

## Suncoast Native Plant Society, Board of Directors Meeting- Minutes

October 24, 2017 , Beef O'Brady's , Seffner, and Email Votes

An unofficial meeting was held between Virginia Overstreet and Tina Patterson on October 24. Questions and proposals from that meeting were emailed to the other board members for votes. The email and votes were recorded by secretary, Tina Patterson, and will be entered with the minutes for October.

**1. Minutes:** The September minutes still require approval.

**2. Treasurer's Report :** Gar Reed sent October financials and Plant Sale summary to the board via email.

- The plant sale profit was \$1326.70. Gar says this is about the same as last year.
- \$550 was given in grants at the October meeting. \$50 was a thank you for the use of the Extension Center at July's joint meeting. JoAnn Hoffman will buy native plants for the gardens with the money. \$500 was the previously budgeted grant to the USF Herbarium.
- Virginia Overstreet will be reimbursed \$150 for the Amazon gift certificate for Donna. She should send Gar her address and the invoice so that he can write a check.
- Gar has printed out the FANN invoice and will send a \$100 donation to the publication. This was approved by the board via email vote.
- Gar needs information on who to write a check to for the Polk County plant rescue appeal sent out by FNPS. Andy believes they have already raised enough money to pay for the cost and that any additional money will be held in the state fund. The board had voted via email to send \$100 .

### 3. Grants

- The board voted unanimously via email to give \$500 to Terrace Community Middle School for their Outdoor Science Classroom project in which they are restoring and studying a wetland adjacent to their school. They will use the money to buy native plants. We have asked them to give a short presentation about the project at a future meeting and to keep us informed of opportunities for our club to visit or work with them. Meichelle Long is the person of contact at TCMS. Their activity blog is accessible at <https://tcmsecosystems.edublogs.org/>

### 4. Gardens, Outreach and PR: Andy and Tina

- The next walk at Lettuce Lake is November 25. Tina will edit the MeetUp to show the correct date.
- Virginia and Tina need information or access to manage the MeetUp site. We should contact Shirley.
- USF has just started a Botany Club with faculty advisor Alan Franck. Three of their members attended the October 21 Lettuce Lake plant walk. Virginia and/or Tina should follow up with them and invite them to participate in future events .
- Andy, together with Janet Bowers, will continue to post on the Suncoast Facebook page. Shirley will update the website but requires timely information on events and speakers. Janet is doing the newsletter.
- Andy and a few other members represented SNPS at the BOCC meeting declaring October Native Plant Month. He showed the video from EG Simmons on the native plant garden which we helped fund. The Boy Scouts, who did the planting and clearing for that project, may be interested in future work of a similar nature.
- Janet has scheduled a workday at HCC for Sunday, December 3.

### 5. Membership Meetings/Speakers: Virginia

- Nov 15 – Nanette O'Hara of the Tampa Bay Estuary Program will speak on creating a native plant "pollinator palette" in your yard.

- Dec 9- Holiday party at Lettuce Lake. Tina has reserved pavilion 10 for our group and will start sign-ups at October meeting. The board has approved spending up to \$150 for food, drinks and paper goods for the party.
- Virginia has some names and ideas for speakers to use next year.

#### **6. Field Trips/Campouts:**

- October 27, 28 and 29 – camping trip to Myakka River State Park, reserving campsites at Old Prairie camping area.
- Nov 18 – nothing scheduled; Tina and Joel are working at Lettuce Lake with a UT club to remove invasives.
- Dec 9- holiday party; Lettuce Lake, 11 am – 3 pm, picnic and walk. Start sign-ups in October.
- We need to find someone to lead field trips for next year. We had the best attendance at the wagon tours and the Bok Tower visit.

#### **7. New Business**

- The board voted last month to appoint Virginia Overstreet as the new Council of Chapters representative to complete Donna's term. The membership will vote in November to continue her appointment. She will represent our chapter at the conference November 4.
- The board appointed Devon Higginbotham, Mike Fite and JoAnn Hoffman as the official nominating committee.
- We discussed the by-laws which state that the board must have a minimum of 4 members. If we do not get replacements for Gar and Donna in November, what happens to the chapter? Gar has agreed to stay on until his move in April or May , or to assist a new treasurer if one can be found.

#### **Action Items:**

##### **Virginia :**

- Begin booking speakers for 2018.
- Represent us on Council of Chapters.

##### **Gar:**

- Complete budgeted payouts until we find a new treasurer.
- Train a new treasurer if we can find one.

##### **Tina:**

- Make contacts and communications with those listed in minutes.
- Sign-up and planning for the holiday party.

##### **Andy:**

- Publicize chapter events and activities. Post events on our Facebook page.

Tina Patterson , secretary