

October 13, 2012
 Orchard Manager's Meeting
 Wachusett Meadow Audubon Sanctuary, Princeton MA

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Yvonne Federowicz, President
 Lois Melican, Vice President
 Kathy Desjardins, Secretary
 Mike Novak, Treasurer
 Denis Melican
 John Meiklejohn
 Brian Clark
 John Mirick
 Elizabeth Hammond

GUESTS

Bob Presutti, Hebert Arboretum
 Doshi
 Daniel Larrabee

MTG OPEN 10: 35	Introductions; Annual Meeting announcements	
NANKING PLANNING	We need to work on this to bring in another line of resistance	
INTERN WORK	<p>John Meiklejohn will need intern help to remove the tree in his current orchard after it's rated, he could use 2 days of intern work to begin roguing out. Moore SP's orchard is due for final selection, then more work will need to be done there. (John Mirick suggested undiluted round-up painted on the stumps to help eradicate stumps. Brian said to watch out for the roundup being transferred underground, as the roots are still alive.)</p> <p>Yvonne will ask Josh about lecanium oak scale, periodic oak tree pest (westerly) seems to have killed chestnut trees also. . Westerly RI could use 2 days of intern work and Brian Clark could use 1 day.</p> <p>There is \$600 left in intern money.</p>	
KENDRA'S SPRING PRESENTATION	<p>NUMBER OF LINES – needs to be looked at this winter. Definite VS probability, the difference is not really there because someone has to be there as the father, which we are not sure of except if you do 8 or 9 replications, there is not that much of a savings possibility. There will be an organized talk later. Science Coordinators have a different idea than Fred's model. John Mirick asked if we are going to do something other than what National does. YF said that we need to get the intellectual ideas on the table.</p> <p>We have some latitude on this as our situation is different – is National on board with this? We should have a conversation with Kendra (Science Coordinator) Are we doing X or Y. Do some of our orchards have too many lines, this contributes to the probabilistic approach.</p> <p>We need a discussion on this topic by preparing material beforehand so that people can know the subject and we need to have a National representative to work on this.</p>	
SEED ORCHARD LIST	GRANVILLE SEED	Telephone poles are there and corners and gate

	ORCHARD	posts are in. Next spring is installation of fencing material; (it is onsite now). Three green manure crops were put in. Still need to order the irrigation material and formalize how it will be laid out.
	SMITH COLLEGE	Although the contractor mistakenly cleared the wrong area, the correct spot will be finished soon. They will use part of an existing field and brush site; fences will be put in this fall and Brian will work with Paul early in November to get this done, then this budget item will be spent. They will use an inclined electric fence.
BOB PRESUTTI	<p>City of Pittsfield has designated Bob Presutti and Jim McGrath as TACF connections in Western Mass. Elizabeth H and Brian Clark had a meeting with Jim McGrath who would like to do something with chestnut. Bob is an arborist specializing in elm trees and has expressed interest in chestnut.</p> <p>So far, the city of Pittsfield may well have an interest in a partnership with TACF. They would like more information on chestnut as a scientific program that could be part of the Pittsfield Arboretum, if we can get the blessings of City Hall.</p> <p>There is talk about the city of Pittsfield leasing land and beginning a chestnut education component with Retired Citizen Volunteer Program (RCVP) at the Pittsfield Arboretum, and Bob suggested a seed orchard there. Water could be a problem, but a water buffalo would easily solve it.</p> <p>Brian said there is a site there that would work, but the challenge would be working through the organization which would be willing to support this and provide the proper backing. They are interested in learning more about the long term commitment.</p> <p>Bob would like to talk to someone from other community groups or a school or college who could help.</p> <p>The next step will be a chestnut presentation, getting local people involved, and explaining our needs and expectations, both legal and cultural.</p> <p>Conservation is a strong city priority, and Bob felt that if they were involved it would be a strong commitment with a long term guarantee. The Volunteer program has members who are eager to jump on any project they are given and they would have a lot of enthusiasm for a chestnut orchard.</p>	
SOUTH KINGSTOWN MT WASHINGTON SITE	Small number of chestnuts this year, they need to be stored this winter	
11:45	Meeting adjourned for site visit to John Mirick's orchard and lunch	

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Board Meeting

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Kathy Desjardins, Secretary
Mike Novak, Treasurer
Denis Melican
John Meiklejohn
Brian Clark
John Mirick
Elizabeth Hammond
Charlotte Zampini

