

APRIL 28, 2024 MINUTES of Gainesville Bromeliad Society

The meeting began with President Bob Stevens introducing the board (Steve Provost, VP, Sandy Burnett, Treas., Elaine Young, Sec'y, Julieta Brambila, keeper of the facebook page and Mary White who runs the raffle). There was one "show-n-tell" where Sandy Burnett presented a lampshade frame as a plant holder that contained a *Tillandsia xerographica*.

Steve introduced our speaker, Teresa Watkins, who spoke about companion plants for bromeliads. Teresa is a landscape designer and radio host. The first thing to consider is soil: a plant that is saxicolous can grow on rocks; an epiphyte grows on other plants; and a terrestrial grows on soil. When companion planting, color is important – they should complement. Also the type and size of container is important. A good rule to follow is each pot should contain 1 thriller, 3 fillers and 3 spillers. Recommended is "A Garden Compendium," Vol. 1, 2, and 3. Teresa's website is www.she-consulting.com.

The business meeting began at 3:00 with Bob Stevens introducing new members and guests. Then the March minutes were approved.

Steve noted that past minutes are posted on the website along with our speaker program from January through November. On May 26, Marc Minno will speak on Florida butterflies and their host plants. In June, Jason Mellica will demonstrate mounting stoloniferous bromeliads.

Bob mentioned that the membership needed to think about a new president and if anyone would like to hold that position for next year, they need to let him know soon.

Steve again mentioned the World Conference on May 22-24 at the Palm Beach Marriott and that the Florida Council has minutes of all memberships in Florida on their website. He spoke about the upcoming Master Gardeners plant sale on Saturday May 4 at the Equestrian Center west on Newberry Road in Newberry and that we would have an information table from 9-1. .

Sandy reported \$2,633.81 in savings and \$1,522.03 in checking.

Meeting adjourned about 3:30 pm with 41 attendees.