

## Mid-Atlantic Exotic Pest Plant Council

### Annual Meeting Minutes

August 16, 2005

The meeting was held at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia during the Invasive Plant Conference. John Peter Thompson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and introduced the other officers and board members.

**Officers and Board Members in Attendance and jurisdiction represented:** John Peter Thompson, President; Jil Swearingen; Vice-President, Mary Ann Lawler, Secretary; Faith Campbell, Treasurer; Carole Bergmann (Maryland); Joe Demko (Pennsylvania DOT); Jan Ferrigan (Virginia); Marc Imlay (Maryland); Lisa Smith (Pennsylvania); Michael Van Clef (New Jersey); Jeff Wagner (Pennsylvania); and Steve Young (Virginia).

Not present were: David Dick, (West Virginia), Russ McClain, (West Virginia), Michael Schwartz, (West Virginia), Doug Tallamy (Delaware)

**TREASURERS REPORT** Faith Campbell reported that since the last annual meeting the balance in the MA-EPPC treasury was over \$12,000. Major revenue over the past year was from memberships, the “Plant Invaders” booklets, and t-shirts. Expenses included the reprinting and mailing of the “Plant Invaders” booklet, *website support costs, production of slides for the speakers bureau presentation, some travel support and future costs for publication of the Weed Busters Handbook (was that mentioned? FAITH THINKS WE SHOULD NOT MENTION THE HANDBOOK HERE BECAUSE WE HAVE NOT SPENT THAT MONEY YET – THIS WAS A REPORT ON EXPENSES, NOT BUDGET).*

**Minutes:** The minutes of the last annual meeting (September 29, 2004) were amended and approved.

**Invasive Plant List for the Mid-Atlantic Region:** A motion was made to make the Plant Conservation Alliance, Alien Plant Working Group’s list of Invasive Plants for the Mid-Atlantic Region as its official invasive plant list. The list *currently contains 288 species and* is posted to the APWG’s Weeds Gone Wild web page at <http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/list/midatlantic.htm>. The *mid-Atlantic* list was *extracted* from *the* larger *national database called* “WeedUS: Database of Plants Invading Natural Areas in the United States of America”, produced by Jil Swearingen. The MA-EPPC board previously voted to adopt this list (**still seems like we need to explain why we felt the need to re-adopt**). The motion was seconded and carried.

**By-Laws:** Jeff Wagner summarized the proposed by-law changes to the members. These changes had been distributed by e-mail to the MA-EPPC listserv. Mary Ann Lawler moved that the membership adopt the committee report. The move was seconded and passed by voice vote. The new by-laws will be posted on the MA-EPPC website.

**Strategic Plan:** Jeff Wager also reported on the Board’s work to develop a Strategic Plan, including setting goals, developing vision and mission statements, membership development, board development, grant opportunities, research, relationships with state invasive species councils, and other efforts. The board will continue working on the Plan as our budget allows.

**Nominations/Slate.** Jil Swearingen *read* the Slate of Officers and Board Members, which *had* been sent out to the MA-EPPC listserv for review prior to the conference (*see attached*). *Jil opened the floor to new nominations (there were none).* A motion was made to adopt the slate *as read*. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. *Note: Since this meeting, Brian McDonald declined the board position.*

**Jan Ferrigan** took over chairing the meeting as the new MA-EPPC President.

**Northeastern Weed Science Society.** Lisa Smith announced that the board had agreed to co-sponsor a symposium in January of 2007 with the Northeastern Weed Science Society. The symposium will be held at Harbor Place in Baltimore, MD.

**Website:** Kerrie Kyde volunteered to chair a committee to look into improving the MA-EPPC website with more interactivity and reports. A move was made to refer this proposal to the committee for a future board discussion.

**2006 Symposium:** A brief discussion ensued about holding the 2006 symposium in New Jersey *possibly in cooperation with the Morris County Park Commission which had expressed interest.* **FAITH THINKS WE DISCUSSED THE MORRIS CO OPTION OUTSIDE THE MEETING, NOT DURING THE MEETING** This proposal is being considered by the board. The board will also begin work on *its next biannual* conference to be held in the summer (*or fall?*) of 2007.

**New Jersey Invasive Species Management Plan:** *Marc Matsil* announced that New Jersey is soliciting someone do the writing for the New Jersey Invasive Species Management Plan.

*Sue Salmons, a participant of the meeting, requested that the board consider changing its name to the Mid-Atlantic Invasive Plant Council to follow suit with some other sister organizations like the California Exotic Pest Plant Council which recently changed to the California Invasive Plant Council.*

**Adjournment:** Faith Campbell moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded and carried. The next board meeting will be in September or October.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Ann Lawler, Secretary.