monetary gifts. We have sold 3 MIPN Naturalist Guides and 6 Czarapata books. Major expenditures include the purchase of laminated display materials (\$130), of MIPN Eastern Plant Brochures (\$1,000; will be sold for \$5 each) and a Prairie Enthusiasts raffle item (\$100 for one performance of Brendon Panke's comedy troupe, which we will use for our annual meeting). We made \$611 at the IPAW conference in February (see item 8 below).
4. Membership Report
Boos and Hammond report that we have 44 new members, 26 of which were secured at the IPAW conference. It is presumed that the remainder (18) resulted from ongoing recruitment efforts by Board members (see item 6 below).

Old business

5. Review of Action Items from January 2009 Board meeting
 - Roark** and **Utegaard** will fill in Jeff Saatkamp on the history of the plant industry relations committee – **Not done**.
 - All Board members** should get started on sending the renewal letter out to individuals that they identified as targets in the expired membership spreadsheet. **Not all Board members have done this. See item 6 below.**
 - ✓ **Hammond** and **Boos** need to review notes and comments already submitted by Board members on Complementary member list and delete those that are clearly inappropriate.
 - ✓ Doll will write a preamble to accompany the affiliated group application form. Kearns will send the preamble and form to all regional groups we know of in Wisconsin to explore their interest in partnering with IPAW.
 - ✓ **Staffen** will continue to work on the door hanger, and will notify Brzekiewicz of the Board's decision regarding this project (see 1/21/09 meeting minutes).
 - ✓ **Feider** will send the list of expired members, with his contact commitments, to Boos.

- ❑ **Kearns** will contact whoever is left on the expired member list. – Not done, because **Boos** did not forward to Kearns.
- ✓ **Hammond** will update the membership list to show who has renewed recently, then email it to all Board members. Board members may note that some of their assigned contacts have not yet responded to their entreaty to renew, and are encouraged to pester them some more.
- ❑ **Renz** will draft a letter encouraging Extension employees to join IPAW. – Renz not present to report on status of this task.
- ✓ **Hammond** and **Boos** need to review notes and comments already submitted by Board members on Comp list and delete those that are clearly inappropriate. – Not done.
- ✓ **Hammond** will add Marsha Vomastic to the complimentary membership list for one year, with a note in the database indicating this can be renewed for as long as Marsha is the IPAW webmaster.
- ✓ **Doll** will send Vomastic news of our decision and thanks for her dedicated service.
- ✓ **Kearns** will assist Crall in promoting the May training workshop through the IPAW Listserv, newsletter, website and conference.
- ✓ **Staffen** will update the conference schedule with more complete details on speakers and presentations, and send out to all Board members in an email. This information will also be posted on the website.
- ✓ **All Board Members** who will attend the conference should consider volunteering to help on the day of the conference. Contact Deb Weidert for volunteer tasks: Debra.Weidert@Wisconsin.gov
- ✓ **Doll** will send out an email survey with a number of possible meeting dates and times.

New business

6. Membership Recruiting Update

Still a few Board members have done this yet, but most have. About 18 members have renewed as a result of these efforts.
7. Board of Directors Recruitment

Now that John Exo has retired from the Board, we need to consider finding a replacement. Kearns suggests that we learn from other successful non-profit organizations that select their Board to fill service needs. Some services that would be helpful include: accounting, tax reporting, marketing. Professional niches were also identified as targets for a future Board member (possible nominees in parentheses): green industry (Nick Armstrong), herbicide industry (Rick Schulte), aquatic invasives (Laura Felda-Marquardt). No action will be taken yet.

 - ❑ **Doll** will solicit Board nominees on the IPAW Listserv.

8. Report on IPAW Conference

About 240 people navigated treacherous roads during an untimely blizzard to attend the IPAW Conference on “Invasive Plants of Grasslands” at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Madison on February 21st. Conference attendees gained knowledge from numerous speakers and exhibits, interacted with friends and colleagues, and enjoyed good catered food. The day was capped off with a social mixer and The Prairie Enthusiasts banquet. Many TPE members who are not IPAW members attended, which indicates that we succeeded in reaching a broader audience than our general membership. It was a great day! We made \$611 on sales of Czarapata books, MIPN laminated weed guides, and income from conference registration and exhibitor fees. Twenty-six new IPAW members were recruited as well.

