

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

April 10, 2023 – 7 pm, on Zoom

The meeting began at 7 pm: Virginia, Tina, Niki, Mike, Linda, Susan, and Shirley attending. The meeting was held remotely via Zoom.

Future Board Meetings will normally be held on the *second Monday of each month*.

### 1. Minutes: Tina Patterson

- The March minutes were posted to the website.

### 2. Treasurer's Report: Niki Cribbs

- Niki sent the March report via email.
- \$200 was spent to buy 2 gift certificates for the FNPS conference silent auction.
- The paperwork for Charitable Organization Solicitation Registration has been resubmitted with IRS information.

### 3. Grants and Expenditures: Niki Cribbs

- Susan Heyer's submission of a grant to buy native plants, mulch and signage for the King's Point HOA common area was sent to all board members via email. The board will vote via email by April 12, after reviewing and discussion.
- Niki will provide checks for Virginia to use in buying plants.

### 4. PR Report:

- Three people signed up to work at the USF Earth Day celebration on April 21, 10 am – 2 pm. This is at the USF Botanical Gardens and is free to the public. Hosted by GLOBE and contact is Shanelle Mulrooney, Vice president of GLOBE.

### 5. Gardens and Outreach: Tina Patterson

- Four Suncoast members will meet with approximately 60 DeSoto Elementary students on April 28, 8:30 – 10:30, to walk the grounds of McKay Bay Nature Park and help identify plants. Sherri Alvarez (DeSoto contact) will provide student guides and lesson plans for the field trip. Tina will advertise for more volunteers and Virginia will find out where we are meeting them.

### 6. Membership Meetings/Speakers:

- **April 23: MOSI- 2 pm- Craig Huegel , "What's Next at the USF Botanical Gardens"**, we will have plants; Virginia is checking to see if we can have food
- **May 17 – Zoom – Member- share.**
- **June 21 – Susan Early, "Weeds"** – in-person meeting at Little Red Wagon Nursery event space. Anita says we can have the meeting any time after 5:30. Tina will get topic summary and bio by May.
- **Joint Meeting: July 12 at the Tampa Garden Club.** There will be a \$100 cleaning fee. We need to check with Sierra on equipment needs (microphone, projector). William Freund of the fStop Foundation will speak. The board voted to give him, or his foundation, a \$500 honorarium. Tina will call Ann Paul (Audubon) about equipment needs.

- Mike suggests we ask attendees to bring a non-perishable food item to the July meeting for donation to a food bank.
- We will continue to solicit speaker suggestions. Eugene Kelly, Sue Mullins, Brent Setchell, Shirley Denton, Karina Veaudry and Barbara Heineken were previously named. Shirley added Louis Marks, Carnivore Connection, and James Freeman, Cactus Island Nursery as possibilities. They are both near Gainesville/Ocala.
- Niki sent an email about daytime, Zoom, conservation -focused meetings as a possible alternative to an evening meeting schedule. She suggested Michael Jenkins on Plant Conservation and Lara Milligan on living shorelines as possible speakers. We will discuss for fall.
- Mike suggested a picnic at Lake Park. Pavilions can be rented from the county.

## 7. Field Trips: Steve Dickman/Tina Patterson/Shirley Denton

- **April 22:** Cypress Creek Preserve, Lizard's Tail Rd entrance. **Steve** will lead.
- No further field trips have been planned. Karla has offered a tour of the USF Herbarium again this summer. The Florida Aquarium or a native nursery are also possible. FNPS conference field trips are the first 3 weekends in May, so ours would need to be the last week in May.

## 8. Plant Sale – April 15 and 16, 2023

- Troy will not be in town for the sale but has promised a trailer/driver. **Virginia** and the driver will pick up plants at Green Seasons about 10:30. **Tina** will have volunteers at USF between noon and 1 to set up. Niki is sending checks to Virginia for payment because they no longer do consignment. Troy says he will buy any leftover plants.
- Paperwork was submitted in February. No new information has been sent.
- Steve Farnsworth will bring trees.
- **Tina** will send the volunteer list to Virginia and pick up items from the storage shed.
- FANN books have not arrived. **Virginia** will see if Troy has a box to lend us. She does have wildflower material and other brochures from FNPS. **Linda** has butterfly guides. She will ask for a \$1 donation for each because of the cost of ordering them. She will also bring a poster. Virginia is also printing a form about the new gopher tortoise license, benefiting Florida Wildlands Trust.

## 9. Newsletter: Shirley Denton

- Submissions for the **May** newsletter should be sent by **April 25**.
- Topics for May: continue to recruit a Council of Chapters representative and plant sale coordinator

### Action Items: please look for highlighted entries in minutes

**Virginia:** plants, items from house for sale, FANN books, food at MOSI and location for DeSoto meetup.

**Niki:** checks, cash box for sale. **Tina:** volunteers, storage shed items. **Anita:** June meeting space

**Linda:** poster and handouts for sale

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

**The next Board of Directors meeting is Monday, May 8, at 7 pm on Zoom.**

Tina (Mable C) Patterson, secretary, Suncoast Chapter of FNPS