

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES MEETING Saturday, October 22, 2022

Opening: Chairman Richard Poole called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM at Greg Kolojeski's house in Winter Springs.

FCBS Member Representatives Present: Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa: Carol and Tom Wolfe (with guests Marilyn and Steve Byram); Bromeliad Society of Central Florida: Mike McMahon and Mike Saunders; Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches: Tom Ramiccio (by phone); Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society: Vicky Chirnside; Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society: Jack Dunlop and Calandra Thurrott; Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society: Susan Sousa and Richard Poole; Gainesville Bromeliad Society: Sandy Burnett and Steve Provost; Sarasota Bromeliad Society: Marian and Mark Kennell; Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society: Sudi Hipsley and Greg Kolojeski.

Officers Reports:

Secretary: Minutes of June 2022 meeting were presented by Richard Poole. A motion by Mike Saunders and Susan Sousa to accept and approve them was passed by unanimous vote.

Treasurer Report: Sudi Hipsley submitted the Treasurer's report. Greg Kolojeski started a discussion of investment options noting that interest rates had risen substantially in recent months. After discussion, the purchase of a \$10,000 Series I Savings Bond paying 9.62% for the next six months was passed unanimously after a motion by Susan Sousa and Mike Saunders. Purchase of a \$10,000 26-week Treasury Bill was passed unanimously after a motion by Mike Saunders and Tom Ramiccio.

Committee Reports:

Webmaster Report: Michael Andreas submitted his written report.

Newsletter Report: Carol Wolfe mentioned that the desirability of having an image on the FCBS website that loads the current newsletter with one-click be suggested to the webmaster. Carol also suggested that the November newsletter no longer be published after this year. Carol also suggested that preliminary minutes be used to provide more timely information for inclusion in the newsletter.

Weevil Committee: Tom Wolfe noted that Weevil Committee activities were on hold due to changing personnel at Selby. It was noted that no one at Selby can currently do DNA analysis. However, Richard Poole noted that a new building with a DNA lab would be coming in the future.

FCBS Roster: Susan Sousa noted that members' email addresses needed be updated by the various bromeliad societies since she had found that many of them were out-of-date. It was

noted that the next roster should have the new name recently adopted by the Tampa society which is now known as the Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa. There was a discussion of whether it makes sense to print 650 copies of the Roster when only a handful of society members seem to use the printed Roster. Discussion centered around the idea of providing a PDF copy of the Roster with only a small number of printed copies provided to each society. Further consideration of that idea was postponed to the next meeting.

Facebook page: Greg Kolojeski noted that the Facebook page was continuing to get an expanded number of followers. The Facebook page is primarily used to publicize plant sales and shows by FCBS societies.

Judges School: Vicky Chirnside reported that the planned November judges school was cancelled due to the effects of Hurricane Ian. An alternate date in January or February is being considered.

Archives: Steve Provost noted that the library holding the FCBS archival material had a new person responsible for cataloging.

Extravaganza 2023: Tom Ramiccio reviewed the plans for the next extravaganza which will be held at a Marriott Hotel near downtown Palm Beach with a rate of \$139 including parking. Detailed information will be posted online in early November. The registration fee will be \$149 including the reception, early plant sale access, and the banquet with a speaker line-up of Chester Skotak, Eloise Beach, and David Shiigi. Discussion ensued about the FCBS paying speaker expenses. A vote was taken to waive the FCBS standing rule limiting reimbursement of such expenses to \$1,000 and it passed unanimously. Then a motion to reimburse speaker expenses of \$2,250 (\$250 for Eloise Beach and \$1,000 each for Chester Skotak and David Shiigi) was made by Mike McMahon and Steve Provost and passed unanimously.

BSI Report: Greg Kolojeski noted the World Bromeliad Conference 2022 that was held in Sarasota in June was successful on all levels due to the incredible efforts of the many chairpersons and volunteers. It was also profitable with almost \$10,000 paid to the sponsoring Sarasota Bromeliad Society.

New Business: A discussion of the possibility of limiting the financial liability of sponsoring societies for future Extravaganzas was opened by Greg Kolojeski. No specific proposals were made after a short discussion and the topic was closed.

Society News: Each of the societies with reps in attendance reviewed their recent speakers and events.

Motion to Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made and approved with the meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Greg Kolojeski.