9. Future Conference Planning

Kearns hasn't heard back from colleagues in Minnesota about a joint meeting. Other ideas for collaboration: Midwest Land Trust Alliance, Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association (September 2010), Wisconsin Association of Lakes, North Central Weed Science Society (in Milwaukee, 2011).

10. Annual Meeting Planning

The Board is considering the Annual Meeting as a trailer to the Training Workshop event (see item 13 below) at the UW-Arboretum in Madison on May 30. Additionally, the Invader Crusader Awards could be tied in with the day's events. Another option considered is to do something in June during ISAM.

- Doll** will firm up a mutually-acceptable plan for the annual meeting through emails to all Board members.

11. Credit Card Payments Update

Boos explains the challenge of having such a system where items are shipped, since charges can vary depending on weight and delivery location. He asks if we can just add a fixed amount to items that will safely cover all delivery parameters. Currently we ask for shipping rates that cover the cost of the envelope and mailing. Proposal is to ask for lump sum in order to simplify the PayPal set-up for mailing books.

12. Invasive Mapping Project

Alycia Crall reports: Loren Ayers (WDNR Bureau of Endangered Resources) can purchase the Garmin GPS units through the State at \$94 each; the grant budget would thus allow the purchase of 32 units. He will also look into getting the PDAs through the State. Crall's colleagues at Colorado College recommend the Hewlett-Packard IPAC 110 Classic. She spoke with Wade Oemichen (WDNR Bureau of Wildlife) about compatibility of PDA with in-office GIS programs. Kearns suggests that each CWMA should get two GPS units each.

- Courtney LeClair** will contact CWMA representatives about receiving GPS units.

13. Invasives Training Workshop – May 30, UW-Arboretum, Madison

Crall reports that workshops will be held on May 30 and 31 (with raindates on June 13 and 14). Thus far, she has recruited 35 citizen scientists and 31 professional botanists to monitor the same plots. She is hoping to recruit 140 citizen scientists total. Although an initial solicitation for funding to help cover event expenses was denied, she continues to seek money from other sources.

- All IPAW Board and Committee Members** will advertise this training workshop.
- Boos/Kearns** will provide appropriate handouts to Crall for this event.

14. Committee Reports

a. Newsletter Committee

Doll reminds us that the upcoming deadline for article submission is April 24.

b. Legislative Committee

Kearns reports that Wisconsin's Invasive Species Rule NR 40 rule is going to the Natural Resources Board (NRB) for approval on April 22. Associated documents will be posted on the WDNR website; Kearns will send out an email with the web address. This website will include a table of the species that were assessed for the rule and the classifications for which they are proposed. The literature reviews that summarize the individual species provide more detail if you are interested in particular species. If NR 40 is approved by the NRB, it will then go to both houses of the state legislature, where they may or may not choose to hold hearings. The earliest the rule could go into effect will be late summer or fall of 2009.

- Kearns encourages **IPAW Board members** to review the material and provide comments to the NRB and/or attend the meeting to speak in person. To speak at the meeting, you need to register the Friday before.

There is also a significant policy rule proposal in the works that will impact invasive species in Wisconsin: SB123 / AB162. Representative Milroy is sponsoring this bill in the Legislature. If passed, it would provide the following changes: i) Allow the WDNR to designate noxious weeds; ii) Allow the WDNR to disperse federal invasive species control funding; and iii) 'Housekeeping' of existing rules (for example, sending garlic mustard to landfills).

- Kearns** will send out an email to IPAW Listserv with information on this bill, and encourage people to extend their support of the bill to their local representative.

15. Set time, date and place for next Board meeting.

- Doll** will send out email to schedule next meeting.

Minutes composed by Amy Staffen, IPAW Secretary, March 29, 2009