GUEST

Bob Presutti, Hebert Arboretum
Josh Soojian, TACF Intern

<p>TREASURER'S REPORT</p>	<p>Net income is up because of grant money and the fact that we are able to keep moneys from memberships and donations. Last year's figures were distorted because of money owed to us by National from Branch event.</p> <p>BOOKS – will go under an education category. Some books are sold but many are donated. This needs to be noted so that the total for books will remain constant. We will move money as books are donated. This will mean the existing books category will disappear. When anyone sells a book they need to make sure that Mike Novak gets the money ASAP. There will be books donated and books sold.</p> <p>A motion was made, seconded and accepted to change the 2011 practice for 2012.</p> <p>MEMBERSHIPS GIVEN - these will be under "recognition" National is giving Army Corps of Engineers memberships for their sites.</p>
<p>SECRETARY'S REPORT</p>	<p>We have 308 members as of September.</p> <p>The Delasandro's are getting a 5 year complementary membership from National for time put into the Sterling orchard.</p> <p>Margaret Leroux from Old Sturbridge Village interviewed Rufin and wrote a chestnut article.</p> <p>Doshii would like to plant some trees at this school. Lois, Denis & Elizabeth will do a presentation at his school on November 3 in Barre.</p> <p>Eric Morgan from UMass found a 25 foot chestnut tree near his house in Pepperell</p>

	<p>MA and wonders if we want to do anything with this. Charlotte thought that Jamie was going to look at this tree. Eric sent a check for \$10 to buy 10 B3F3 trees - it was agreed to return the check and tell him that we are not selling these trees.</p> <p>Someone from Dover, MA found a tree and nuts; one tree is 24" the other is 18" DBH.</p> <p>Mike Corrigan from Wilmington MA wrote that 20 years ago he planted 20 seeds on his property. Although the trees have cankers they are producing nuts. He harvested 300 nuts and cleared some land to plant these.</p> <p>Kathy brought a sample from Paul Maurice in Dennis, MA which she thought was a hybrid tree. He would like to get chestnut studies into the school where his children are attending, possibly someone could do a presentation there.</p> <p>There is grant money available for certain towns, including Boston – unfortunately this is too soon for us is there any way we could use this grant, like the Chestnut Hill Garden Club? Unfortunately this is too fast for our chapter to use this money.</p> <p>A motion is made, seconded and passed to accept minutes from the Summer Meeting.</p>
<p><u>MORNING MEETING AGENDA ITEMS</u></p> <p>SEED ORCHARDS</p>	<p>DEMO PLANTING – how many seedlings do we have to go in the ground – Rufin has about 6 trees for this purpose.</p> <p>REPORTING ABOUT ROGUING, INNOCULATIONS AND RATINGS – Moore SP has been mostly rogued, Sterling, Grafton, Medway still need to be done next year. Some of the trees that didn't look so good at the end of last year, but these look better this year.</p> <p>Trees in Sterling produced about 10 pounds of nuts; Charlotte is collecting these for Anne Myers for phytophthora testing. These are better than mutt nuts. Lincoln nuts can be put in a seed orchard; Lincoln is Clapper and Sterling is Graves.</p> <p>Charlotte would prefer not to keep things in pots, except to have extras for when we need them. The Lincoln trees are mostly selected and there are 4 lines there. We could also use the Smith Seed Orchard the duplicated Wayland crosses (300.) Wayland has 2 lines and has had controlled crosses in the past. Lincoln has 4 lines, and we also have Tower Hill with Clappers.</p> <p>We'll need to discuss this again, using math, our situation, and which seed orchard is which resistance.</p> <p>For Smith, we can use Clappers from Wayland and Granville and ACE can be a 50/50. The Hawley Orchard will be coming; we have Graves in Granville and Clapper in Rhode Island. Wrentham is not fully selected yet, but we have lots of nuts this year. Tower Hill, Wayland, and Lincoln have been selected.</p> <p>Next year we'll have 3 seed orchards and more than enough nuts for these, can we</p>

	<p>use the rest for forest planting? Charlotte is getting a tally on available nuts. We can talk with Kendra next week at National more about this.</p> <p>We still need Nankings, possibly Brian could put in another line as he has the space. We won't have a lot of Nanking nuts, we're getting up to 10 and this could be enough.</p> <p>There are a couple of spots in Uxbridge and could put Nankings into a rogued out site; we have about 232 – 250 nuts. Yvonne is planning to take some down to National for phytophthera testing. The disease resistance so far is coming from the Chinese parents.</p> <p>Some pollinations were lost due to predation - Charlotte has copper mesh in a tube that you could put around the bag. In Maine they used a lobster net to prevent this.</p>
LEGAL INFO ABOUT SEED ORCHARDS	<p>Granville Seed Orchard is set to go.</p> <p>South Kingstown has the amendment with the water district however they still need to sign their agreement with us.</p> <p>ACE is working to get this approved by their chain of command.</p>
GRANT	<p>As of the summer, we have \$4,875 less \$727 with \$4,148ish left. Of that \$700 is for Granville with about \$754 for irrigation. This does not include a 4 zone system which means a timer at the field end with 3 – 4 valves which would add about a few hundred more bringing the total to around \$900. We should get this wrapped up by the end of this month.</p> <p>Smith irrigation and fence still needs to be done. We hope to get this grant again next year. We'll call this the Mountain Grant or MT Grant for reference.</p> <p>A motion is made, seconded and approved for \$500 to extend our intern, Josh who is available through the winter. There are no time constraints on this funding.</p>
NON GRANT THINGS	<p>Lois has purchased an LCD projector for use with a PC and Kathy has a screen so we are set for presentations.</p> <p>Banners from Paul Franklin at National would be \$900. George would charge \$825 for these, which are great for demonstration booths. If we purchase these banners we could use them at many different events.</p> <p>.</p> <p>A motion was made, seconded and approved to purchase these banners.</p> <p>Elizabeth H would like to send thank you cards to people who donate items to the Silent Auction. She would like to purchase these – the amount for 4x6 cards with envelopes will be small.</p>
MEETINGS	<p>We have the opportunity to use the Wachusett Meadow Audubon Sanctuary once each year. It would be easiest for them if we decided upon what time of year we would meet here, fall seems to be a good time of year. They would like to have a chestnut tasting party there.</p>
PRESENTATIONS	<p>Lois suggested creating different presentations geared to different audiences. If everyone could send in their best pictures and date these we could divide them by year and by event for future reference and use.</p>
FOREST	<p>Mike N said we need forest planting experience. We should think about this before</p>

