

2019 Florida Phytopathological Society Biannual Meeting

Minutes for Business Meeting
CREC, Lake Alfred
May 10, 2019



FPS

Florida Phytopathological Society

Onsite Committee – acknowledgements

Sarah McCoy
Jamie Burrow
Tonya Weeks
Megan Dewdney

Previous expenses of funds from FPS

Treasurer's report by Phil Harmon. Past meeting report of \$493 back to FPS2019, current balance \$13,201.

Next FPS secretary nomination

Hector Urbina from Department of Plant Industry DPI will be new secretary for 2019-2020.

Site selection for next FPS meeting

Site Selection for FPS 2021 Meeting. Previous meeting was hosted by Gainesville in 2015, Quincy in 2017 and Lake Alfred in 2019. Immokalee was postulated as a to host the FPS 2021 option. It is critical to have an internal coordinator.

Jamie Burrow said that she will volunteer to organize the registration list, name tags, meeting program and certificates.

Nick Dufault mentioned that it would be of benefit to find sources of funding to support travel for students to attend this meeting.

Ozgur Batuman commented that Immokalee have the support of sponsors already.

After votes, Immokalee REC Center was officially nominated as next host for the meeting, under the supervision of Ozgur Batuman.

FPS constitution

Previous archives were stored in a file cabinet of a member who retired and unfortunately the the hard copy was lost. Currently there is a draft constitution made by Brantlee Spakes Richter and Nick Dufault. Hopefully by the time next meeting will happen there will be a new constitution with mission, available for everybody to vote on.

FPS is still not recognized by IRS as a tax exempt entity.

Phil Harmon had volunteered to process constitution of FPS organization with a tax advisor, and to have these official documents before next meeting in 2021.

Brantlee Spakes Richter mentioned that we could formalize the membership to have enough funds to support travel for students to attend the future meetings.

Anuj Sharma expressed desire to see a more formal website, with its own domain name.

Brantlee Spakes Richter mentioned that once we (FPS) is official we can do fund-raising that

also could buy a domain for the site. FPS Website is currently hosted using free Wix account (<https://bsr270.wixsite.com/floridaphytopath>).

FPS membership

Previous attendees have shown interest (contacted Brantlee Spakes Richter or Nick Dufault) in having membership status for their curriculum vitae and official registration when attending the meeting.

In the past we have not had membership separated from meeting registration; Phil Harmon mentioned that we (FSP organizers) would like to formalize membership which should still be included in the registration costs, but also available to those unable to attend the meeting.

Plant Pathology retreat proposal – Rose Loria suggestion

Department Chair Rose Loria would like to organize a workshop in order to discuss science and to meet/discuss with other faculty across the state from various Research and Education Center locations.

Natalia Peres from the Gulf Coast Research and Education Center has volunteered in organizing and/or helping to coordinate this workshop. Natalia was not present during meeting recording.

FPS reaching non UF scientists – more efforts in 2019

This year for FPS we have tried to reach non-UF scientists. As you saw from the presentations we have now registration and participation from undergrad students and faculty given talks from the Indian River State College IRSC in Fort Pierce.

For next meeting we should try to keep reaching non UF-scientists from Florida Atlantic University FAU, Department of Plant Industry, USDA-ARS, and industry.

Off year meetings

Nick Dufault would like to propose regular meetings in the odd years and student symposium in the even years. The aim of having a symposium in the even years will be to gain participation of grad students (master students specially), short term visitors, postdocs and faculty. This symposium will be simple without the technical sessions.

One idea is to coordinate between Florida Phytopathological Society (FPS) and Florida Horticultural Society (FHS) an even year student symposium meeting to have more participation and help master students to present their research.

First year of the student symposium in even years will be experimental. We don't have a volunteer to organize the off year meeting still in progress.

Governance roles for next FPS meeting

President Nick Dufault passed the gavel to Brantlee Spakes Richter as president for 2019-2021.

Vice-president for next period is passed to Liliana Cano by Brantlee Spakes Richter.

Hector Urbina (newly elected) will serve as Secretary.