Mike called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and thanked everyone for their efforts at making the 2004 New Haven meeting a success. His next order of business was to officially install Doug Pfeiffer as the next President of the Eastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America.

Mike then turned the meeting over to Doug who then opened the meeting up for general discussion.

George moved to accept the 2003 minutes, which include the minutes from the March 16, 2003, Executive Committee meeting, March 17, 2003, Final Business meeting, March 17, 2003, Final Executive Committee meeting, and the June 10, 2003, Business and Planning meeting.

The motion was seconded.

Discussion was requested. There was no discussion.

The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Individuals voting were Day, Hamilton, Pfeiffer, Raupp, Schultz, and Youngman.

Eric said our total room night count for this year’s meeting in New Haven was 177, which did not meet our contracted number of room nights with the hotel. This means EB is obligated to pay $2,000.00 for the meeting rooms. However, Eric pointed out that there were EB members who were unable to obtain rooms during the meeting because they were told by hotel management the hotel was sold out. Eric said he was going to use this information to try and persuade the hotel from making the EB pay the $2,000.00 penalty. Mike told Eric he would like to accompany him when he meets with hotel management on this issue. Eric accepted Mike’s offer of assistance.

There was brief discussion about making future deadlines for meeting registration and hotel reservation the same. Someone thought it would be better to have the date for meeting registration be ahead of the hotel registration date.

Rod raised the issue about the EB listserv and suggested we ought to think about asking Chris Stelzig at ESA if he could send listserv announcements to the EB membership. Several individuals felt this topic should be explored with Chris Stelzig.
Doug said he spoke with several members at this year’s meeting for their feedback on how to increase attendance at EB meetings. New students told him they were previously unaware of the financial support for sending the winning Linnaean game team to the ESA annual meeting. George added that joint meetings seem to be a good way of increasing attendance at our annual meeting.

Doug moved to the topic of the summer business and planning meeting. He suggested having it in Blacksburg, because most of the Executive Committee members reside there and that it would help save the EB some travel costs. George agreed, but asked Doug to not schedule the business and planning meeting for the week of June 14, this year.

Mike asked Faith if she wanted to talk about budgeting for the Outreach Program. Faith said she did and asked for feedback from the group about our interest in continuing to have Outreach Programs at future meetings. There were several comments about the Outreach Program being beneficial to attendees and providing excellent exposure to our society. Consensus was strong for continuing to offer Outreach Programs at our annual meetings. Faith thought about 300 people attended this year’s Outreach Program. She sent out a press release to about 70 local newspapers, other news organizations, local schools, and businesses. She said the Whitaker Center in Harrisburg, expressed a strong interest in having us come back, and that Betty Faber, who works for the Liberty Science Center in Jersey City, has agreed to help with the 2005 Outreach Program in Harrisburg. Faith cautioned that if you want to have an Outreach Program it is critical that sufficient funds be budgeted. She added that you can not give a quality Outreach Program for $200.00, and that the tentative budget for 2005 is in the neighborhood of $800.00–$1,200.00. She suggested some form of sponsorship as one possibility for raising the necessary funding. If a sponsor could be identified early enough, it could be included in the Outreach Program advertising.

Mike thanked Faith for her comments and all her hard work on the 2004 Outreach Program.

Doug then asked those present if there were any additional business items that needed to be discussed. None were offered. Doug made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.