

THE OKLAHOMA INVASIVE PLANT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE OFFICERS' & BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
TELECONFERENCE CALL
OCTOBER 30, 2017

Priscilla Crawford called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. Members Karen Hickman, Russell Stevens, Tonya Dunn, Mike Kenna, Lisa Castle, Lydia Calhoun, Jay Pruett, and Candice Miller attended the teleconference call; Curtis Tackett and Mike Porter joined after meeting started.

Priscilla commented on the draft meeting minutes from September 12, 2017; she sent Tonya a copy of the minutes with corrections to typos. A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes as amended; the motion was approved.

President Report

Priscilla passed.

President Elect Report

No activity to report.

Secretary Report

No activity to report.

Treasurer Report

Priscilla reported for Amy Buthod. No transactions have occurred; the balance remains \$11,241.22.

All other Board Members Report

Lisa Calhoun reported giving an invasive species guided walk at the Bio Blitz held at Black Mesa; there were 10 participants.

Annual Meeting Committee Report

Priscilla reported for the Annual Meeting Committee. Priscilla met with OKNRC Committee and proposed holding invasive species symposium during the conference. The date will be dependent upon abstracts submitted. The symposium would be half day and potentially on Wednesday or Thursday afternoon. The OkIPC Business meeting will be at the end of the symposium. The OKNRC Program Committee is trying to ensure no overlap occurs.

Priscilla asked for preference for when the invasive species symposium gets held; Karen recommended a Thursday afternoon, then providing lunch for the OkIPC Business meeting or providing reception before the banquet. Priscilla will report back regarding Thursday afternoon.

Priscilla requested the BOD sponsor the conference; she recommended OkIPC donate \$1000, which has been done in the past. A motion was made to approve the donation; the motion was passed unanimously.

Priscilla informed the BOD that the abstract submission deadline has been extended to mid-November. The Council agreed to pay for students' registration fees. Only 10 student submissions have been received as of last week; Priscilla will email final count so the Council knows the final amount for registration reimbursement.

Karen mentioned contacting Tom Royer with OSU to discuss his role regarding invasive species in Oklahoma for the upcoming Invasive Species Specific Meeting. Timing of the meeting was then discussed; previously it was decided to have it a couple of months apart from the OKNRC meeting. Priscilla noted moving forward with the meeting to be held during the week in the fall.

Karen reported Courtney Dekalb is a new administrator for ODAFF; she will see if Courtney will be able to give an update on what ODAFF is doing for invasive species.

Policy Committee Report

No report for the Policy Committee was given.

Russell inquired about enticing legislators to attend the Invasive Species Specific Meeting. Discussion of the need to reach out and evaluate the economics of invasive species occurred. It may be advisable to hold the Invasive Species Specific Meeting in central Oklahoma to make it convenient for all legislators.

If there is going to be a field trip/hands-on portion of the meeting, it was decided it would need to be on a separate day.

Membership and Public Relations Committee Report

Priscilla reported for the Membership and Public Relations Committee. It was noted no new membership via the eNewsletter has occurred. Priscilla has updated the okinvasives.org website, including the Watch List.

Nomination Committee Report

Karen and Russell reported as co-Chairs of the Nomination Committee. Karen and Russell have a list of eight nominations; most have been confirmed. The Council needs to decide who the candidates will be, the slate of candidates will need to be finalized by mid-November with elections scheduled for mid-January. The current slate of nominees was shared; Karen reminded everyone that candidates can also be written in during the election.

Recruiting new people to be leaders in the Council was emphasized.

Old Business Discussion

Priscilla reported for the Membership Ad-hoc Committee. Priscilla researched online membership management databases and recommended using Joinit.org. The cost for a non-profit organization is approximately \$223 a year; highlights include 1) people can join anytime, 2) the site has an automatic renewal function, 3) the site syncs with Eventbrite, 4) the site uses mail chimp for the eNewsletter, and 5) the site can host a website, which Priscilla will look into.

Research for membership structure, fee schedule, and benefits was also reported. Providing a tangible item upon joining the Council was discussed; a sticker or travel mug were some ideas. Also, offering discounts was discussed.

The membership structure presented to the Council for approval was as follows: General - \$30, Business - \$50, Contributing member - \$75, Honorary member - \$0, Student - \$15, and Institution - \$100. No objection was made to what was presented; the discussion of lifetime membership was deferred to a later date.

The vote to use Jointit.org was passed unanimously. The vote to use the monetary levels of membership was passed unanimously.

Priscilla will send stickers with registration and have member mugs available at the Business Meeting. The Council will need to discuss how to implement the membership fees. There will be a registration fee for the Invasive Species Specific Meeting in the fall, reducing registration cost for fall meeting was discussed.

New Business Discussion

Having a non-paid Executive Director position was discussed; examining the by-laws was recommended. Discussing the Executive Director position and lifetime membership at a later date and changing the by-laws at the same time was recommended. It was requested that exact wording be developed and presented at the second quarter meeting; it would need $\frac{3}{4}$ vote to pass. Priscilla will provide write-up to change by-laws for discussion during first quarter BOD meeting.

Karen reported writing an article for the OK Native Plant Society; she requested Curtis Tackett's assistance.

Announcements

No announcements were made.

The meeting adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tonya N. Dunn, OkIPC Secretary