

Suncoast Native Plant Society, Board of Directors Meeting- Minutes

February 6, 2023 – 7 pm, on Zoom

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

Virginia suggested moving the board meeting to the first Tuesday of each month.

1. Minutes: Tina Patterson

- The January minutes were posted to the website.

2. Treasurer's Report: Niki Cribbs

- Niki will send the January report via email at the end of the week.
- Niki received a report from fnps showing our latest membership revenue share will be \$2065.70. This should be paid in February.

3. Grants and Expenditures: Niki Cribbs and Tia Silvasy

- Tia has asked Suncoast to be a supporter for her Florida Wildflower Foundation grant request for the Lettuce Lake Garden. Suncoast would agree to provide maintenance, educational programs, and information about the garden and native plants. We would also assist in planting. The board agreed to sign a letter of support.
- Tia asked for a grant from Suncoast to buy milkweed and other native plants for the Extension Service garden and front entrance and an additional amount to create signs. She also wants to order a flat of milkweed starts to give out at a "Gardening with Natives" class. The board approved a grant of \$500. Niki will contact Tia.
- Tia is also working on a grant request for Suncoast to help Carrollwood Village Park enhance their landscaping with natives. The board would like to visit the location and see the area and plans.

4. PR Report:

- Virginia is resigning as representative to the Council of Chapters. She would like Shirley to run a request for a new representative in the March newsletter. Virginia will write a short article about what the representative does.

5. Gardens and Outreach: Tina Patterson

- 2023 Native Plant Walks at Lettuce Lake will be on the first Saturday of the month.
- Workdays will continue to be held on the 4th Tuesday of each month.

6. Membership Meetings/Speakers: Virginia Overstreet

- **February 15: Jimmie B. Keel Library- Joel Jackson.** People can bring plants to swap. Tina will bring tablecloths and the dongle. Niki will get the computer to Virginia.
- **March 15: Zoom meeting – Karla Alvarado** from USF Herbarium on the Plant Atlas. She will send a bio and summary by February 25.
- **April 23: MOSI-** free admission to meeting attendees. Speaker to be determined. Shirley can ask Barbara Heineken to speak on garbage and recycling.
- **May 17 – Zoom – Member-** share.

- **June 21 – Susan Early – Tina** will confirm and ask about meeting type preferred. Maybe we could get the Butterfly Tampa event space.
- 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. **Niki** will contact.
- 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.
- Mike suggested a picnic at Lake Park. Pavilions can be rented from the county.

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

- **February 18:** Fred and Idah Schultz Preserve
- **March 18:** Tina suggested joining Nature Coast at Upper Tampa Bay Park. Joel is leading a trip that day. **Tina** will contact Nature Coast.

8. Plant Sale – April 15 and 16, 2023

- It was noted that what we owe USF has changed from 10% (non-profit rate) to 20% (commercial vendors). **Niki** will email Terrie Maines to see if we can still get the 10%.
- Troy will not be in town for the sale but has promised a trailer/driver.
- Green Seasons was not sold.
- Paperwork for USF is due by the end of this month.

9. Newsletter: Shirley Denton

- Submissions for the **March** newsletter should be sent by **February 25**.
- Topics for March: continue to recruit Garden Tour volunteers, a Council of Chapters representative and volunteers for the plant sale.

Action Items:

Virginia: get computer from Niki; write article for newsletter **Shirley:** contact Barbara Heineken for April

Niki: grant and honorarium payments to Tia and William, computer to Virginia, plant sale paperwork with question for Terrie **Tina:** tablecloths for meeting, coordinate with Susan Early and Nature Coast; meeting location for June

Everyone: speaker suggestions

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm.

The next Board of Directors meeting is Tuesday, March 7, at 7 pm on Zoom

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