Suncoast Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2026 (via Google Meet)

(6:30 – 7:52 pm)

In Attendance: Board Members Anita Crnjac (Co-President), Neal Halstead (Vice President), Mary James (Secretary), Sue Cotty (At Large), Mary Lou Dahmer (At Large), Mike Fite (At Large), Carlos Frey (At Large), Tina Patterson (At Large), Linda Steele-Green (At Large)
Absent: Katelyn Belser (Treasurer)
Quorum Present?: Yes

Former Co-President, Michelle Anaya, submitted her resignation to the Board (effective immediately) via email at 6:12 pm just prior to the meeting. There was brief discussion of the resignation during the meeting, but primary focus was preparation for upcoming Fall Plant Sale at USF Botanical Garden (October 10-11).

1. Working Document

- Anita introduced concept of a "working document" that all Board members can update to report on a topic or add an agenda item. She requested that agenda items be added by Monday prior to regular Board meetings. She will send Board Members a link to the Google doc.

2. USF Fall Plant Sale

- Plant Labels/Sales Tracking – Anita shared view of labels she created for all plants for sale with a QR code that links to care instructions. Earthbalance plants are shaded green, and Steve Farnsworth plants are shaded blue. She will print the labels and deliver them to plant sale. Suggests only putting labels on plants that are sold so leftover labels can assist with tracking sales.
- Plant pricing - Generally agreed on $10 for 1-gallons and $15 for 3-gallon plants with a few exceptions. This is similar to past pricing and in line with other vendors. Neal will add prices to the labels/tracking sheet that Anita created.
- Volunteer Wristbands – only 6 allotted. Carlos is a member of the USF Botanicals Garden so will not need a wristband; hoping that other volunteers can share/trade off on shifts to avoid purchasing more wristbands.
- Weather – Rain predicted with approaching Hurricane Isaias. Carlos can bring a 10' x 10' tent, and Neal thinks he can bring one too. Sales desk will need to be covered.
- Carlos picked up items from storage today (ie, banners, hand outs, cash boxes, etc) and will deliver to USF tomorrow morning.
- Bot Garden will be closed to visitors tomorrow to allow for vendor set-up.
- Plant delivery – Delivery time estimated at 11:30 am tomorrow per email today. Earthbalance expected to call with an ETA. Michelle expected to bring a check ($2,019.95) to pay Earthbalance for plants and delivery fee.
- Volunteers – Not sure if volunteers were given an arrival time. Mary Lou was not previously informed of arrival time, but is close by and can arrive most anytime. Anita will try to review

prior emails tonight and send an email to volunteers. Tina can help with volunteer contact info if needed.

- Wagons – A couple of volunteers have indicated they have wagons they can bring to help with unloading plants.
- Sales:
    - Cash - Carlos picked up 2 cash boxes from storage, but no cash in them. Tina had suggested to Michelle having $200-$300 cash on hand for change.
    - Zeffy – Not clear on status of Zeffy set-up for credit card payment. Requires 2 factor authorization, but not sure whose phone number is linked to the account, or if account is set up.
    - Square – Tina has Square app saved on her phone from prior sales and login info. However, 2-factor verification is linked to Viriginia's phone (prior President). Anita may be able to manually enter info to create a new account if she can get bank account info from Michelle.
    - Carlos suggested having paper back up of all sales. He will pick up some notebooks so this can be recorded.

3. Wildflower Seeds for Bell Creek Preserve

- Tina requested authorization to purchase up to $50 worth of wildflower seeds to supplement the Bell Creek Preserve native plant garden. Liatris is primary species desired, but may need to supplement with tickseed (Coreopsis spp.) or goldenrod (Solidago spp.) if fresh Liatris seed is limited. This money is already set aside in the budget as "Other Garden Support", a category for purchase of plants or seeds for gardens maintained by Suncoast volunteers. Board unanimously approved purchase of the wildflower seed as requested.

4. Florida Wildlife Federation gala

- Anita recapped that SNPS was invited to attend the FWF 90th Anniversary gala at Zoo Tampa on 10/22. We were asked to provide silent auction items, so Anita and Michelle had discussed offering a 1 year membership to FNPS and a Plant ID workshop.

The meeting ended at 7:52 pm.

The date of the next regular Board of Directors meeting is November 12.

Minutes submitted by Mary James, Secretary, Suncoast Chapter of FNPS on 10/25/26.