

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies

MINUTES OF THE FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES MEETING

Saturday, June 24, 2023

Opening: Chairman Sandy Burnett called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM at the home of Julie Stein, 7594 Grande Pine Rd, Bokeelia, FL 33922

Hosted by the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society

FCBS Member Representatives Present:

Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society: Vicky Chirnside and Julie Stein; Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society: 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; Bromeliad Society of South Florida: Sandy Roth and Lori Weyrick.

We all introduced ourselves as we welcomed BSSF members Sandy Roth and Lorie Weyrick to the meeting since Mike Michalski and Patty Gonzalez were traveling.

Officers Reports:

Secretary: Minutes of February 2023 meeting were presented by Sandy Burnett. A motion to approve by Vicky Chirnside passed by unanimous vote. Zoom Meeting 4-13-2023 minutes regarding the Goode donation to BSPB were accepted. Susan made a motion and it was unanimously passed

Treasurer Report: Sudi Hipsley submitted the Treasurer's report.

The Audit Report by Eve Krauth, Treasurer for FECBS was accepted and found accurate. Greg Kolojeski motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report and it was passed by unanimous vote.

Committee Reports:

Webmaster Report: Michael Andreas reported that a link for the Extravaganza has been posted on the website front page as well as the May 2023 FCBS newsletter. A reminder to all of us to use and pass on the correct url in order to view photos on the FCBS website.

<https://www.fcbs.org>

Photos from Sebastian Sant were posted

We need to check with our individual societies for correct contact and meeting info. Email webmaster@fcbs.org with any events to be posted.

Newsletter Report: Carol Wolfe was feeling unwell and unable to attend and very kindly considered all of us in not exposing anyone just in case. Sandy Burnett commented on our always beautiful, informative newsletter that Carol writes.

Weevil Committee: Tom Wolfe, Chair was unable to attend. Richard Poole, Committee Co-Chair mentioned Bruce Holtz is actively recruiting for research/study and through BSI can offer scholarships. A dual approach of botany and entomology is desired. There was discussion that the Weevil Fund balance may be accessed at any time, as needed.

FCBS Roster: Susan Sousa used Excel to create the Roster this year. The Access program will not be necessary to use for future roster updates. Extra rosters were printed since they are being distributed to each Society for their members. Word is used to generate the booklet to send to the printer. We need to remind our societies to ask members to check their information for accuracy so it can be updated if necessary. Excel can be exported to a pdf and sent to each society via email. Steve Provost suggested that we put the roster topic on the agenda for the October meeting.

Facebook page: Greg Kolojeski ..we are working to make the FCBS page a resource for local bromeliad societies to post events and promote public awareness in general for the various clubs around the state

Judges School: Vicky Chirnside reported the date of the last class will be held June 25 and is at the Fort Myers-Lee County Garden Council Building. There are 7 attendees. Makeup classes are needed by a few people and those dates will be set soon.

Archives: Steven Provost met with David Benjamin, Head of Special Collections and University Archives at UCF in Orlando (location of the BSI Archives) on 11/29/22. Steven was recently informed by Mr. Benjamin that digitizing began about 5-6 weeks prior to today's meeting and it is being fitted in with other digitization work they are doing. Mr Benjamin is willing to come to the 2024 WBC and give a report on the Archives. Some materials received by FCBS are interviews with Mulford Foster-2 VCR tapes and a CD of the interviews.

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.

Extravaganza 2023: A donation of \$2,000.00 by Steve and Martha Goode has been clarified and unanimously approved for use for The Extravaganza 2023 by The Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches. Donation of \$654.00 from Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society is going to the General Fund.

Members of the FCBS volunteered their help to be table monitors for the silent auction. For the live auction they volunteered to show the items as each was auctioned as well as acting as runners to get the items to the checkout area.

Scholarship Program:

Richard Poole motioned to donate \$500.00 to the BSI Scholarship Program, it was unanimously approved. Awaiting a report from Bruce Holtz to decide whether to increase the amount.

FCBS investments: Greg Kolojeski discussed Treasury Bills as the most secure investments available. Treasury Direct is the more common method-they’re tied to the bank account. At maturity the funds are repaid to the bank account. Greg made a motion, carried and unanimously passed to allow the Treasurer to invest and reinvest approved FCBS investment fund amounts in appropriate Treasury Direct Account investments at the Treasurer's discretion. The purpose of this was not to need future Board approval for already approved investment amounts so that funds were not sitting uninvested after an investment matured and also to give the Treasurer discretion for selecting the appropriate term of the investments in order to maximize the interest rate return. The understanding is this only applies to amounts already approved by the Board to be invested.

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:

FCBS Facebook Page After a brief discussion and after a motion was made, it was agreed to add Julie Stein as an Administrator for the FCBS Facebook page

Society News: Each of the societies with reps in attendance reviewed their recent speakers and events. Some of the topics for speakers included honeybees, creative bromeliad mounting and landscape. BSSF mentioned they held a fundraiser to pay for bus trips for their society. Some of the speakers mentioned were Chip Jones, Shane Malloy, David Sand and Guillermo Rivera.

BSCF is hosting the next meeting of FCBS on Saturday, October 28th. Details coming later.

Richard Poole proposed that the Weevil Fund be renamed the “E Howard Frank Memorial Scholarship Fund for the Study and Eradication of the Mexican Bromeliad Weevil” and was approved unanimously. We will put this change on hold for more discussion of how to Honor Howard Frank. The Weevil Fund is officially named the Al Muzzell Memorial Weevil Fund. Since Al Muzzell was honored in that way, we will look for another way to honor the work of Dr Frank

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

Respectfully submitted by Julie Stein.