

**IPS Board of Directors Meeting**  
**May 26, 2018**  
**Hotel Campestre Las Camelias**  
**Armenia, Colombia**

*The meeting was called to order by President Ray Hernandez at 8:37 AM*

The following twenty two (22) Directors were present: Robert Blenker, Jeff Brusseau, Greg Hamann, Haresh, Susan Hubbell, Tom Jackson, Larry Noblick, Lazaro Priegues, Michael Smukall, Michael Valentine, Cindy Adair, Norm Bezona, Julie Cleaver Malzoni, John Dransfield, Len Geiger, Ray Hernandez, Horace Hobbs, Don Martin, Jill Menzel, Fernando Roca, Tobias Spanner and David Tanswell.

IPS members Chad Husby and Bill Sanford attended as guests

The Directors present constituted a quorum per the Bylaws.

President Ray Hernandez welcomed all Directors and guests.

Prior to the meeting President Hernandez distributed electronic copies of the previous Minutes, Bylaws, committee reports and information for the board which is referenced or excerpted, but not attached, to these Minutes. Additional supplements were distributed by reporting Directors and are similarly not attached.

The first order of business was the approval of the Minutes from the last meeting. *Moved by Brusseau and seconded by Priegues to approve the Minutes with the correction of errors. The motion passed unanimously.*

***Administrative Secretary's report: Larry Noblick***

Director Noblick reported on IPS membership and geographic distribution. He noted that membership stood at 975 and had grown slightly in the past year.

*Brusseau moved to approve the Administrative Secretary's report and the motion was seconded by Haresh. The report was approved unanimously.*

***Finance Committee Report: Jeff Brusseau***

Director Brusseau noted 2017 income of \$173,379 was over budget due to membership and donations of \$27,000. Operational expense totaled \$139,919 versus budget of \$137,800. Expense for membership management totaled \$31,000 or \$33 per member. Journal expense totaled near \$30,000 and tax preparation and accounting totaled near \$9,000. Palm Talk expenses cost approximately \$10 per member. Over all, 2017 generated a profit of \$33,460.

He reported that the Merrill Lynch investment portfolio balance totaled \$644,000 as of 5-17-2018 and was currently invested in line with the guidelines approved by Board. The portfolio performance was outstanding in 2017 returning 12.49%.

He reported that our 3<sup>rd</sup> party accountant, Sheri Flying Hawk, was competent but not timely with reports and so he was soliciting quotes from other accountants.

Director Brusseau presented the 2018 operating budget and sought the Board's approval.

*Hobbs moved to approve the 2018 Operating Budget and the motion was seconded by Jackson. The budget was approved unanimously.*

*Hobbs moved to approve the report of the Finance Committee and the motion was seconded by Jackson. The report was approved unanimously.*

***Treasurer's Report: Tom Jackson***

Director Jackson reported on various account activity and that the federal form 990 had been appropriately filed. He noted that the self-imposed restrictions on certain endowment funds were problematic and should be reconsidered.

*Brusseau moved and Hamann seconded a motion to withdraw previous requirements regarding the Larry Noblick Research Fund established at the 2017 meeting but to continue to identify specified donations as restricted funds within the IPS accounts. The motion was approved.*

*Hobbs moved to approve the Treasurer's report and the motion was seconded by Brusseau. The report was approved unanimously.*

***Bylaws Committee Report: Horace Hobbs***

Director Hobbs reported that there was no committee activity between meetings.

***Editor's Report: John Dransfield***

Director Dransfield reported on the current state of the Journal, breakdown of article subject matter and led a brief discussion of other issues regarding the publications. He announced that Dr. William J. Baker would serve as an Associate Editor of the Journal *Palms*.

*Jackson moved to approve the Editor's report and the motion was seconded by Geiger. The report was approved unanimously.*

***Risk Management Committee Report: David Tanswell***

Director Tanswell provided an update of the committee activities and reported that the insurance policies had been renewed.

*Dransfield moved to approve the Risk Management Committee report and the motion was seconded by Valentine. The report was approved unanimously.*

***Website Committee report: Len Geiger***

Director Geiger reported that palms.org traffic remains steady at 19,000 visits per year. The new website is still under development with a new firm and is anticipated to be complete soon. The previous developer did not work out and has refunded our payment.

*Brusseau moved to approve the Website Committee report. The motion was seconded by Jackson and passed unanimously.*

***Palm Talk Report: Cindy Adair***

Director Adair reported steady traffic and activity.

*A motion to approve the committee report was moved by Jackson, seconded by Brusseau and passed unanimously.*

***PRAM Committee Report: Julie Cleaver Malzoni***

Director Malzoni reported ongoing promotional activity and led a discussion of advertising alternatives.

*A motion to approve the committee report was moved by Brusseau, seconded by Martin and passed unanimously.*

***Biennial Guidelines Committee Report: David Tanswell***

Director Tanswell reported that a call for submissions for proposals to host the 2022 Biennial Meeting had been issued and he would provide additional detail and discussion in New Business.

*A motion to approve the committee report was moved by Brusseau, seconded by Hareesh and passed unanimously.*

***Endowment Committee Report: Cindy Adair***

Director Adair reported on disbursement progress for 2018 grants of \$25,200 approved by electronic vote of the Directors on April 8, 2018. The following awards are being distributed:

Adorador	\$2,285
Barrett & Cano	\$5,400
Escobar	\$6,450
Henderson & Dung	\$2,285
Montufar	\$3,450
Peguero et al.	\$5,330

*A motion to approve the committee report was moved by Brusseau, seconded by Priegues and passed unanimously.*

### ***Nominations and Elections Committee Report: Horace Hobbs***

Director Hobbs reported on the results of the recent Election of Directors for 2018-2022 term as tallied below:

There were no contested races for the available positions

Total ballots returned = 152

Total number of eligible voters = 803      Percent of ballot return = 18.93%

Director, Puerto Rico: Cindy Adair receives 129 votes, 84.87% of the total.

