

## Minutes of the inaugural UAA Australia meeting

### ISAAC Conference – Geelong, 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2006 Geelong Racecourse

#### Attendees

Name	Company	Name	Company
Andy Marinkovic	Active Tree Services	Brett Bain	Bendigo - City of Greater
Brendan Murphy	Active Tree Services	Les Miller	Citipower
Dean Vos	Active Tree Services	Rob McDowell	Eastern Tree Service
Mark Willcocks	Active Tree Services	Paul Holmes	Energy Australia
Stephen Burley	Active Tree Services	Rick Martin	Energy Australia
David Beattie	Advanced Arbor Services	Salena Knight	Energy Australia
Matthew Page	Advanced Arbor Services	Craig Hallam	ENSPEC Environment & Risk
Carl Rogers	Asplundh Tree Expert	Bob Tate	ISA - USA
Darren Payne	Asplundh Tree Expert	Jim Skiera	ISA - USA
Greg Reed	Asplundh Tree Expert	Brett Hudd	Moreland City Council
Mark Armistead	Asplundh Tree Expert	Terry Kerr	Moreland City Council
Nicholas Houghton	Asplundh Tree Expert	John Cbbbett	Newagearbor
Andrew Wright	Auroa Energy	Campbell Brooke	Power Clear P/L
Mike Langridge	Aurora Energy Tasmania	Mark Sanderson	Power Clear P/L
Cliff Lee Ceong	Australian Urban Tree Services	Richard Scholten	Powercor
Wayne Larman	Australian Urban Tree Services	Judy Fakes	Ryde College of Tafe
David Grant	Ballarat City of	Anthony Hibbs	SP Ausnet
Gary Berry	Banyule City Council	Peter Scotto	SP Ausnet
Paul Fitzgerald	Banyule City Council	Jarrid Willcocks	Treescape Australia
Peter Armistead	Banyule City Council	Adam Stratnairn	Vemco
Ramon Hatcher		Mark Collett	Western Power

Introduction: Craig Hallam

- Recently visited the US and met with the ISA and the UAA, Australia has the full support of the UAA to start UAA Australia which will be a direct division of ISAAC.

Bob Tate – Guest UAA USA.

- The UAA is the largest growing affiliated group of ISA in US.
- The UAA has a quarterly magazine to keep you up to date.
- Has a strong international reputation and recognition.
- Utility specialist certification – is a management training program, directed at supervisors and more senior. Minimum 2 years experience to gain certification
- To become a certified utility arborist requires 36 units – 6 have to be in “Utility” specialty.
- Director Derek Vannice of the ISA is very experienced in industry and will help in anyway with the UAA in Australia

Jim Skiera – Guest ISA

- At the annual ISA conference there are specific UAA workshops and presentation for the UAA running over the 2 days, at times more attend these presentations than the municipal arborist sessions.
- It is a great advantage and there is a strong need for utility owners to be committed to contract specifications – also to sort out training.
- The UAA and contractors has led to recognition that utility work is a serious occupation.
- Many members are utility owners who will definitely get an advantage – can belong as a company with nominated
- Create a arboriculture and environmentally friendly logo for UAA Australia, *(move this bullet point down it belongs under goals)*

Options 5 goals

- Industry training urgently needed including CATT with arborists/utility arborists, this will help with a career in the industry. Training needs to be standardised across Australia.
- Customer relations/marketing package
- Local Government / improve communications and relationship, start working together
- Involve the regulators from each state and territory
- Help Utilities to understand the role of vegetation management business from a world scale.

Further discussion

- Bring US information into Australia
- Opportunities for Australian members to visit US members and see first hand all sectors of the industry
- UAA is attracting funds from ISA for research
- Tree Line USA – please explain The Tree Line USA program is sponsored by The National Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters. It recognizes public and private utilities that demonstrate practices that protect and enhance community forest
- With regard to national training for vegetation it was noted that we were approaching a national standard NEMS 29 – ENA Draft Guidelines for Safe Vegetation Management Work Near Live Overhead Powerlines
- This is about personal and equipment clearance issues
- ISAAC will set up forum on website

General Business

- 1 day of general forum of ISAAC and The UAA so we include municipal arborists, regulators
- Utilise past programs from UAA and present in Australia
- Get a utility person to talk about right tree, right place
- 2 day conference
- Who is responsible for tree trimming in US – all down to utility for all trees across the whole country
- ISA certification does not align with AQF and we would still require AQF however it was noted that ISA is on going training
- Join UAA through ISAAC as ISAAC is fully supporting the UAA in Australia and ISAAC wants to help build a united front through the arboriculture industry

## **OUTCOME OF MEETING**

A working committee to be established from volunteers at the inaugural meeting to progress UAA A through to the next ISAAC conference to be held in Perth in May 2007.

Meeting closed at 12.15 pm

### **Working Committee meet at 12.30 to 1.00pm**

The volunteers for the working group meet and had a discussion, one key outcome was the current working committee will work up until the next meeting in May 07, whereupon members of UAA A will be nominated/elected to represent the UAA A on a term/period to be determined in the future.

The working group self nominations from the floor are:

Brendan Murphy	brendanm@activetreeservices.com.au
David Beattie	david@arborservices.com.au
Carl Rogers	carlrogers@asplundh.com.au
Wayne Larman	
Rob McDowell	rmcdowell@easterntrees.com
Paul Holmes	PHolmes@energy.com.au
Salena Knight	Sknight@energy.com.au
Craig Hallam	craig.hallam@enspec.com
Mark Sanderson	mspowerclear@bigpond.com
Judy Fakes	judy.fakes@tafensw.edu.au

The working group's key objectives through to May 2007 in no given order are:

- ✓ Build a plan to bring the Utility industry together across Australia including all sectors
- ✓ Select topical speakers to present at the 2007 ISAAC UAA A Conference in Perth
- ✓ Investigate Training options for the industry
- ✓ Develop communications with Councils and the Public
- ✓ Liaise with the UAA and ISA and glean as many publications for circulation through Australia, using ISAAC "The Bark"
- ✓ Develop a Logo for UAA A