

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

March 9, 2026 – 7 pm, on Zoom

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

Board Meetings will normally be held on the *second Monday of each month*. **Next Month, April 6**

### 1. Minutes: Tina Patterson

- The January minutes were posted to the website. There was no meeting in February as no quorum was present.

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

- The treasurer's report was sent to all board members via email.
- The FDACS stock certificate is listed as pending.
- A motion was made to appoint **Merrilee Wallbrunn** as Vice President of Finance. The motion was approved 4-1. Merrilee will assist Theresa with paperwork and recordkeeping.

### 3. Grants and Expenditures: Virginia Overstreet

- Tina asked that up to \$1500 be added to the budget for the joint meeting expenses. This includes location rental (\$200), plants, supplies and speaker reimbursement. The item was tabled until we have a speaker.

### 4. PR Report: Tina

- The outreach events at FireFest, HCC, and UT were successful. Niki and Allison prepared a microscope presentation for UT. There were networking opportunities with other organizations.
- "Welcome Back Songbirds" at USF Botanical Gardens, is March 28, 9am-3pm. **Merrilee and Michelle** are handling this. **Tina** will provide supplies. Merrilee has not heard back from the USF staff.

### 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

- **March 15:** iNaturalist Plant ID at Lettuce Lake; Tina, Merrilee, and Anita Crnjac
- **April 15:** Amelia Brown with Tampa Bay Water at Jimmie B Keel Library
- **May 20:** Tia Saracino at Extension; she would like other short topic talks
- **July 15:** Joint Meeting at Tampa Garden Club. Suncoast is host. **Niki** is contacting LliveWildly.com about a speaker. **Tina** will contact Forest Turbiville from CELM and ELAP if that falls through.

### 7. Field Trips: Merrilee and Tina

- **March 21:** Little Manatee River SP- Sand Pine Trail, south of the river.
- Camping at Torreya SP March 30-April 3, 2026. Angus Gholson Nature Park tour

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

- **Virginia** will look for a list of plants left over. Order fewer or none of these. She will also look for a copy of last year's order and contact Steve Farnsworth.

- **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:** plant list from last spring and check with Steve Farnsworth **Niki:** contact Live Wildly **Tina:** joint meeting  
**Merrilee:** Welcome Back Songbirds table **Michelle:** Facebook and Welcome Back Songbirds

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

**The next Board of Directors meeting is Monday. April 6, 7pm on Zoom**

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