

Suncoast Native Plant Society, Board of Directors Meeting- Notes

October 13, 2020 – 7 pm, on GoToMeeting

The meeting began at 7 pm: Virginia, Mike, Steve, Tina, Shirley, Niki, Janet and Anita attending. The meeting was held remotely via GoToMeeting.

1. **Minutes:** The September minutes were posted to the website.

2. **Treasurer's Report: Niki Cribbs**

- Niki sent the treasurer's report to all board members. There was no discussion.
- Shirley suggested that Niki call FNPS about the membership renewals which we gave for speakers and as a door prize.

3. **Grants and Expenditures: Niki Cribbs and Virginia Overstreet**

- Virginia has completed the purchases for the Middleton High School grant and sent receipts to Niki.
- Virginia and Mike are meeting with the USF group on Thursday, October 15, 10 am, to discuss plans for the garden at USF Riverfront Park.

4. **PR Report:**

- The board would like to get a proclamation for Florida Native Plant Month next year. Anita is already working with the City of Tampa on the Encore Park landscaping and other projects and volunteered to help with contacts.
- Anita also suggested working with groups such as Florida Aquarium, Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful and the Super Bowl Green Project to promote native plants.
- NABA Tampa Bay is also planning a Butterfly Festival in Tampa next fall. It would be great if Suncoast could participate. That would have to depend on how close it is to the USF Plant Sale which is held the second weekend in October.

5. **Gardens and Outreach: Mike Fite**

- Ranger Jared has invited us to visit the Morris Bridge garden to see the progress and take pictures. We might also advise him on plants to add to the new area. **Sunday, October 18, 12:15 pm**, for those who can come.
- Virginia suggested we ask members to contribute plants they have grown for our native plant gardens in the parks.

6. **Membership Meetings/Speakers: Virginia Overstreet and Shirley Denton**

- **October 21- Mimi Jenkins** "Reasons for Pollinator Decline"
- **November 18- Anita Camacho- NABA Tampa Bay-** "Local Butterflies" and general election meeting
- **December 16** – A holiday party does not seem possible at this time. We plan to hold an on-line meeting where members can share their photos with the group. We will run it like the Audubon Photo Club. Everyone who wants to share can send up to 5 pictures to Virginia who will put them in a PowerPoint. Deadline to submit is one week ahead, December 9. These can be travel photos, garden photos or questions about plants.
- **It was also suggested that we get a report (with pictures) on the two current grant projects for the December meeting.**

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

- **October 17- Cockroach Creek Greenway Preserve** (from September)
- **Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park** for the weekend of **October 23-25**. We have sites #9 ,11 and 13 and Shirley has #7.
- **November 7 – Conner Preserve – note date change to avoid Thanksgiving weekends**. Steve should get info to Shirley and Tina as soon as possible because of the early date.

8. Plant Sale- November 14

- Kim has offered to let us do a native plant sale in the gardens on November 14. We would be the only vendor and donate 10% of profits to the USF Botanical Garden. No entrance fee will be charged. The sale can only be held if USF remains open.
- Green Seasons in Parrish will provide plants on consignment but they must be in good condition when returned. Virginia will put in the order the week of the sale and ask for plants that are blooming, where possible. We will use the plant list from last fall as a guide and order about half of what we usually would. Virginia will send the plant list and price list out to the board.
- Virginia, Niki and Mike will pick up plants Friday morning, November 13, and have them at USF by noon.
- Tina will ask for volunteers at the meeting and in announcements and get supplies to USF by noon Friday.
- Advertising will be on Facebook (share to garden groups and Audubon, FNPS). The USF Botanical Garden will announce to their members. Tina will put the flyer on the website and calendar. Maybe buy signs to put on the street near the gardens.
- **Suggested hours** for the sale are **9 am – 2 pm**.
- **Supplies needed:** signs about masks and social distancing (**maybe USF has some available or Niki will order**), hand sanitizer at entrance and check out. Tables. Stakes and ID cards. Price tags and other seller supplies. Cash box and Squares. For those people who will help cash out, the credit card Square reader has to be plugged into your phone. The Square reader plugs in with a headphone jack type connector. If you have a newer iPhone it won't take a headphone jack and you'll need to bring an adapter.

10. Election of Board Members, November 18

- All current officers, Anita Camacho and Janet Bowers have agreed to be on the board.
- Barbara Fite, Nanette O'Hara and Pat Lantis are the nominating committee. Tina has contacted them with names and they will report if there are additional candidates. Nominations can be made at the meeting. Vote will be taken at the meeting.
- Shirley will publish in the newsletter. She suggested a short statement from each nominee.
- The board would like to continue holding meetings using GoToMeeting.

11. Newsletter: Shirley Denton

- Submissions for the November newsletter should be sent by October 26.
- Possible topics are Conner Preserve field trip, Plant Sale Flyer and board election information, December meeting announcement with instructions to send photos to Virginia.

Action Items:

Virginia: Create link for next week's meeting and send to Tina. Plant sale. USF garden meeting.

Niki: Go with Virginia to transport plants. Bring supplies: cash box, change, Square card readers, one table (it's a smaller one, like 2x4' size), pens, sales "chits" & stock certificate (although it's probably not going to be asked for like at the big sales)

Tina: Get events on calendar, MeetUp and website. Supplies for plant sale.

Shirley: newsletter

Mike: Plant sale set up. USF garden meeting.

Steve: Send Conner Preserve field trip information to Shirley and Tina.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

The next Board of Directors meeting is Tuesday, November 10, at 7 pm.

Tina (Mable C) Patterson, SNPS secretary