

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies**  
**April 11, 2015 Meeting**  
**Gainesville, FL**

The meeting was called to order at the Oak Hammock at the University of Florida, hosted by the Gainesville Bromeliad Society at 12:59pm by Council Chair, Kay Klugh.

In attendance: Barbara Partagas (BSI Director, BSSF), Sudi Hipsley (SBTPS), Rick Ryals (FECBS), Teresa Cooper (UFL), Jay Thurrott (BSI President, Representing Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay), Vicky Chirnside (CBS), Carolyn Schoenau (GBS), Ron Schoenau (GBS), David Johnson (SBS), John O'Steen (SBS), Ben Klugh (BSCF), David Silverman (GBS), Sandy Burnett (GBS)  
Non represented societies: Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society

Reports & Updates:

- Minutes of our January 10, 2015 meeting were accepted with no corrections or additions. Motion made by Ben Klugh, Second by Jay Thurrott. Unanimous consent.
- Treasurer Report presented by Sudi Hipsley was filed for audit. A \$100 donation was received from the Broward Bromeliad Society.
- Webmaster Report, Michael Andreas was unable to attend this meeting but communicated by email with Chair, Kay Klugh that work continues on the website. He invited us to visit Oscar Ribeiro's website, <http://imperialis.com.br>.
- Newsletter Report, Carol Wolfe was unable to attend but communicated by email with Chair, Kay Klugh to submit information and articles no later than April 30<sup>th</sup>, for inclusion in the next council newsletter. Many accolades were expressed by the representatives present for the last issue, completed by Carol.
- Weevil Research, Teresa Cooper presented a written report of her most recent work. Her request to the FL Council Weevil Committee was approved (\$844.97) and includes the construction of (3) three large cages, containing 50-80 clean (non-infested) *T. utriculatas*, in an effort to grow out and produce seed for future disbursement. Bromeliad weevils brought back from Belize have grown from 39 to 81 individuals. Work continues on developing and researching methods using repellants, augmentative biological control and insecticides to control the weevil in several different areas of Florida.
- Council Roster, Susan Sousa was unable to attend but provided a draft document of the council roster that she asked we proof for information about our respective clubs, meeting dates and times. It's anticipated the roster will mail in May to 552+/- members. A total of 600 rosters will be printed. Some discussion regarding the number of times a members name would appear in the roster, who is a member of multiple clubs ensued. A motion, made by Ben Klugh and second by Sandy Burnett, that the name appear only once, failed. The motion, made by Jay Thurrott and second by David Johnson, that the name appear for each individual club that the member is registered in, passed.
- BSI News, President Jay Thurrott, reports that the international society has some changes among its officers and directors. Paul Wingert (former US States Western Director) has assumed the role of BSI Recording Secretary upon the resignation of Sara Donayre.

This subsequently created a US Western States Director vacancy, in which Pennrith Goff has been appointed. Thomas Vincze has also been appointed a US Western States Director. The BSI had in the last year used the services of a website design/service company to clean and update portions of its website. Software updates have required that current members re-register (online) for access to the 'members only' portion of the website. Shortly, content and updating of the website will be completed by the BSI Website Steering Committee under the direction of Eric Gouda, International Director, Netherlands.

#### Old Business:

- Results of Council Audit, Ben Klugh reports that he found all banking records in excellent order. Audit complete.
- Bank Account Signers, Sudi Hipsley has completed the paperwork necessary to have Kay Klugh and Betsy McCrory as authorized signers to the Council banking accounts at SunTrust Bank.
- Online Banking, Sudi Hipsley was directed to open two online accounts with Ally Bank at our last council meeting. Unfortunately Ally Bank does not allow commercial accounts.
- Extravaganza 2015 – Barbara Partagas reports that the Bromeliad Society of South Florida has prepared a 'Save the Date' card, registration form, hotel information page and a tentative schedule for the Extravaganza. She distributed these documents and reminded us that this information may also be found on the council website and their society web-page.
  - The South Florida Society is looking for volunteers in a number of areas at the Extravaganza and she request that representatives promote this opportunity to your individual club members, those interested should contact Mike Michalski.
  - Provided a form for each society to take an ad in the Extravaganza program, please respond before July 26<sup>th</sup>. Ben Klugh made a motion, second by Sandy Burnett for the Council itself to take a full page, inside cover ad for \$75, unanimous consent.
  - Barbara asked if she may ask Peter Kouchalakos from her Society to serve as auctioneer for the Saturday night Rare Plant Auction. We graciously accepted this offer.
  - Carolyn Schoenau has agreed to volunteer to assist with the Rare Plant Auction along with Ben and Kay Klugh, Vicky Chirnside, Jay & Calandra Thurrott and Rick Ryals. Each society plays an important role in the success of the auction, including the contribution of (5) five rare and or unusual bromeliads. Further details and distribution of materials to follow at our next Council meeting.
  - Barbara presented to the Council (3) three Speaker Reimbursement Requests. Two of the requests for speakers; Jose Manzanares (\$1,000.) and Craig Morell (\$175.) were accepted and the third request was withdrawn. Motion made by Rick Ryals, second by Vicky Chirnside, unanimous consent. It was requested that since this is a new program, that proper signage be provided to acknowledge the Council as the sponsor of these speakers.
- Non- Extravaganza 2016 Event, Rick Ryals will reach out to Mounts Botanical Gardens in Palm Beach to see if a potential event may be held there. It was suggested that Heathcote Botanical Gardens, Ft. Pierce also be contacted.
- Standing Rules & Bylaws Review Committee, no report.
- Letter to non-affiliated bromeliad societies, Kay Klugh will work to accomplish this.
- Extravaganza 2017, the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay has agreed to host.

New Business:

- Society News/Updates, Seminole, South Florida, Central Florida, Sarasota, Gainesville, Caloosahatchee, and Florida East Coast reporting.
- The following speakers have participated through out the state: Alton Lee (Bromeliads No Longer Grown), Dave Johnston (Bromeliad BINGO), Dennis Cathcart (Brazil II & III), Phil Elting (Potting), Ray Lemieux, Tome Wolfe (Mounting), Brian Weber (Plant Identification), Jay Thurrott (BSI World Conference Hawaii and Vriesea).

Meeting adjourned at 4:00pm.

The next meeting of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies will occur on July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 hosted by the Sarasota Bromeliad Society.

Prepared by: Rick Ryals

Acting FL Council Secretary, Representative from the FECBS