

## TES BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 15, 2024

**Attended:** Karla Adesso, Jennifer Tsuruda, Kaushalya Amarasekare, Leigh Boardman, Pat Parkman, Steve Murphree, Cindy Bilbrey, Pete Obernauer (arrived 10:30 am)

10:01 AM Meeting called to order by Jennifer Tsuruda

1. **2023 Meeting Minutes** – board meeting and meeting of the new board were attached to email
  - Pat moved to approve the minutes as edited by Karen Vail, Leigh seconded – approved
2. **2023 Meeting Feedback** - Past meeting minutes feedback – meeting went well. No complaints about missing Insect Festival. Nursery Research Center venue was good and easy to park.
3. **2024 Annual Meeting** – 2024 location (Memphis)
  - Oct 14-15<sup>th</sup> (Mon/Tues) – Memphis, TSU, MTSU fall break
  - Leigh said she has good support from campus community. Plan is to hold on campus since Biological Station has small number cap.
  - New Memphis Ag Research Initiative leader looking to participate/support.
  - 2 pm start might be best so UTK students & faculty have time to drive that morning.
  - Leigh will invite someone to welcome the group
4. **Local Arrangements/Hotel Reservations** – state government rate (\$108/night)
  - Holiday Inn across the road for campus. Visitors' parking is not too expensive.
  - Find restaurants willing to host large party with individual bills.
  - Student meals and snacks – ask Clete if he can still support TES
5. **Keynote Speaker** – speaker (Leigh's choice)
  - Ask Memphis and UTK if they will contribute to speaker fees/travel
6. **Insect Festival**
  - Need a lot of volunteers – use students & postdocs to run stations
  - Safety training requirements for working with minors
  - On-campus minor policies
  - We may be able to partner with Memphis campus elementary school to do a small-scale Insect Festival
  - Leigh has some people to connect with who may be enthusiastic about this activity
  - 4-H is another resource for finding attendees and station participants
7. **Meeting Announcement** – including neighboring states in invitation since Memphis is close to other universities; Jennifer and Leigh will edit forms for 2024 to have ready
8. **TES Facebook Page** – forward info to Karla to post on social media
9. **Firefly** – 2022 and 2023
  - Greg sent the 2021 Abstracts and so we can do the 2021 proceedings
  - Jennifer will share the 2023 abstracts with Peter to begin that proceedings
  - Could add slides on 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary presentation for 2023
  - Could add predictions presentation for 2023
10. **TES Swag/Awards**
11. **Treasurer Report**
  - Account Balance \$5,127.00
  - Taxes being filed by Karla this weekend
12. **Schedule the Summer Pre-Meeting Board Meeting**

- Jennifer will send whentomeet

**13. Close Meeting - Karla moved, Steve 2<sup>nd</sup> – unanimous**