

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies

MINUTES OF THE FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES MEETING

Saturday, October 28, 2023

Opening: Chairman Sandy Burnett called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM at the home of John Boardman 2425 Peacock Ct St Cloud, FL 34771

Hosted by the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

FCBS Member Representatives Present:

Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa: Tom and Carol Wolfe; Bromeliad Society of Central Florida: Mike McMahon; Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society: Vicky Chirnside and Julie Stein; Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society: Calandra Thurrott, Rick Ryals and guest Rafa; Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society: Susan Sousa and Richard Poole, Joe; Gainesville Bromeliad Society: Sandy Burnett and Steven Provost; Sarasota Bromeliad Society: Marian and Mark Kennell; Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society: Sudi Hipsley and Greg Kolojeski; Bromeliad Society of South Florida: Patty Gonzalez and Mike Michalski,

Officers Reports:

Secretary: Minutes of June 24, 2023 meeting were presented by Sandy Burnett. A motion to approve by Mike McMahon, second by Steven Provost, passed by unanimous vote.

Treasurer Report: Sudi Hipsley submitted the Treasurer's report. Greg Kolojeski spoke about T-bonds as an investment instead of I-bonds starting in January at maturity of the I bonds. Total investments are approximately \$20,000.00 and Greg will coordinate with the Treasurer. Steven Provost motioned to invest \$15,000.00 which was accepted and passed by unanimous vote. Also discussed \$500.00 expense upcoming in February for BSI Scholarship. For World Conference contribution we can discuss in February. Mike McMahon suggested we wait until we get a request for support before we decide an amount.

Mike McMahon motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report and it was passed by unanimous vote.

Committee Reports:

Webmaster Report

Correct URL is <https://www.fcbs.org> Must include the www or photos will not be viewable

Email webmaster@fcbs.org with any events to be posted.

The following is copied directly from Michael Andreas Webmaster Report

The 'Member Societies' page contains links to Societies web pages and links to their newsletters. Some newsletters are on the society's web page and some are on the FCBS web site. I was recently asked if I could post the Gainesville Societies meeting minutes since they do not have a newsletter. If your society has information about the club that they would like posted (newsletters, minutes, bylaws etc) send the info to webmaster@fcbs.org and I will be happy to post it.

I would personally like to thank Sudi Hipsley for her many years as treasurer. Sudi has always been prompt sending me checks when I renew website services every year. These services will be due before the end of the year and I will try to renew while Sudi is still treasurer. Sudi, you will be missed!

I see that Dr. Howard Frank is on the agenda so I would like to mention that all of Howard's web pages that he maintained on the University of Florida web site have been copied and posted on the FCBS web page and can be found at <https://www.fcbs.org/frank/bromeliadbiota/index.htm>

Several years ago Howard asked me if I could copy his pages to the Councils web site because he was worried they would disappear after he retired. This was done with the approval of the University.

The following is commentary from our FCBS meeting on 10/28/23:

There was discussion about whether the FCBS website needs funds for any updates. Sandy Burnett agreed to get in touch with Michael Andreas to offer resources from FCBS if he needs anything to update the site or modernize anything.

Newsletter Report: Carol Wolfe writes the most incredible newsletter and includes her wonderful photography. Memory Lane with Howard Frank, the story by Mike McMahon about how FCBS was formed and Tom Wolfe's article about Al Muzzell were standouts.

Weevil Committee: Tom Wolfe, Chair reported that Sally Chambers is now at University of Kentucky and has DNA lab access so we are hoping she may be able to do lab tests for us but we have to have utriculata samples as there are none remaining at U of F. Hope to help determine why Florida T utriculata are susceptible to weevils while Mexican and Belizean are not. Need to determine how to get the samples and what the lab fees would be if she's willing to do the work.

FCBS Roster: Susan Sousa reminded us all that she is moving to Tennessee and we still need to find someone to do the roster. Susan has emailed the XLS roster to Greg Kolojeski and Julie Stein so we have it and continue to look for someone to do the Roster going forward.

FCBS Facebook Page The page is largely used for advertising Society News around the state and to help spread information. It continues to grow and we hope it will be a well-used resource by the bromeliad societies around the state. We have about 300 followers currently.

Judges School: Vicky Chirnside reported that there is one more makeup class in November and the Final exam will be in January or February. There are 7 attendees.

Archives: Steven Provost reported no change in the Archives at this time.

Old Business

BSI News

Greg Kolojeski got hotel info for the next World Bromeliad Conference which will be held at the same Marriott as the Extravaganza. The early booking room rate is \$179.00 plus tax and rooms may be booked now. Parking is \$10.00 daily. It will be held May 22-25, 2024

Keynote Speaker will be Andrew Devonshire "Hybridizing the Kiwi Way". They will work on more speakers after the Extravaganza.

Sandy Burnett is stepping down and Barbara Partegas who has been the secretary is also stepping down, with her position to be filled by someone in California. There is an open Director position with the BSI. Steven Provost motioned that we give our roster to WBC for conference mailing purposes.

Extravaganza 2023: Sandy expressed her thanks to all who helped. Recap afterwards was that the Live Auction should have had better task delineation for people showing plants for the Auctioneer and maybe more plants in Live Auction. One single auctioneer only.

More control of Silent Auction table for ending the bid time.

Overall setup could have been better but that was due to lack of space in the banquet room.

Scholarship Program:

FCBS Meeting Minutes

After brief discussion on the topic Sudi Hipsley made a motion to post draft/preliminary minutes to the FCBS website. Motion carried and all approved

New Business:

The Weevil Fund is already officially named the Al Muzzell Memorial Weevil Fund. We agreed to rename the fund to Muzzell-Frank Weevil Fund to honor the contributions made by both men. A motion was made and unanimously passed.

Society News

Discussion about the various reasons why some Societies don't belong to the FCBS. Sometimes due to low membership, lack of interest or lack of funds to belong to FCBS.

Club Activities: Highlights of various clubs...Bromeliad Bingo/people love winning free plants, field trip to local cactus nursery, three members pick a topic and do 15 minute mini presentations for the speaker program, speaker program about building a greenhouse and there was good collaborative input from members as well. Plant of the month-BIG NEOS- people brought in 20 neos that were 3' plus.

Motion to Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made and approved with the meeting adjourned at 3:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Julie Stein.