

MINUTES as Approved
Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies
July 11, 2015
Sarasota, FL

The meeting was called to order at the First Church United Methodist—104 South Pineapple Ave. Lunch provided by Sarasota Bromeliad Society. The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by Council Chair, Kay Klugh (SBTPS). In attendance: Tom Wolfe (BGTB), Betsy McCrory (BSCF), Ben Klugh (BSCF), Mike Michalski (BSSF), Patty Gonzalez (BSSF), Vicky Chirnside (CBS), Dr. Larry Giroux (CBS), Rick Ryals (FECBS), Calandra Thurrott (FECBS), Ashley Graham (FWCBS), Alton Lee (FWCBS), Jean Thomas (GBS), Richard Thomas (GBS), David Johnson (SBS), John O'Steen (SBS), Sudi Hipsley (SBTPS), Dr. Teresa Cooper (UFL), Barbara Partagas (BSI Director, BSSF, 2015 Extravaganza Chair), Jay Thurrott (BSI President, FECBS), Bruce Holst (BSI Director, SBS).

All nine societies represented.

Reports & Updates:

- Minutes of April 11, 2015 were accepted with unanimous consent. Motion made by Ashley Graham, Second by Kay Klugh.
- Treasurer Report presented by Sudi Hipsley.
- Webmaster Report, no report.
- Newsletter Report, Tom Wolf representing Newsletter editor, Carol Wolfe presented her written report to thank members for their support and outline new future articles featuring individual clubs activities. There was discussion of the possibility of co-editors to assist her, if she should ever need.
- Weevil Research, Dr. Teresa Cooper presented a written report of her most recent findings and thanks the Council for its support. She discussed her work in the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, her work in the lab with alternative methods for weevil control in the form of three fungi, non-pesticides, and botanical oils. Prominent in her discussion was the loss of funding for her research at the U of F facility in Fort Pierce which will end September 10, 2015. She hopes to continue her work with the Mexican bromeliad weevil in some other capacity through U of F.
- FCBS Roster, Ashley Graham will be sending extras to the individual clubs. Many thanks to Susan Sousa.
- BSI News, Jay Thurrott, reports that the next BSI directors meeting will be the morning of Friday, September 25, 2015 in Miami at the Extravaganza. A BSI members' meeting precedes the meeting of directors and he encourages all to attend.

Old Business:

- Extravaganza 2015, Barbara Partagas reports that the Bromeliad Society of South Florida has seven paid ads, eight commercial vendors, one non-commercial vendor, and the 78 room commitment met. Polo shirts (\$15) and t-shirts (\$9) featuring Nat DeLeon's Neo. 'Passion' are available to volunteers working the event. Dr. Teresa Cooper will have an information booth there and Bullis Bromeliads will provide a display. Barbara asked for clarification about the auction setup and asked for speakers to be introduced. After much discussion about whether auctioneers should be reimbursed, she has agreed to

ask Peter Kouchalakos from her society to volunteer as auctioneer. Carolyn Schoenau, Extravaganza auction chair, will send plant donation forms to be filled out ahead of time by members for the five donated items from their clubs.

– Non- Extravaganza 2016 Event, Rick Ryals discussed a possible event for FCBS at the Mounts Botanical Garden, West Palm Beach, FL. He suggested a judged show, auction, speakers, food, and plant sales. This would be an activity during non-Extravaganza years. He said that he would continue to speak with the Director of the Mounts.

– Standing Rules & Bylaws Review Committee, Ashley Graham reported some minor changes: dates, dues, membership, Extravaganza rotations, who will put together the roster (a volunteer or the secretary as the case may be), verbiage regarding BSI officers and directors, co-editors for the FCBS newsletter, and rules for speaker reimbursement. She hopes to have a redline draft in October.

– Letter to Non-affiliated Bromeliad Societies, Kay Klugh sent an invitation to four clubs who are not affiliated with FCBS asking them to come to our meetings and the Extravaganza. The clubs are: Indian River Bromeliad Society, Treasure Coast Bromeliad Society, Broward Bromeliad Society, and the Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches. They have not responded. Rick Ryals suggested that we allow those societies to become non-voting members with limited duties to bring them into the Council and effectively boosting membership.

– Extravaganza 2017, The Council discussed whether BGTB might be involved in the Extravaganza 2017 or be able to remain in the Council. Since a motion was passed to change the meeting dates Tom Wolfe should be able to attend the Council meetings. He reports that his society will still be represented in the Council as a result.

New Business:

– Rick Ryals reports that FCBS will send an email for the Extravaganza to all members. This is a first time use of email notification to members. Mass email will be used on a limited basis.

– Ashley Graham will produce name tags for the Council members for next meeting.

– Discussion was made to change the months of meetings to three per year: the fourth Saturday in February, June, and October. A motion was made by Ashley Graham, and seconded by Tom Wolfe requiring a by-law change. The motion carried.

– Society News/Updates, all nine societies reporting. Some of the speakers to the clubs and their topics:

Tom Wolfe, “Ways to Display Bromeliads”; Mike Michalski, “Trip to Ecuador”, “Hybridizing” and “Bromeliad Bingo”; Greg Spak, “Dyckias”; Lisa Robinette, “Getting Ready for a Show”; Ray Lemieux, “Terrestrials from Seed”; Bruce Holst, “Trip to Belize”; Jason Mellica, “Hybridizing”; Don Beadle, “Billbergias”; Dennis Cathcart, “Brazil Part 2”; Brian Weber, “Mounting Bromeliads”; Alton Lee, “Vrieseas”; Dr. Terrie Bert, “Bromeliads S—W”; and David Johnston, “Vrieseas”.

The next meeting of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies will be Saturday, October 24, 2015 hosted by the Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 pm.

Prepared by: Calandra Thurrott (FCBS Secretary, Representative from FECBS)