

Hamilton County CISMA Meeting Agenda/Notes September 2020

1) **Welcome**

- a) Welcome new attendees!
- b) About Today's Meeting
- c) Updates on Claire and Andrew
 - i) Claire will be coming back part time, remotely, in the next few weeks and will be here for next month's meeting.
 - ii) Andrew is happy in California!

2) **Upcoming events, event summaries, important dates**

- a) CISMA Conference update: HIP was recognized as one of the 2020 Weed Wrangler Awardees by Mary. Each regional specialist was able to nominate someone in the region. She was impressed by the number of partners and different people involved in HIP. Mary acknowledged how we obtained funding for Andrew/Taylor's position, our strategic planning and thoughtful organization of our group, etc. Cooperation comes from good lasting partnerships. Thanks Mary!
- b) ICP Central Invasives Training (Mary) – Sept. 3rd, Online
 - i) Registration is now full.
 - ii) Taylor will do an intro including a plug for HIP
- c) Quarterly Meetings: November 12 from 1:30 to 2:30pm

3) **Education Station – CCPR Joanna and Lana Purple Loosestrife**

- a) CCPR had an issue with purple loosestrife in Central Park all around the lagoon. They cut the plants, sprayed them, double bagged them in black plastic, and left out in the sun to destroy the seeds
- b) Signup – who would like to share & teach at the next meeting? Choose a topic you'd like to discuss.
 - i) Parameters:
 - (1) 10 to 15 minutes.
 - (2) Discusses an invasive species, a topic related to invasive species management, a tool used to manage invasives, etc.
- c) Laura and Phil will be presenting next time.

4) **Outreach**

- a) Tech. Committee is still requesting that each CISMA member signup with Mary/Taylor for an invasives species assessment.

5) **Partner Updates**

- a) SWCD – Taylor and Claire
 - i) The best way to build resilience: Tree sale—The SWCD tree sale is open and accepting orders for 35 species of native trees and shrubs. The sale is the District's biggest fundraiser and those proceeds are what allows the District to support HIP currently so please encourage people to order!
 - ii) New outreach coordinator—depending on how they chose to utilize their time at the SWCD this could be a good asset for HIP.
- b) SICIM/III – Mary

- i) Some people are gearing up for weed wrangles next year.
- ii) Some CISMAS are having socially distanced gatherings outside at shelters.

6) Committee Updates

a) Education – General updates

- i) Break out meeting after HIP meeting.

b) Technical – General updates

- i) Taylor recognized Kim Gauen for stepping up and taking charge. He's been keeping everything organized while her capacity is lowered due to the challenges at the SWCD.
- ii) Survey updates: The committee is putting the results into a better format and creating graphs
- iii) Survey fact checking: Kim has been reaching out to biologists, ecologist, and other professionals to see if their input matches the survey. They do! Kim noted that many talked about pear in Hamilton county and its rapid spread, which is distinct in this county.
- iv) Strike team: The committee has reached out to leaders of strike teams, or a group of educated volunteers. These take a long time to form, gather people, train. They hope to have a team by next year. Kim noted the bonds that form when you work together. This could be good bonding for our group—a topic discussed at the CISMA conference.
- v) Redefining goals: Under new leadership the TC is redefining the goals back to the original purpose of the committee and ensuring they're all on reasonable timelines.
- vi) Technical Assistance: The committee is figuring out how to redirect questions to the right resources. The group is looking to compile resources that are accurate to Hamilton county into a library of sorts.
- vii) Education: The technical committee has a lot of educational ideas and are figuring out which committee should handle them.
- viii) Hosting guest Brenda Howard from Indianapolis Public Works (Eagle Creek Strike team). Will report back in October.
- ix) Possibly promoting herbicide licenses.
 - (1) You can only be commercially licensed if you work for a business, but we may be able to do this through HIP. We wouldn't be *commercially* licensed, but for our purposes we likely wouldn't need to be.
 - (2) Lana shared that Extension has canceled all of their in-person classes and nothing currently planned for 2021. There are some classes online but not the ones we need. Alternatively, you can buy a manual and learn it on your own, and then take the test in person. However, there has been an update to the core requirements that went into effect yesterday. The new core manual is not available yet. She will let us know when the new version is available.
 - (3) Dorrie and Joana shared that they studied the manuals to take the test and would be willing to share the manuals with anyone who'd like to borrow them.

- c) Joanna: CCPR is creating a park stewardship page with FAQs they get at the parks a lot. HIP would listed as a partner. She would like to have our official website (non swcd) for that if possible. Good for branding. Hoping that their volunteers will start turning to HIP. They have a marketing team.
- 7) Next meeting(s):
- a) HIP – October 7th at Noon
 - b) Education Committee – After the next HIP meeting
 - c) Technical Committee – September 16th and October 14 at 2:30

Attendees:

- Taylor Wilson
- Mary Welz
- Kim Gauen
- Lana Ramer
- Joanna Woodruff
- Phil Flannagan
- Laura McCloughan
- Julia Kemnitz
- Lisa Meek