Director, Hawaii USA: Norm Bezona receives 123 votes, 80.92% of the total.

Director, California USA: Leland Lai receives 103 votes, 67.76%, Don Martin receives 102 votes, 67%, Len Geiger receives 97 votes, Andrew Hurwitz receives 93 votes.

Director, Florida USA: Ray Hernandez receives 119 votes, Andrew Street receives 100 votes

Director, Texas USA: Horace Hobbs receives 120 votes, 78.95% of the total.

Director, Brasil: Julie Cleaver Malzoni receives 112 votes, 73.68% Jill Menzel receives 105 votes

Director, Germany: Toby Spanner receives 117 votes, 76.97% of the total.

Director, Australia: David Tanswell receives 122 votes, 80.26% of the total.

Director Hobbs noted that the percentage of ballots returned was similar to previous electronic elections all which had roughly double the historical participation with mail in ballots. He also noted the difficulty in recruiting Director candidates for Australia and other under-represented countries.

*A motion to approve the committee report was moved by Brusseau, seconded by Hareh and passed unanimously.*

### ***Mid Term Meeting Committee Report: Greg Hamann***

Director Hamann described various options for dates and activities surrounding the next mid term meeting in 2019. The discussion yielded an agreement on Oct 19-26<sup>th</sup> for the Directors gathering in San Diego.

*A motion to approve the committee report was moved by Jackson, seconded by Blenker and passed unanimously.*

**The Meeting was adjourned for lunch and reconvened to conduct new business before the Board.**

***The Board is now comprised of Directors elected to serve 2016-2020 and 2018-2022. President Hernandez took a roll call and established that a quorum was present.***

### ***Election of additional Directors***

*Chad Husby of Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden was nominated to serve as a Director for 2018-2022 by Director Brusseau. The nomination was seconded by Director Priegues and endorsed by the Nomination Committee. The election of Director Husby was unanimous.*

*Subsequent to Director Husby's nomination and election, previous Directors whose terms ended in 2018, Fernando Roca (Peru), and Francisco Marti Navarro (Spain) were appointed to new terms by unanimous consent.*

### ***Election of Officers of the Board***

Director Hobbs nominated the following Directors to serve as officers of the Board

Ray Hernandez, President  
Jeff Brusseau, Vice President  
David Tanswell, Vice President  
Tom Jackson, Treasurer  
Larry Noblick, Administrative Secretary  
Tobias Spanner, Corresponding Secretary

*The nominations were seconded by Director Bezona. The proposed slate of officers was elected unanimously.*

### ***2020 IPS Biennial on Reunion Island: John Dransfield***

Director Dransfield reported of the continued developments in the scoping of the 2020 Biennial Meeting of the IPS to be held in La Reunion, France. An Itinerary for a 7 day tour has been developed for execution between March and May of 2020. He provided a review of correspondence with Olivier Reilhes, the local representative of Palmeraie Union which would host the event. He noted that four indigenous palms would be highlighted and that side trips to Madagascar, Seychelles, and Mauritius would be accessible. The accommodations available would allow for tiered pricing and that airfare may not be onerous as French domestic flights from Orly would be possible.

The Directors voiced strong support for the location and Director Haresh volunteered to take a lead in development on behalf of the Board.

### ***Future Biennials: David Tanswell***

Director Tanswell reported that he has not received any formal submissions for proposals for the 2022 Meeting. He will further investigate the initial interest expressed by local members for hosting a Queensland, Australia Meeting.

Other alternatives briefly discussed included Vietnam which may be limited due to available accommodations or a Caribbean cruise based meeting that might include Trinidad and Tobago.

### ***IPS Corporate Sponsorship Solicitation Discussion***

Director Lai prepared an presentation package outlining need, targets and pathways to execution of an initiative to seek major donations/sponsorship from large industrial palm product/processor companies. Director Lai was not in attendance so President Hernandez led the Board through a

thoughtful discussion of the aspects identified by Director Lai. Several Directors urged caution due to the potential misalignment between the IPS mission and that of the potential donors.

*Director Brusseau made a motion to establish a committee of the Board to explore the opportunities for external support. The motion was seconded by Director Jackson and passed with 18 in favor and 3 abstentions.*

### ***Awards and Recognition***

*Director Hobbs made a motion to expand the scope of the Nominations Committee to include member recognitions and to budget \$250 annually for such awards and recognition. The motion was seconded by Director Brusseau and passed unanimously.*

### ***Stansfeld and Fairbrother update: Ray Hernandez***

Director Hernandez announced recent ownership and account management changes within our primary management contractor. He led a discussion of IPS history with Stansfeld and Fairbrother and potential lower cost alternatives were considered. No action was taken.

### ***Adjournment***

*The chair entertained a motion to adjourn at 4:36 PM.  
So moved by Director Hamon, seconded by Director Brusseau, and passed unanimously.*

Minutes submitted by Acting Secretary, Horace Hobbs, as accurate and correct, and reviewed by the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors,



Horace O. Hobbs, Jr.  
December 30, 2018