

Notes for 10/16/22 SGH Leadership Team Meeting

This quarterly Leadership Team meeting for Board Members, Officers, Program Manager, and Lead Facilitators was held at Dahlonega Chamber of Commerce, 342 Hill St., Dahlonega, GA, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Participants were Chris Curtin, Darrell Sheffield, John Shearouse, Kat Carey, Dave Teffeteller, Jon Jones, Betty Larsen, Holly Cochran, Buz Stone and Donna Shearer. Jody Webb, Todd Jackson, Renee Gracon, Jimmy Stewart, Dara Sinclair, Nick Gardener, Kim Wood, Robert Patchett, Elliott Segall, Lee Higgins, Jim Wentworth, Derrick Morris, Cary Allen, Bob Pledger, Ray Lorenzi, Jim Heilman, Alan Barnes, and Al Battle were unable to attend.

BOARD MATTERS

* **Buz Stone** called the meeting to order and took roll. Meeting notes from the 7/17/22 meeting were approved. The agenda for the 10/16/22 meeting was approved.

* Amendments to SGH Bylaws

The following amendments were presented and approved with no objection:

1) "The Board of Directors is authorized to appoint *ad hoc* committees from time to time to handle issues that may arise between scheduled meetings. An *ad hoc* committee, composed of no fewer than three nor more than seven Directors, may be formed for purposes deemed appropriate by the Board and tasked to research and recommend resolutions to the Board Chairperson within a specified time frame. The Board Chairperson will then call a special meeting of the Board to approve or disapprove the *ad hoc* committee's recommendations.

Ad hoc committees formed between meetings will present issues and recommendations to the Board Chairperson via email. Voting by the Directors will take place via email or ZOOM."

2) "The Board is authorized to hire employees, part time and full time, under such terms and conditions as approved by the Board of Directors; provided that the compensation of such employees be reasonable and comparable to the compensation paid to similar positions for similar work in the area; and further provided that the hiring would not result in a conflict of interest as provided by the Bylaws."

REVIEW OF FY 2022 STRATEGIES & ACTIVITIES

* **Progress Report** as of 9/30/22:

- All 19 HWA-infested Georgia counties in native hemlock range now served by our Hemlock Help Program.
- Hemlock Help Line available 7 days a week with 639 calls handled to date.
- 5 Hemlock Help Clinics with total of 24 attendees.
- 4 Facilitator Training Workshops with total of 13 new Facilitators trained.
Total active Facilitators = 415 in Georgia and 93 in other states.
- 7 Presentations for 160 adults
- 12 Customized training sessions for 25 volunteers and public land managers
- 9 Festivals & public events with 68 volunteers and estimated 1,002 visitors
- 18 Articles / news items written by, with the assistance of, or about SGH published in newspapers/magazines
- 123 Facilitator visits made with charitable treatment of 786 trees
- 30 hemlock treatment projects with 186 volunteers treating 5,583 trees
- 6 sapling rescue projects with 32 volunteers, 455 saplings rescued and potted for use in educational / service activities or future adoption
- 190 hemlock saplings adopted
- 123 saplings donated to schools, churches, nonprofits
- 5 hemlock sapling planting projects with 26 volunteers planting 58 donated hemlocks
- 12 soil injectors repaired/refurbished
- Total of 4,946 volunteer hours logged



REVIEW OF FY 2022 FINANCIAL MATTERS as of September 30, 2022

*** Income in 2022**

	Contrib Indiv	Contrib Member	Contrib Found	Contrib Non Profit	Contrib In Kind Goods	Contrib In Kind Svc	Contrib Corp	Gov Reimb
2022 INC BY SOURCE	\$1,096.00	\$39,490.24	\$2,385.99	\$2,914.63	\$1,736.00	\$1,200.00	\$760.12	\$0.00
2022 INC BY PERCENT	2.21%	79.64%	4.81%	5.88%	3.50%	2.42%	1.53%	0.00%
Total Income	\$49,582.98							

