

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

April 6, 2026 – 7 pm, on Zoom

The meeting began at 7 pm: Virginia, Tina, Niki, Mike, Merrilee, Michelle, Theresa, and Mary Lou Dahmer attending. The meeting was held remotely via Zoom.

Board Meetings will normally be held on the *second Monday of each month*. **Next Month, May 11, 2026**

### 1. Minutes: Tina Patterson

- The March minutes were posted to the website.

### 2. Treasurer's Report: Theresa Blanchard

- The treasurer's report was sent to all board members via email.
- The FDACS issue should be resolved now.
- Suncoast owes no additional sales tax from last year.

### 3. Grants and Expenditures: Theresa and Virginia

- A motion was made to budget up to \$1000 for the Joint Meeting for speaker expenses, venue, plants, food, and supplies. The motion passed 5-0.
- Tina requested a \$100 donation to the Magnolia Chapter FNPS for their work at the Angus Gholson Nature Park. The board approved 4-0.
- Plant City Community Garden has applied for a \$500 grant to expand and improve the native plant section of the garden. Sharon Spires is the contact. Michelle and Merrilee will do the site visit and report back. Board members asked about irrigation and a maintenance plan for the area.
- Learning Gate Community School of Lutz has applied for a \$500 grant for supplies and equipment to start a propagation program. Merrilee, Mike, and Tina will visit the site and report back. Jenni Healy is the contact.

### 4. PR Report: Michelle

- Michelle created a trifold brochure about Suncoast and FNPS. A motion was made to reimburse her to print 100 copies for the plant sale. The motion was approved 5-0.
- Michelle is also making QR code displays for membership and volunteers. The FNPS logo can only be used with permission.
- Suncoast will have a table at Pops in the Park at Julian B Lane Park on May 10. Tina, Michelle, and Merrilee will coordinate. Contact is Alec Brown.

### 5. Gardens and Outreach: Tina

- Garden workdays will continue to be on the second Thursday (Flatwoods), fourth Tuesday (Lettuce Lake) and third Wednesday (Bell Creek), in 2026. Hours are 8am-10am.

### 6. Membership Meetings/Speakers: Everyone

- **April 15:** Amelia Brown with Tampa Bay Water at Jimmie B Keel Library.
- **May 20:** Tia Saracino at UF/IFAS Extension on Native Cultivars. Merrilee will present "What's Blooming"
- **No plan for June yet**

- **July 15:** Joint Meeting at Tampa Garden Club. Suncoast is host. **Niki** has invited Meredith Budd, Deputy Director of the Live Wildly Foundation, to be our speaker. **Tina** is communicating with Audubon and Sierra.
- **October 21:** Extension with Tia.

#### **7. Field Trips: Merrilee and Tina**

- **April 25:** Triple Creek Preserve with observations for the City Nature Challenge.
- No other field trips have been decided.

#### **8. Plant Sale: April 11 and 12, 2026**

- **Theresa** will bring the cash box, Square readers, and checks on Thursday with the plants.
- **Michelle** will do a Facebook post advertising the sale.
- **Tina** has volunteers available for Thursday-Sunday and will send reminders and information.

#### **9. Newsletter and News:**

- **Tina** sends out an email twice a month to our members.
- **Michelle** will post events to Facebook.

**10. Elections:** Normally held at the November meeting. We will again need new board members who want to have input on meetings, speakers and locations. Board members elect officers at the first meeting of the new board. All officer positions are available, as well as newsletter and membership.

**Action Items: please look for highlighted entries in the minutes.**

**Virginia:** May meeting **Tina:** joint meeting and Learning Gate site visit **Merrilee:** Plant City and Learning Gate site visit; May meeting **Michelle:** print brochures and Plant City site visit **Mike:** Learning Gate site visit

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

**The next Board of Directors meeting is Monday, May 11, 7pm on Zoom**

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