

February 20, 2010 Annual Meeting of the Flora of New Jersey Project

Flora of New Jersey Project's New 2010 calendar year

Meeting Date: February 20, 2010, 10AM @ Chrysler Herbarium

Members Present: Wayne, Ferren Jr., Stevens Heckscher, Matt Palmer, Russell Juleg, Bill Olson and Joe Arsenault.

Meeting Agenda: February 20, 2010's meeting was the yearly meeting for incorporation purposes and it is also a time to summarize of accomplishments and failures of 2009. The agenda went through the standard meeting structure starting with chairman issues, business issues and then into reports from committees.

The meeting started with business issues, followed by committee reports:

2009 Summary: FNJ had only one face-to-face meeting last year, a decision Joe Arsenault made because of the cost of fuel. The four yearly meetings were supplemented with three phone conference calls that were represented by 4 to seven participants. The calls were suitable, but the format by its nature limited discussion to summary reports and task assignments. With moderating fuel prices, FNJ will have two face-to-face meetings in 2010 to improve the project's progress.

With all of the financial troubles that occurred last year, 2009 was actually a productive year for FNJ. It may have seemed stagnant, but much was accomplished. **FNJ had a significant loss to the FNJ effort in July when Janet Novak stepped down as IT chief.** Janet was the key to the web process and without her, our web presence has been idle. Janet's work load did not allow her to continue in this position. FNJ is still, to this day, without an IT chair. FNJ decided early in the process to go electronic and publish on the fly. FNJ is set up to do this; it's just the lack of key personnel to keep up with the slow trickle of postings as were progress. This trickle has backed up to a significant set of names that can show FNJ is slowly pushed through the flora.

FNJ Business Issues: Joe Arsenault

Inc. Needs: The February 2010 meeting was the incorporation's required annual business meeting. State and federal reporting requirements state FNJ must meet in person to disclose our business structure and goals. Other issues needed to follow our By Laws, such as the yearly election. The By-laws were reviewed during 2009 and finally adopted 10/2009.

Election: FNJ need to set a nomination committee to select 4 members to fill these offices: President/chairperson, VP, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary. The President/Chair, VP/VC, and Secretary are 1 year terms; the Treasurer is a 2 year term. Matt Palmer accepted the work associated with the nomination committee and stated a slate for the 2010 vote. Matt poled the members and nominated Joe Arsenault as Chair, Stevens Heckscher as Vice Chair, Wayne Ferren, Jr. as Treasurer; and Bill Olson as Secretary. The membership would be asked to vote via e-mail for this slate before the April 2010 telephone conference call meeting.

Banking: FNJ's bank of record was Commerce Bank NA. Initially it was a savings account in Joe's name. Since the FNJ inception, Commerce was absorbed by TD Bank. Today our TD association is a business checking account. We transferred the balance from Joseph Arsenault savings to FNJ Inc. checking in February 2009.

Our balance at the time of the transfer was \$427.95. The new account was opened with \$537.95, the added funds from the dues obtained between the closure and start of new account. Our balance as of the last statement was \$477.95. (January 1, 2010). Our 2009 expenditures included the final attorney fee (\$225.00) for yearly reporting. Our current balance is \$77.95, with a recent \$400 dedicated to the federal non-profit 501 c 3 application.

Outreach/Membership: FNJ received renewal from existing members and participants but no new members. We have 12 paying members in various stages of subscription compliance.

February 20, 2010 Annual Meeting of the Flora of New Jersey Project

Incorporation /Non-profit status: The final step in the non-profit path was made January 29, 2010. Joe Arsenault sent in the IRS application for the federal status. The federal non-profit status would be posted it progresses.

Herbarium Issues:

Dr. Lena Struwe report on herbarium: Dr. Struwe was not present but inform FNJ the University is still working toward the eventual goal of finding a new home for the Chrysler Herbarium.

Committee Reports

Nomenclature: Bill Olson: Bill listed the new submission and the nomenclature progress for the taxa already presented. The most recent approvals were suggested for Walt Bien's effort for the Ericaceae. Recently submitted *Dichantheium* genus would be distributed for committee review.

Atlas/IT: Matt Palmer: Without a IT connection, the Atlas committee has been idle with publishing but is ready to publish the genus Panicum as a completed group with the Atlas pages. The pages are ready for this posting. The various approved nomenclature is also ready for posting.

Manual: Wayne: At this moment, there is on complete family with keys and species descriptions (with minor revisions) and at least one additional family ready for final editing.

Newsletter: Joe Arsenault: Vol. II of the newsletter is in outline form and can be ready to go with a few additional submissions. Anyone can put a note in the Newsletter just send comments, requests or whatever to Joe's e-mail address. Joe will accept any new find that doesn't rise to the rank of a real publication. Joe has a couple of items, one from Karl A. that he gave me immediately after Vol. 1 that is itching to be posted. Whether it's science, methods or opinion, I'll take it.

Old Business:

Stevens photo digitizing; He indicated he will have hundreds of photos available from his collection. These will be available

Herbarium Work Dates:

The following dates were selected for members with a need to access the herbarium:

March, 27; April 24; May 15, 2010

Adjourn: 11:55AM: Matt Palmer made the first motion to adjourn, Stevens Hechscher made the second. Those present remained in the herbarium to complete nomenclature and specimen work.