

Suncoast Native Plant Society, Board of Directors Meeting- Minutes

January 15, 2023 – 7 pm, on Zoom

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

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

1. Minutes: Tina Patterson

- The November minutes were posted to the website. There was no board meeting in December.

2. Treasurer's Report: Niki Marino

- The treasurer's report was sent to all board members via email.
- The final for 2023 showed a +4157.48 variance from the approved budget, mostly due to plant sale revenue.
- Niki and Virginia will visit the bank to change Cribbs to Marino for the Treasurer.
- Niki presented the proposed budget for 2024. After discussion and 1 amendment, a motion was made and seconded to adopt the 2024 budget as amended. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

3. Grants and Expenditures:

- A motion was made and seconded to provide a gift card of \$300 to JoAnn Hoffman on her retirement. She provided Suncoast a meeting space for many years at the Extension office. The motion carried 6-0

4. PR Report:

- Shirley will create an 11x17 poster featuring projects that Suncoast supports with funding and volunteers. This can be used at plant sales and other outreach events. Niki will get it printed.
- We need more QR code sheets with website information to use at events.
- Theresa Blanchard has set up a Bonfire account for Suncoast t-shirts. Tina will send a link to members.

5. Gardens and Outreach:

- Virginia, Mike, and Merrilee made a site visit to St. James House of Prayer Episcopal Church on January 12.
- Susan's King's Point Florida Friendly Plant Club had a display table at an event this month and is spreading the word on native plants in Sun City. She needs more landscaping guides to give out at events and meetings. Tina will coordinate with her.
- Susan will be giving a talk to the Hunters Green Garden Club.
- Linda also needs handouts. She will meet Virginia at the storage shed.
- Linda asked us to consider the topic of providing outreach to people outside of our club. Suggestions were made about YouTube videos to share.

6. Membership Meetings/Speakers: Everyone

- Niki suggested dividing up the job of finding speakers among all board members.
- Jordan Parker (possible speaker) did not respond to Tina's email.
- **January 17, 7 pm on Zoom:** "All About Us", Shirley will give FNPS updates, elections will be held, members will share photos. Tina has a PowerPoint on 2023 Field Trips and some photos of Lettuce Lake. We will solicit member input for 2024.

- **February 10, 9-11 am, Cliff's yard:** Cliff Brown invites members to tour his yard, learn about Tillandsias and other natives, and buy plants with 25% of the money raised going to Suncoast. The address will be given to rsvp's only and it will not be advertised on Facebook or in MeetUp. Virginia and Tina will work out the details.
- **March 20, April 17 and May 15:** No speakers have been determined yet. People have asked for a talk on native trees. Shirley has an excellent presentation on this. Tina is trying to reschedule Mary Miller for the bluebird talk. Susan will give a talk on working with HOA/COA boards and the project at King's Point. Francisco Faria has volunteered to speak on his work at SWFWMD (Tina will contact). We would also like Niki to try again with Michael Jenkins on the plant conservation program.

7. Field Trips:

- **January 20:** Bullfrog Creek Wildlife and Environmental Area.
- **February 24:** Merrilee and Theresa are looking at possibilities.
- Linda spoke with Alison Hughes at CELM about wagon tours. Hillsborough County is working on buying a new wagon.

8. Spring Plant Sale:

- As discussed above, we need a poster showing our activities to display at the sale.
- Virginia said we need to check the sale area for vines and bring clippers to cut them back.
- Virginia warned us to expect changes at Green Seasons Nursery under new management.
- Sale dates are April 13 and 14 with setup on Thursday and/or Friday.

9. Elections:

- Board nominee profiles were published in the January newsletter. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor. Officers will be selected at the next board meeting.

10. Newsletter: Shirley Denton

- Update contact information to include Merrilee Wallbrunn, mwallbrunn@hotmail.com, as Site Visit Coordinator.
- Provide pictures, advertising, and link for the t-shirt sales. We are selling at cost, but donations can be added into the purchase.
- Susan plans to write an article on the King's Point common area project. We may hold this to coincide with her talk.

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

Virginia: coordinate with Cliff and Tina on meeting, handouts **Shirley:** newsletter, poster, QR code sheets. **Niki:** print poster **Tina:** meeting, handouts, **Linda:** look for short YouTube videos on natives **Susan:** article on outreach activities and garden project.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.

The next Board of Directors meeting is on Monday, February 12, at 7 pm on Zoom.

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