*** Expense in 2022**

	11 Educ Clinics	12 Educ Facil Trng	13 Educ Comm Progs	16 Public Comm	14 Saplings	15 Treatment	51 Gen Admin	52 Memb & Fund Raising
2022 EXP BY CATEGORY	\$66.21	\$416.51	\$8,062.85	\$3,540.51	\$4,002.89	\$9,197.65	\$4,342.21	\$803.22
2022 EXP BY PERCENT	0.22%	1.37%	26.49%	11.63%	13.15%	30.22%	14.27%	2.64%
Total Expense	\$30,432.05							

*** Spending Ratio** as of 9/30/22: 39.71% Education, 43.38% Charitable Service, 19.91% Admin.
Cumulative Spending Ratio: 43.59% Education, 46.97% Charitable Service, 9.44% Admin.

*** Report on Annual Membership Appeal** as of 9/30/22: 130 donations totaling \$27,328

Education Program

Training structure was reorganized after Q2 meeting with the goals of presenting the appropriate level of information to various audiences in a manageable time frame, attracting new members, and increasing participation. The original 5-hour Facilitator Training Workshop was split into a Hemlock Help Clinic (approx. 1 to 1 ½ hr) and a shortened Facilitator Training Workshop (approx. 3 to 3 ½ hr). The new Clinic is designed to provide awareness information to general audiences; it also includes one easy treatment method (CoreTect tablets) for those who are interested. With the Clinic as a prerequisite, the new Facilitator Training Workshop is designed for individuals who want more in-depth training either to become new volunteers or to strengthen their current volunteer skills and knowledge. The scope has been broadened to now present a variety of service opportunities related to education, festivals, outreach, saplings, and organizational support.

FESTIVALS/OUTREACH

Q3 Fall Festival season saw difficulty in recruiting volunteers to set up and work in our booth. After discussion, the group decided it may be best to cut Appalachian Trail Day at Brasstown Bald and Hemlock Day at Anna Ruby Falls. It was suggested that we try setting up at farmers’ markets such as Blairsville, Canton, or Dahlonega.

Foxfire Mountaineer Festival was postponed this year due to Hurricane Ian, and SGH had to forfeit participation due to scheduling conflicts.

Next Festival: Boy Scout Conservation Weekend on Nov. 10-12 w/ **Elliot Segall** and **Robert Patchett**.

TREATMENT

*** Rabun Projects in Q3**

Buz received permission from GA Power to treat at Lake Tugaloo boat launch, Lake Seed campground, and Lake Rabun undeveloped shoreline. On 10/10/22, **Buz, Holly**, and a private contractor treated roughly 30 trees at Lake Tugaloo boat launch and 70-80 trees at Lake Seed campground with Imidicloprid (soil injection). On those requiring additional treatment, Safari was applied by trunk spray. Approximately 50 trees on the Lake Rabun shoreline were treated with Safari trunk spray, and the remaining dozen trees will be completed in 2-3 weeks.

*** Remaining USFS Treatment Projects in Q4**

- Helton Creek w/ Jim Wentworth Oct. 22
- Tallulah River Campground w/ Jon Jones Nov. 6
- Dick's Creek w/ Jon Jones late November project to be rescheduled

SAPLINGS

*** Planting Projects**

- Pending permission from GA Power, 50 saplings will be planted along the shoreline of Billy Goat Island on Lake Burton.
- Thirty saplings will be donated to UNG and planted at the Dahlonega Hurricane Creek Research Station for riparian work at their field insectary. A large tree will also be planted with a large educational sign on the UNG campus the same day, and a \$2,000 grant will be presented to the UNG Environmental Protection Lab.
- Twenty 20 saplings will go to our nursery in Pickens County. Five large trees are pre-sold and will be delivered to their new owners during the first week of November.

*** Sapling Rescue Projects**

The three sapling nursery managers are requested to contact any of the potential local sources we know of that haven't been contacted yet, determine if they are still willing to share their little trees with us, and schedule digging/potting dates before the end of 2022. In addition, they are requested to provide a tree count as of the end of 2022.

2023 MEETING DATES

- Sunday, January 8
- Sunday, April 16
- Sunday, July 9
- Sunday, October 8 or 15

Starting at 1:00 p.m.
Dahlonega Chamber of Commerce
342 Hill Street, Dahlonega