



Florida Native Plant Society
Board of Directors GoToMeeting
Thursday, September 27, 2018 @ 7:00 PM

Minutes

Meeting Information was posted on the Forum and emailed to the Board members. Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm.

Members in Attendance: Susan Carr, Catherine Bowman, Don Spence, Bonnie Basham, Gail Parsons, Shirley Denton, Todd Angel, Paul Schmalzer, Anne Cox, Gene Kelley, Grace Howell, Ron Blair, Carol Sullivan, and Wendy Poag. Quorum established.

Absent: Marlene Rodak, Athena Phillips, Christine Warren.

Non-Voting: Juliet Rynear, Executive Director

I. Consent Agenda: Catherine Bowman moved to approve the Consent Agenda, specifically items Conservation Committee Report, Land Management Partners Committee Report, Executive Director's Report. Carol Sullivan seconded, motion carried.

II. Meeting Minutes, 11 August 2018: Paul Schmalzer moved to approve the Minutes from 11 August 2019 Board of Directors Meeting. Carol Sullivan seconded, motion carried. Todd Angel, Catherine Bowman, and Ron Blair abstained.

III. REGULAR AGENDA

1. President Susan Carr.

a. Susan Carr Introduced Bonnie Basham as Treasurer (Sarracenia Chapter) to serve the remaining term vacated by Peter Rogers. Susan then introduced Todd Angel (Tarflower Chapter) as Conservation Chair.

b. Naples Chapter update: Good news, the chapter is still active, Although the Chapter Board was considering withdrawing from FNPS, they had met in August and voted to not dissolve. The Coccoloba chapter has also reached out to them to assist in field trips and events.

c. Southeast Regional Policy Initiative proposal - Susan recommended that this item be moved to Section III, Anne Cox moved, Shirley Denton seconded. Item moved below.

2. Treasurer – Bonnie Basham

a. Bonnie provided an overview of the current budget status and indicated the Society is in good financial condition. Even though approaching 4th quarter, expenses have been lower than anticipated.

3. Executive Director – Juliet Rynear

a. Juliet Rynear updated the Board that Valerie Anderson (Pine Lily Chapter) had been hired as

Director of Director of Communications and Programming. Valerie to date is truly exceeding expectations on her work.

b. Annual Retreat announcement. The retreat will be at St. Joseph's Bay State Buffer Preserve. There are dorm style rooms to rent at the Preserve, for those wishing to stay at a hotel, there are hotels in Port St. Joe. In addition, St. Joseph's Peninsula State Park close by has camping.

c. Juliet Rynear indicated that the Pineywoods Chapter has only 3 members and she recommended that this be dissolved. Juliet has tried to contact the chapter president with no success, and indicated they had no By-Laws or officers other than the president. Discussion ensued. Carol Sullivan stated that the chapter is not holding meetings even though they are listed on the calendar as occurring each month. The Board recommended that we let the members know that FNPS has dissolved the chapter and offer them the opportunity to join the Sparkleberry Chapter close by. It was also recommended that the chapter president be notified via certified mail (signature of receipt required) of the chapter dissolution. **Gail Parsons moved to dissolve the Pineywoods Chapter. Todd Angel seconded. Motion carried.**

d. 2019 Budget review. Juliet presented the draft budget and noted that it represents a \$57,000 deficit. \$50,000 of the deficit was approved by the Board for the hiring of a 2nd staff position, but Juliet stated that she added \$5,000 for videography services (for education and fundraising), \$1,500 for staff and Board training, and \$1,500 for staff attendance/tabling at other conferences. These additions are optional and pending Board approval. A training budget had been included in previous budgets, but had fallen out for 2018. Beginning in 2019, the Director of Communications & Programming will be taking on the duties previously performed by contractors, specifically, bringing the work of the Sabal Minor and Social Media contractors "in house".

e. USFWS and Florida Rare Plant Conservation Endowment MOU proposal: the Executive Committee recommendation was for the MOU to be tabled until the fundraising issue can be resolved. See Executive Committee meeting notes for further details.

f. TorreyaKeepers proposal: the Executive Committee recommended further meetings with Leigh Brooks and Magnolia Chapter leaders as the proposal is not clear what FNPS role would be. The Executive Committee and the Board would like to keep this as an FNPS project. See ExCom meeting notes for further details.

g. Southeast Regional Policy Initiative proposal. Per discussion, this item has merit and it was recommended that further research be conducted regarding the budget items (providing food for legislators may not be allowed for example) and the possibility that a "How to" manual be provided for other regions. Gene Kelley as Policy Chair is already involved and should continue to provide guidance to the Board. The Executive Committee recommended and the Board agreed that the Committee should meet with the regional chapter leaders to gain more information and detail about the proposal.

4. Membership Chair, Anne Cox

Anne moved to amend the 2018 budget for the purchase another 15,000 membership brochures at a cost of \$1,800. Bonnie seconded. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Susan Carr moved that the board approve the disbursement \$10,000 in temporarily restricted funds to Cuplet Fern chapter of FNPS in support of their educational programming. Bonnie Basham seconded, motion passed.

Motion to adjourn by Bonne Basham, seconded by Shirley Denton. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

2018 SCHEDULED MEETINGS (<http://fnps.org/events/events>)

October 25 - 7:00 pm GoToMeeting

November 10th – in-person meeting at UF/IFAS Extension Services Building in Kissimmee

February 16-17, 2019 – Annual Retreat - St Joseph Bay State Buffer Preserve, Port St. Joe

May 16, 2019 – Plantation on Crystal River, Crystal River

Minutes by: Jackie Rolly