

Suncoast Native Plant Society, Board of Directors Meeting- Minutes

January 12, 2026 – 7 pm, on Zoom

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

Board Meetings will normally be held on the *second Monday of each month*. **Next Month, February 9.**

1. Minutes: Tina Patterson

- The December minutes were posted to the website.

2. Treasurer's Report: Theresa Blanchard

- The treasurer's report was sent to all board members via email.
- **Theresa** sent a draft budget for 2026.
- Michelle has information on a grant for up to \$5000 available from TBEP for educational programs.

3. Grants and Expenditures: Virginia Overstreet and Theresa Blanchard

- A motion was made to reimburse **Merrilee** \$270 for the Council of Chapters retreat. The motion passed 6-0.
- A motion was made to reimburse **Virginia** for ordering 300 butterfly host plant pamphlets from UF. Passed 6-0
- Suncoast should get access to the FNPS video-sharing platform or should acquire our own account.

4. PR Report: Michelle Anaya and Tina

- Bonnie Eaton, Roots and Shoots at U. of Tampa, would like us to participate in an outreach event on Friday and Saturday, February 27 and 28. **Niki** and **Allison** will do microscope activities for middle school and high school students. **Tina** will coordinate volunteers for an informational table.
- County CELM has invited us to table at Fire Fest at Medard Park on February 21, 2026. **Tina** and **Merrilee** will coordinate.
- **Michelle** is planning some Reels with interviews or demonstrations for Facebook.
- **Virginia** will send Michelle contact info for Valerie Anderson so she can use FNPS photos.

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.
- **Virginia** proposed a grant for *Liatris* at the Bell Creek Garden which would include professional help with installation and maintenance from Springer Environmental. We should look for a Bell Creek plant list to see which species are present on the preserve.

6. Membership Meetings/Speakers: Everyone

- **January 22, 7 pm on Zoom:** presentation on Suncoast activities and board responsibilities.
- Virginia and Tia have agreed to get the Extension classroom for the May and October meetings.
- **Tina** will ask Anita Camacho about meetings at Little Red Wagon.
- **Michelle** has ideas on short, themed meetings on related topics.
- **Virginia** suggested shorter presentations with time for discussion after.
- **Merrilee** suggested including a "what's in bloom" segment at each meeting.

7. Field Trips: Tina and Merrilee

- **January 17, 9am-12pm: Myron and Helen Gibbons Preserve**
- Camping at Torreya SP March 30-April 3, 2026.

8. Plant Sale: suggestions for next time, April 11 and 12, 2026

- Ask **Theresa** for a list of plants left over. Order fewer or none of these.
- **Someone** should visit the nursery the day before placing the order to see what looks good and is in bloom.

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: butterfly brochures from UF; Zoom meeting link **Niki:** February programs at UT **Theresa:** 2026 budget **Tina and Merrilee: Fire Fest 2026. Michelle:** Facebook

The meeting was adjourned at 8 pm.

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

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