

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Submitted by Katy Marshall

Chairman Dave Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm on Thursday, September 13, 2001.

Thanks were extended to the WIFDWC 2001 Executive Committee: Susan Frankel, Local Arrangements; Alan Kanaskie, Program, Katy Marshall, Secretary; John Schwandt, Treasurer and Judy Adams, Webmaster.

71 people registered for WIFDWC this year. There were also 10 attendees from the North American Forestry Commission, Insect and Disease Study Group. There were 97 people on the field trip, including some spouses who attended.

The minutes of the 2000 WIFDWC business meeting in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii were approved as written.

Committee Reports

Dwarf Mistletoe Committee: Katy Marshall reported that 24 people attended the meeting. The group discussed the future of the dwarf mistletoe program, future research and funding. Details of these discussions and reports on participant's current projects will be described in detail in the committee report in the Proceedings.

Hazard Tree Committee: John Pronos reported that 34 people attended the committee meeting. In May 2001 the committee sponsored a workshop in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho that was attended by 50 people. The agenda and a collection of speaker's summaries are available from John upon request. The Southern chapter of the Society of Arboriculture will have a tree mechanics workshop in Savannah, Georgia in October 2001. An Oregon State University graduate student will attend. The Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team located in Ft. Collins will maintain the Tree Failure database if people will contribute to it. The Hazard tree committee is considering a standing committee to take care of this.

Root Disease Committee: Ellen Goheen reported that 20-something people attended the meeting. Brennan Ferguson presented information about *Armillaria* genets in Idaho versus northeastern Oregon and Blakey Lockman discussed monitoring of ponderosa pine on the Flathead Reservation in Montana. The committee is planning a panel at WIFDWC 2002 on fertilization and tree nutrition relationships to root disease.

Rust Committee: The committee met but did not make a report at the business meeting.

Disease Control Committee: Bob James announced that the committee would meet informally over breakfast on Friday to discuss its future.

Future Meetings

The Railroad Committee announced nominees for officers for WIFDWC 2002: Chairman, Bart van der Kamp; Program, Paul Hennon; Secretary, Brian Geils. These selections were approved, seconded and passed. John Schwandt will continue as Treasurer and Judy Adams will continue to administer the WIFDWC website.

WIFDWC 2002 will be held in Powell River, British Columbia. It will be the 50th anniversary meeting. Stefan Zeglen is in charge of Local Arrangements. Powell River is about 90 miles northwest of Vancouver, B.C. on the mainland along the Strait of Georgia. Access is via airplane from Vancouver or by car and two ferries. Potential dates for the meeting were discussed and September 9-13, 2002 was proposed because would avoid the heavy tourist season. The general consensus was that the Executive Committee should try to schedule the meeting early (August) since it is an "early meeting year" but recognized that it will be up to them to make the final decision. The option of having the meeting over a weekend was proposed. A vote was taken and the proposal was unanimously rejected.

WIFDWC 2003 will be held in southern Oregon. It should be a September meeting. Ellen Goheen will be in charge of Local Arrangements. Potential locations for the meeting were discussed. Ashland, Grants Pass and Diamond Lake Resort were proposed. A vote was taken on locations and there was strong support for holding the meeting in a remote location such as Diamond Lake.

In 2004 WIFDWC will be a joint meeting with the Western Forest Insect Work Conference (WFIWC). It will probably be in the Spring with the location to be selected by the entomologists. Everett Hansen was nominated as Interim Program Chair to work with the entomologists on a joint program. His nomination was approved, seconded and passed. A suggestion was made to try and have integrated sessions.

Old Business

The WIFDWC Outstanding Achievement Award will be presented at the banquet. Greg Filip was nominated to replace Will Littke on the Award committee. The nomination was approved, seconded and passed. The award committee for 2002 will be Bart Van der Kamp, Rona Sturrock and Greg Filip.

In 1999 Fred Baker volunteered to investigate publishing the WIFDWC Proceedings on CD-ROM. The issue was tabled until next year since Fred was not present.

In 2000 there was a proposal to change the name of the Disease Control Committee but the subject was tabled for further discussion. Bob James announced that the committee would discuss the matter at its Friday meeting and put a report in the Proceedings with recommendations to discuss in 2002.

John Schwandt is continuing to investigate getting WIFDWC officially designated by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt educational organization. We currently meet the requirements of a tax-exempt organization, but our level of financial activity does not require us to apply for official designation. However, if we foresee greater financial activity or plan to create endowment funds for scholarships or awards, it might make it easier to solicit donations. The only restriction is on the amount of political lobbying that WIFDWC could do. It would cost \$150 to file for the official designation and we would have to include financial statements and a "conformed copy" of our organizing instrument (our by-laws might work).

New Business

Susan Frankel recommended that WIFDWC register a domain name (e.g. wifdwc.org) and have a WIFDWC website. Bylaws, forest pathology information and links to other organizations and sites could be posted. The cost would probably be about \$75 for 2 years. Someone must maintain the site. The group discussed whether it would be better to have our own website or continue to use the Forest Service website with more and better links added. It was agreed that Dave Shaw and Jerry Beatty will discuss improving access to our current website with Judy Adams and take action and/or report next year.

Stefan Zeglen suggested that WIFDWC appoint an Archivist to collect information that would be of interest for the 50th anniversary meeting next year. During the ensuing discussion it was pointed out that Duncan Morrison is already the official WIFDWC Historian and that John Muir has information about who was at the first meeting. It was suggested that their work be highlighted in the Program. The group decided that the Program Chair, Paul Hennon, should consider suggestions. Ideas included sending special letters to Honorary Life Members (HLMs), inviting 1 or 2 HLMs to speak and possibly offering financial incentives.

Jerry Beatty suggested that WIFDWC consider joint meetings with other regional pathology working groups such as the North Central, Northeastern and Southern Working Groups. It was moved that Jerry Beatty attend the Southern meeting, propose the idea of a joint meeting to them and report back to WIFDWC next year. The motion was approved, seconded and passed.

Everett Hansen suggested that WIFDWC write a letter to universities soon suggesting that they take action to encourage the future of their forest pathology programs. There are pressing issues in western forests; yet many professors are retiring and few new graduate students are appearing. There was a discussion of the issue but no decision was made.

The meeting was adjourned at about 5 pm.