

FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES

QUARTERLY MEETING JULY 13, 2013

DRAFT MINUTES

Affiliate Representatives Present: (BSTB) H.T. Sisco and Tom Wolfe, (BSCF) Lisa Robinette and Ben Klugh, (CBS) Vicky Chirnside, (FECBS) Rick Ryals and Calandra Thurrott, (FWCBS) Ashley Graham and Susan Sousa, (SBS) David Johnson, (SBTPS) Sudi Hipsley and Kay Klugh.

Affiliate Representatives Absent: (BSBC) Jose Donayre and Sara Donayre, (BSSF) Michael Michalski and Patty Gonzalez, and (GBS) Chris George.

Other Officials Present: Jay Thurrott (BSI)

Guests: Beverly Sisco (BSTB), John Osteen (SBS), Carol Wolfe (BSTB)

The meeting was called to order by Ashley Graham, FCBS Chairman, at 1:15 p.m. at the home of William & Elisa Carr in Plant City, FL. The meeting was hosted by the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay.

Ashley thanked the hosts, and members and guests present introduced themselves.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting had been e-mailed to all representatives. Sudi Hipsley, Treasurer, indicated the amount of money received by FCBS for the World Conference had been incorrectly reported and is actually \$5381.05. Susan Sousa stated that the Extravaganza does not have 14 vendors as hoped, and the cost is \$60 per person. David Johnson moved the minutes be accepted with these additions. Ben Klugh seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Financial Report: Sudi Hipsley gave the financial report noting that Society dues have been paid and the treasury has a balance as of July 13, 2013, of \$25,234.40 (which includes \$2864.30 in the Weevil Fund). The report was received for audit.

There was a question as to how much a 501 (c)3 can have in its treasury. It was suggested we find a CPA in a Society to address this question. Rick Ryals audited the current records in accordance to commonly practiced accounting principles and did not find any irregularities.

Webmaster: Michael Andreas was not present, and there was no report presented.

Newsletter: Karen Andreas was not present, and there was no report presented.

Weevil Research: Ron Cave could not be present. There was no report available.

Clone Preservation: Alan Herndon was not present. He could best give update. There was no report presented.

Judges Report: Vicky Chirnside indicated that there was no report.

Review of Standing Rule 4 and Article XII of the Bylaws: Standing Rule 4 provides that donations be made annually to Selby Gardens. Selby Gardens no longer wants the funds for bromeliad identification. BSI Scholar's Program supports bromeliad research at Selby Gardens and is funded by Selby and BSI. BSI is required to find \$12,500 per year to fund the program. Jay Thurrott suggested that donations be made to reduce what BSI is required to pay for the Scholar's Program. The donations were \$400 per Society annually. Tom Wolfe motioned that there be annual donations to BSI. H.T. Sisco seconded the motion. There was discussion regarding what FCBS takes in and pays out. Tom amended the motion to indicate the amount of the donation would be revised 1st quarter of the year annually. Rick Ryals seconded the motion. The change to the standing rule was approved. Ben Klugh recommended the current amount of the donation to be \$500. Rick Ryals seconded and the amount was approved.

Article XII of the Bylaws of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies requires a copy of any proposed amendment to be mailed by the Chairman to each Representative at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which the amendment will be considered. At the last meeting, there was discussion regarding Article XII of the Bylaws, which is the Sunset Clause.

The current Sunset Clause states, "In the event the active membership of the Council should ever decrease to three, this Council shall be dissolved at once. Any funds in the treasury will then be donated to the Mulford B. Foster Bromeliad Identification Center, to be used for bromeliad research. "

Ashley Graham recommended the Clause be rewritten to read, "In the event the active membership of the Council should ever decrease to three affiliated societies, the Council shall be dissolved at once. Upon dissolution the council shall first pay or provide for the payment of all liabilities of the Council; all remaining assets shall be divided into equal shares among the affiliated societies in existence at the time of dissolution. The affiliated societies that are eligible to receive tax exempt distributions shall receive their share outright, those societies in existence at the time of dissolution that are not eligible to receive tax exempt distributions shall appoint a bromeliad related entity or affiliated society that is eligible to receive tax exempt distributions to receive their share. All funds must be used by the recipient of said funds for the promotion of bromeliad related purposes. "

Since any change must be sent to the Representatives thirty days prior to consideration, no vote was taken on the recommended changes.

Extravaganza 2013: Susan Sousa reported that a mail out is being prepared for the Extravaganza. The cost is \$60 which covers the sale, seminars and banquet. The dates are September 20 -21, 2013. There are currently 10 professional vendors, along with member sales. The seminars will be on Saturday, September 21, with Charlie Birdsong, Don Beadle and Dennis Cathcart as presenters.

Extravaganza 2014: No Society has volunteered to hold the 2014 Extravaganza. It was suggested that there could be an Extravaganza every other year instead of every year with the World Conference one year and the Extravaganza the next. It was also suggested that FCBS do the Extravaganza itself. Tom Wolfe indicated that we needed the facts and figures before a decision can be made. There would also have to be a change in the Bylaws since it calls for one every year. Ashley suggested a committee be established to investigate changing the Bylaws. It was

also suggested that dates in January and February be considered. A committee was established consisting of Ben Klugh, Tom Wolfe, Rick Ryals and Jay Thurrott.

Newsletter Report on Electronic Format: Rick Ryals presented 4 options for consideration regarding the Newsletter. The options included:

1. Maintain current status – Newsletter mailed quarterly
2. Newsletter emailed directly to members with Council Representatives/President responsible for seeing that those without email access, get paper copies at their club's expense.
3. Newsletter posted on the FCBS website as a pdf with open access for anyone to download.
 - a. Council mails a paper copy to those without email.
 - b. Council leaves problem of access for those without email up to the individual clubs to resolve.
4. Newsletter emailed to Club Representative for distribution to their respective club members.

After discussion, it was decided to table any final decision until the next meeting. The general consensus of the representatives present is to transition to an electronic newsletter that will be sent by email as a link by the FCBS Newsletter Editor to the Representatives, Newsletter Editors, and Presidents of each affiliated society, with each affiliated society being responsible for the distribution of the newsletter to their respective members. Each affiliated society will be responsible for printing and distributing paper copies to their members without email access. This policy remains open for further discussion at the next quarterly meeting.

Other Old Business: A letter from Ron and Carolyn Schoneau thanking FCBS for its gift card was read.

New Business—Society News: Affiliate Representatives reported society news, speakers and show plans. See FCBS newsletter for details.

Other New Business: Rick Ryals proposed that FCBS pursue using Square for accepting charges. Vicky Chirnside seconded. The motion that Sudi pursue setting up a Square account was carried.

Rick Ryals and Tom Wolfe were named to a committee to establish a recognition program for FCBS.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be October 12, 2013, and will be hosted by the Bromeliad Society of Broward County.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Kay Klugh, Secretary (draft dated August 12, 2013)