

## Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies

*Minutes of the meeting, Saturday, February 24, 2024*

Meeting at the home of Jack and Kathy Dunlop, Ormond Beach, FL

Lunch was at noon & the meeting started at 1:08 pm.

### **FCBS Member Representatives Present:**

Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa: Steve and Marilyn Byrum; Bromeliad Society of Central Florida: Michael Saunders; Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society: Vicky Chirnside, Lise (guest) and Julie Stein; Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society: Calandra Thurrott, Jack Dunlop; Gainesville Bromeliad Society: Sandy Burnett, and Steven Provost; Sarasota Bromeliad Society: Marian and Mark Kennell; Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society: Sudi Hipsley; Bromeliad Society of South Florida: Patty Gonzalez and Mike Michalski; Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches: Tom Ramiccio

Unable to attend—Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa: Tom and Carol Wolfe; Webmaster, Michael Andreas; Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society: Richard Poole; Gainesville Bromeliad Society: Bob Stevens; Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society: Greg Kolojeski; Bromeliad Society of Central Florida: Mike McMahon.

Sandy Burnett subbed for the new 2024 Chairperson—Greg Kolojeski in his absence.

Introduction of Representatives & Guests  
Thank you to our host FECBS and all for attending.

### **Reports & Updates**

**Secretary**—Julie Stein, Minutes of 10/28/2023 meeting. Final approval was given after adding Zoom meeting minutes from 11/13/2023 to accept Betsy McCrory as the new Treasurer where there was a quorum of Societies. A motion was made by Marian Kennell to accept Betsy McCrory as Treasurer. Motion carried. A motion was made by Steve Provost to accept the October 28, 2023 minutes with the addition of the Zoom meeting minutes, and the motion was approved.

**Treasurer**—Welcome to our new Treasurer, Betsy McCrory.

#### *FCBS financial Status & Treasury Notes update*

Betsy will contact Greg to discuss T-Bills.

Eve Krauth, treasurer of Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society reviewed the financial records of FCBS year 2023 and found them to be accurate and in good order.

**Webmaster**—Michael Andreas submitted a report.

Website services are renewed for another year. Use the www in the URL so that you can view the bromeliad photos. Check your Society's contact and meeting information in the 'Member Societies' page to make sure it is correct. Add information about your club that you would like to see posted.

**FCBS Newsletter**—Carol Wolfe submitted a report.

Carol will publish the next newsletter but needs to buy a new computer loaded with Microsoft Office which has Microsoft Publisher, the program she uses to publish the FCBS Newsletter. In addition to a good quantity of material for this next newsletter, Terry Bert requested that Carol publish her guidelines for nominations for the Wally Berg Award. Terry has sent the guidelines and the deadline to members asking that nominations be submitted by April 1, 2024.

**Weevil Committee**—Richard Poole submitted a report.

Weevil Report: Dr. Sally Chambers with the University of Eastern Kentucky is still attempting to set up a research program for graduate students to compare DNA sequences between the Florida native *Tillandsia utriculatas* and those of Belize. Anyone who reports weevil attacks should enter them through the INaturalist App. He has taken on the Newsletter editor position after the devastating loss of Linda Sheetz last year.

**Judges' School Registrar**—Vick Chirnside reported that dates for the final exam of the current Judges' School students have been determined. Six students are waiting for the final exam.

**Archives**—Steve Provost reported that David Benjamin of the University of Central Florida is cataloging/digitizing items and may attend the World Bromeliad Conference in May.

**Bromeliad Society International News**—WBC 2024 update given by Show Co-Chair Tom Ramiccio.

Tom added a recap of the schedule for the WBC and the speakers for the event. The tentative schedule is on the BSI Site.

## 1. Old Business

Volunteer needed for FCBS Roster. A member of the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida was mentioned to fill the role. Discussed the possibility of revisiting whether we would have a printed version. Also, possibly reduce the number of printed copies.

## 2. New Business

**A.** Annual donation to BSI in support of the BSI Scholar's Program, how much in 2024? A motion was made by Mike Saunders for a February donation of \$1,000. Last year it was \$500. The motion carried.

**B.** Will FCBS provide a volunteers and sellers break room at WBC 2024? A motion was made by Mike Saunders for FCBS to donate \$600 for refreshments in a breakroom at the WBC. The motion carried. Tom Ramiccio, as chair of the Conference offered to make the arrangements.

**C.** Parliamentarian for 2024—Motion made to accept Mike as Parliamentarian for 2024 made by Julie Stein. Motion carried.

**D.** Ad for WBC—Motion made by Mike Saunders to take out a half-page ad at \$200 for FCBS in the Show Schedule. Motion carried. Tom R. will ask Susan Stobo of Sarasota Bromeliad Society to create a ½ page ad.

**E.** Sandy announces the FCBS officers for 2024—Greg Kolojeski—Chairman, Vicky Chirside—Vice Chairman, Secretary—Calandra Thurrott, Treasurer—Betsy McCrory, and Mike Saunders—Parliamentarian.

**3. Member Society's News & Announcements.** Representatives mentioned club events: member sales, Christmas parties, mini talks by members, sales events at Leu Gardens, mounting plants workshops, field trips to McCrory's Bromeliads and Miguel Nicolas' property. Speakers mentioned were Marty Folk (Bromeliad growing basics), David Johnston ("My Favorite Neos"), Mike McMahan, Teresa Watkins, Jason Mellica, Terrence Hoffman, Marty Baxley ("Live in Ecuador"), Tom and Carol Wolfe, Terry Bert ("Bromeliad Containers"), Alex Bello ("South Florida Tillandsia Hybrids"), and Steve Correale.

Thanks to our FECBS hosts Jack and Kathy Dunlop.

Thanks to Sandy Burnett for holding the meeting in Greg Kolojeski's absence.

Steve Provost made a motion to adjourn at 2:42.

Submitted by Calandra Thurrott

Next meeting Saturday, June 22, 2024, hosted by the Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society.