

Suncoast Native Plant Society
Board of Directors Meeting
Date: August 18, 2009

Board Members

Present: Troy Springer,
Kristina Herz,
Daphne Lambright,
Shirley Denton,
Ron Chicone,
Bob Upcavage

Absent:

Quorum present? Yes

Other Present?

Proceedings:

- Meeting called to order by President Troy Springer at 7:05pm
- July meeting minutes were read and Daphne made a motion to accept and the motion was seconded by Troy. The board passed the minutes unanimously.

Treasurer's report submitted by Daphne Lambright

Cash in Bank	9048.78
CD with Sun Trust	6361.59
Petty Cash	40.00
Total	<hr/> 15450.37

- Shawna has been paid for grant
- City of Plant City has spent money and a thank you letter was received
- Daphne proposed that a savings account or money market be opened instead of allowing money sit in checking. Benefit would be to accrue some interest. Daphne made a motion to open a money market savings account. Troy seconded. The board passed the motion unanimously.

Committees:

- 1) Field trips
 - a. This month = Dead River County Park in Hillsborough River floodplain. Shirley is leading the trip.
 - b. Caladesi is still scheduled for September
- 2) Conservation
 - a. Daphne reported that FNAI will send GIS data by mid-September. Daphne has a plant collecting permit. A 4 wheel drive is required and needed. A large time commitment is required. Shirley recommends we advertise the inventory to members to get volunteers involved. First step will be to get aerials and set up transects. First project will be at Cordell Tract. Project is to compare roll-chop, burn, and other treatments to compare recruitment

and species. FNAI has done a survey at the Cordell Tract. Effort will be in October.

3) Outreach

- a. Willow Lemond still has outreach tent from her edible plant fair. Troy attended the event and reported that it was successful and well attended. Troy recommended this event for next year.
- b. Fandango event will not occur again this year.

Old Business:

1) Canopy

- a. Troy still needs high resolution FNPS logo. The logo is now located on the FNPS forum. Daphne will get the logo for Troy and email it to the canopy imagery company.
- b. Troy is hoping to have canopy for October Plant Sale.

New Business:

1) Fall Plant Sale is coming up

- a. Troy has to contact Sally and plant vendors. Typically there are 2 or 3 large vendors and Troy also supplies some plants for the sale. Wildflowers sell the best, Coonties also sell well
- b. Troy is concerned about getting volunteers for the plant sale. He will have a signup sheet at the general meeting tomorrow night. Bob also recommended sending out an email to all members so that members not at the meeting can also volunteer for the event. Daphne confirmed that October 10 and 11 (Sat/Sun) are the dates for the event. Troy would like to set up a committee to meet all responsibilities for tasks of the event. Volunteers for Friday night will also be needed. The email should include all tasks for which volunteers are needed.
- c. Tasks will include
 - i. Someone at the table at all times
 - ii. Someone to pick up plants before the event
 - iii. Someone to take the cash
 - iv. Etc.
- d. Troy would like to group the plants into landscape aesthetics to make the event aesthetically pleasing.
- e. Sally is making plant tags and printing them. Shirley recommends asking Sally for plant tag files for future use.
- f. Daphne recommended that we could increase sales and membership by offering 10% off of plants (not seeds or books) if people join FNPS at the event. Troy advises having people sign up for membership and then complete plant purchase at register.
- g. Shirley recommended consultation with the coordinator for the Pinellas Plant sales. Contact Bill Bilodeau for information.

2) Brochure

- a. Daphne has the electronic version of the brochure. Issues to consider:
 - i. Plants need to be available at nurseries

- ii. Consideration to plants specific to SNPS range
 - iii. Consideration to species and gardening specifics (spacing, sunlight necessity, etc.)
 - iv. One side of brochure would be butterfly plants and the other side would be trees and shrubs
 - b. Shirley suggested the possibility of coordinating with Terry Zin (wildflower license plate group) for funding.
 - c. It will cost \$500 to design brochure. Printing may cost \$482 for 250 brochures or 500 for \$665, or 1000 at less than \$1 each.
 - d. Daphne also recommended applying for SWFWMD community grant to pay for design of brochure. Money would be a reimbursement after task is completed. Grant proposal due by this Friday.
 - e. Troy is concerned about budget for this year. He advises to focus on design and plant list for brochure for this year and to wait for 2010 for a new project.
 - f. Goal of brochure is for outreach. This will be a free publication to educate public of native plants for landscaping and gardening.
 - g. Daphne proposed delegating brochure responsibility to someone at state level to coordinate with Terry Zin and take steps toward publishing.
- 3) Other publications
- a. Real Florida Gardeners AFNN publication has a list of FNPS chapters. It costs \$100 to be published in the publication and we ceased supporting the publication years ago. Troy recommends we start again. FNPS will also have a \$1000 ad next to the chapter list. Shirley motioned to spend \$100 to be in chapter list, Bob seconded the motion. Board unanimously voted in favor.
- 4) 2012 FNPS Conference
- a. Shirley reported that the idea of sponsoring the FNPS conference needs to be presented to the membership at tomorrow's meeting. Shirley received a message recently – UF has a program in Plant City where they use a large building for programs. The building is a conference facility that is rented out other times it can handle 1500 people and includes 6 breakout rooms (100-300 people/room). Facility is currently underused. UF (Michael Andreau) has offered us the free use of the facility for exposure. It is easy access (right off of interstate). The current issue is if there is a suitable conference hotel in the vicinity. Ramada and Holiday Inn may be close. The value of this offer is approximately \$20,000. Shirley recommends consideration of this offer. A contract would be necessary for a guarantee.
 - b. Previous conference recommends 5 rooms with seating ranging from 20 to 200. Large room needs 350-450.
 - c. Shirley's research showed that last conference SNPS sponsored was in 1986.
- 5) Bok Towers
- a. Bok Towers is having a plant sale the weekend after Fall Plant Sale. Troy recommends that we look into it again next year. The sale is too close to our major fall sale. Daphne also confirmed that the Heartland chapter will

be there selling plants and there is no need to compete against another chapter.

The next board meeting will be held at Shirley's house on September 15 at 6:30pm. Troy will be hosting the October meeting with a *Liatris* viewing.

Shirley made a motion to adjourn and Bob seconded. The meeting adjournment was unanimously approved.