<p>PLANTING SUBCOMMITTEE</p>	<p>we start using good nuts. Maybe it's time to start with micro openings in the forest. Charlotte Z would like to contrast this with larger forest openings and doesn't think they need a subcommittee for this; we can discuss at meetings and thought that we established a protocol for this 5 years ago. We should check with Kendra to make sure that we are in compliance with National. Yvonne said there is a website that talks about this, and we need to be practical about this. The only thing Charlotte sees that could be an issue is the germplasm agreement. These could be brought to our board for approval.</p> <p>John Mirick thought that records indicating the germplasm agreement, whether they are planting nuts or seeds, where they came from, when they were planted, type of protection, etc. could be created in excel spreadsheets that could be shared. We could use standardized data sheets and monitor these 1, 2 and 5 years later.</p> <p>Denis M thought that if we have a place in mind with a germplasm agreement, could we use our intern to go in and create spaces? Charlotte Z thought it best to use natural occurrences or clear-cut places.</p> <p>Would Elizabeth like to be in charge of collating these facts and a list of possibilities? Charlotte, Josh, Elizabeth, Rufin would like to be on this sub-committee. Possibly Elizabeth H could create this document and we could edit it at our next meeting.</p>
<p>ANNUAL MEETING</p>	<p>We have reserved November 18 at Westboro Senior Center. Bryan Burhans is the keynote speaker with Chestnuts 101 by Brad. Charlotte Z will do a "chestnut roundup."</p> <p>Possibly Kendra can present something from the chestnut symposium. There may also be something from the board meeting at National that we can speak to at that meeting.</p> <p>We decided to do a chestnut potluck, similar to last year for the meal.</p>
<p>SILENT AUCTION</p>	<p>Could the board donate anything to the silent auction? Guy brought clipboards to the last meeting, but Kathy said that the engraving would cost another \$25 a piece for laser engraving. If there are donations from companies like Costco and OESCO (orchard supply) they need a letter of acknowledgment.</p>
<p>Election</p>	<p>The board has 19 people again this year. A motion will have to be made to suspend the MA/RI TACF board members whose terms expire in 2012 who have gone past their 4th reelection in a row (8 years)</p> <p>The list of nominees include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brian Clark (no term limit exemption) Jamie Donalds Rich Hoffman Gary Jacob John Meiklejohn Mike Meixsell Guy Shepard Brad Smith <p>John Mirick suggested changing the bylaw about term limits at the annual meeting to</p>

	<p>eliminate this annual issue. This should be on the agenda and we would probably need to publish it.</p> <p>Yvonne will send the Annual Meeting agenda to all members to ensure a good turnout for the meeting.</p>
ANNUAL NATIONAL MEETING	<p>There will be meetings for board members on Thursday, and local chapter meetings on Friday.</p>
REGIONAL N.E. MEETING ROUNDUP	<p>There was some interesting genetics at this meeting – the fact that the genetic work is where it is, is good news – no one has attempted to move genes like this, and this will prove of great interest very soon.</p> <p>Seed orchard presentations have been done, Maine has all their seed orchard eggs in one basket so to speak. Eric and Glen Rhea are putting multiple blocks in one orchard they are not spreading this out over a lot of areas. Mike N thinks this is too few areas to have, we will have more places.</p>
NON PROFIT	<p>Should we join Environmental Council of Rhode Island information coordination and other benefits? Membership is \$60.</p> <p>New England Grows has a group fee for a table - no membership is needed.</p>
SYMPOSIUM	<p>Brian C said that genomics have developed a leaf assaying technique for judging resistance. You take the leaf and wash it with a Clorox solution, to get rid of fungus on the leaf. Make a cut in the underside of the vein and put inoculum on this then put them into Tupperware and store for 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 days, then measure blight on the stem and you can predict the degree of blight that way. Not as efficient as inoculation but it may be a way to do a rough screening early.</p> <p>Sara talked to a presenter about getting together to do a workshop on this. Charlotte Z said we could do this on an uninoculated orchard and use both techniques to compare.</p>
OSV	<p>Denis said that the trees there look great, but they are out of brochures. Maybe Lois & Denis can pick up these from National.</p>