

SELNA Summer Meeting Notes

Aug 25, 2022 | LSU AgCenter HRS | 21549 Old Covington Hwy, Hammond, LA 70403

Attendance

Present

Dub's Nursery, Louisiana Growers, Mizell's Camellia Hill Nursery, Norris Nursery, and Westfarms Nursery, LLC

Absent

Arcola Nursery, Bamboo Company Nursery, LLC, Bracy's Nursery, Brumfield's Nursery, CJ's Nursery, Flower Pot Nursery/Gene's Greenhouses, LaCroix Nursery, Reeve's Nursery, Seal Nursery and Landscape, Stelz Nursery, Straughn Nursery, Sunshine Nursery, The Topiary Nursery, and Windmill Nursery, LLC

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM by SELNA Vice President, Derek Moore. SELNA President, Alain Flexor was not in attendance.
2. Rick made a motion to accept the July 20, 2021 meeting minutes and Paige Mizell seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
3. SELNA Treasurer, Susan Webb, provided a treasurer's report. The association has \$13,176.11 in the bank. Paige Mizell made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Rick Webb seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
4. Dr. Jeb Fields provided an LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station update. Dr. Damon Abdi was hired last year to work with horticulture professionals as an LSU AgCenter Extension Specialist. Dr. Mary Helen Ferguson is doing horticulture work in Washington Parish and fruit and vegetable work in Tangipahoa Parish. Mr. Clark Robertson is doing horticulture work in Livingston and Tangipahoa Parishes. The Spring Plant sale was a huge success and brought out 1600 people to the Station. A Fall Fest and Plant sale are planned for October 8, 2022. The 2022 Horticulture Field on July 22 was a success despite the early morning rain. A total of 4 horticultural graduate students have current experiments being conducted at the station and these studies were presented at the field day. The station has just recently started cleaning up from Hurricane Ida. More than 150+ pine trees were completely damaged throughout the property. The fall LSU AgCenter will be hosting a Grower Education Meeting at the 2023 Gulf States Horticultural Expo in Mobile, AL.
5. The LNLA sponsored lunch and held a board meeting (2nd time in conjunction) at the Hort Field Day event at HRS on July 22 with good participation. The next LNLA board meeting is scheduled for October 5, 2022. There are a total of 565 members as of today. Landscape education day planned for October 6 in Ruston, LA. LNLA was a host state for GSHE in 2022 and will get the next two year off. Next year GSHE will take place January 18-20, 2023. GALA event on June 24 at City Park in NOLA was a huge success. Form rough estimations they netted about 25k. The Foundation purchased a PA system to be housed at HRS and has a board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, Aug 31, 2022. The next LNLA newsletter will feature a section on Buddy Lee and his picture will be on the cover. LADF and Commissioner Strain have set aside \$100k to conduct an

economic impact study of the green industry. They will be working closely with LNLA to plan and conduct.

6. Susan Webb presented a spreadsheet on 2021 Folsom Fall Festival financials. The festival netted a \$653.41 profit in 2021. Which was higher than the 2021 Spring show and lower than the 2020 fall show.
7. Mary Mizell made a motion for SELNA to officially hold the 2022 Folsom Fall Festival on Saturday October 29, 2022 at Midway Church Park in Folsom, LA from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM. Dana Moore seconded the motion.
8. The last "traditional" SELNA tradeshow event was held at HRS in September 19, 2019. There were 14 exhibitors at that show. In 2020 a "drive by" trade show event was held but very little attendance. No trade show occurred in 2021. The Landscape Pest Management Recertification event at HRS is on February 16, 2023 and might be a good day to hold a SELNA Trade Show event. SELNA Trade Show committee will be: Will Afton, Paige Mizell, Susan Webb, and Nancy Jenkins. Mary Mizell made a motion to table the SELNA Trade Show discussion until next meeting. Rick Webb seconded the motion.
9. If any SELNA member needs Nursery Locator Maps contact Paige Mizell. There are roughly 2 cases (~1000) of maps remaining. A box was left with HRS to make available to industry members while attending events at HRS.
10. SELNA website is online and working. Susan Webb is handling webmaster duties. It would be nice for nurseries to send in up-to-date photos so that each nursery webpage looked updated. Send them to rick@lanativeplants.com and she will get them posted.
11. Current officers
 - President - Alain Flexor (1st)
 - Vice President – Derek Moore (1st)
 - Secretary – Will Afton
 - Treasurer – Susan Webb
 - Board – Dana Moore (1st)
 - Board – Allen Owings (2nd)
12. New business
 - a. Rick made it known that he would like to see attendance included with the meeting minutes. Secretary will now include member nurseries who were in attendance and those who were absent.
 - b. David Norris made a motion that SELNA donate \$250 LNLAFSR in Pat Newman's name and a donation to Magnolia Park in David Mizell's name for \$250. Dana Moore seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
 - c. Three out of the five nurseries in attendance questioned the intentions of HRS producing and selling plant material at plant sale events. Dr. Fields was asked if he ever considered it to be direct competition with in-state producers. Dr. Fields discussed the event with several stakeholders and no issue was raised.
13. Dana Moore made a motion that the next SELNA membership meeting will take place at the HRS for Thursday, November 3, 2022 at 6:00 PM. Rick Webb seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
14. Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM