

Suncoast Native Plant Society, Board of Directors Meeting- Minutes

March 7, 2023 – 7 pm, on Zoom

The meeting began at 7 pm: Virginia, Tina, 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 February minutes were posted to the website.

2. Treasurer's Report: Niki Cribbs (not on the call)

- Niki sent the February report via email.
- There was no discussion at this time.

3. Grants and Expenditures: Niki Cribbs

- Tia is making a VIVA grant request for Carrollwood Village Park to enhance their landscaping with natives. She is not requesting a grant from Suncoast at this time. She has asked us to review and comment on the design and plant list.
- The board voted to provide 2 \$100 gift cards from Little Red Wagon and Springer Environmental for the FNPS conference silent auction. Niki will contact them to set up the purchases.

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 April newsletter. Virginia will write a short article about what the representative does.
- Susan discussed the importance of Facebook pages in reaching more people. Shirley sent us a link for the FNPS members-only page, www.facebook.com/groups/fnpsmembersonly.

5. Gardens and Outreach: Tina Patterson

- **March 10:** site visit to Linda B's property
- Susan has requested a speaker for her Landscaping and/or Pond Committee at King's Point in Sun City Center. Virginia has some presentations available.
- New business/nonprofit member Regenerative Shift works with DeSoto Elementary. They have asked if Suncoast could walk the grounds of the school to identify native plants. Linda, Virginia and Susan are interested. Virginia will contact.

6. Membership Meetings/Speakers: Virginia Overstreet

- **March 15: Zoom meeting** – Karla Alvarado from USF Herbarium on the Plant Atlas.
- **April 23: MOSI-** free admission to meeting attendees. Speaker to be determined. Shirley will ask Barbara Heineken to speak on garbage and recycling. Eugene Kelly from FNPS as another possibility.
- **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.
- 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.
- 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

- **March 12: Fish Hawk Preserve North**, meets at Lithia Springs
- **March 18: Upper Tampa Bay Park**, joint field trip with Nature Coast Chapter, led by Joel Jackson
- **April**: no plan yet. Date will need to be moved because of the plant sale. Tina will coordinate with Steve and Shirley.

8. Plant Sale – April 15 and 16, 2023

- Troy will not be in town for the sale but has promised a trailer/driver.
- Paperwork was submitted in February.
- FANN books are being sent and should be available in April. Virginia is ordering booklets from Fl. Wildflower Foundation.

9. Newsletter: Shirley Denton

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

Action Items:

Virginia: newsletter article on Council job and many other items Shirley: April speaker, advertise for volunteers.

Niki: gift cards for silent auction Tina: coordinate on field trips Anita: June space Susan: arrange time and location for Virginia to speak to KP committees.

Everyone: speaker suggestions

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

The next Board of Directors meeting is Monday, April 10, at 7 pm on Zoom.

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