



Florida Native Plant Society
Board of Directors GoToMeeting
Thursday, May 21, 2020 @ 7:00PM

MINUTES

Agenda Created by: Susan Carr, Bonnie Basham and Juliet Rynear. Meeting Information was posted on the Forum and emailed to the Board members.

In attendance: Susan Carr, Jackie Rolly, Wendy Poag, Shirley Denton, Bonnie Basham, Ron Blair, David Martin, Jim Erwin, Paul Schmalzer, Gene Kelly, Carol Sullivan, Wayne Baker (proxy for Kara Driscoll), Todd Angel, Grace Howell, Juliet Rynear (staff) and Valerie Anderson (staff)

Absent: Marlene Rodak

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Bonnie Basham moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Wendy Poag seconded, motion passed. Minutes from April 9, 2020, approved

1. President Susan Carr
2. Science Advisory Committee – Paul Schmalzer
3. Education Committee – Wendy Poag
4. Executive Director Report – Juliet Rynear

REGULAR AGENDA

1. President Susan Carr
 - a. The April vote on granting complimentary lifetime membership to exiting President, Susan Carr was rescinded. Shirley Denton moved that Susan Carr be awarded a lifetime membership for her generous donations financially and in terms of her volunteer efforts. Wendy Poag seconded. Susan Carr abstained from voting. **Motion passed.**
 - b. Susan Carr reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Bok Tower Gardens (BTG). The MOU copy provided to the Board members was sent to the BTG attorney, however, no response has been received to date. It is hoped that even if the MOU is not signed/accepted by BTG, that a working relationship can be established.
 - c. Susan Carr indicated that two Board members, Todd Angel, Conservation Chair, and Carol McKay, Director at Large, had resigned from the Board. Discussion followed that Todd Angel would like to continue in the capacity of Conservation Project Coordinator and continue working on the projects currently being pursued. However, due to time constraints with his job, he could not regularly attend Board meetings. Further discussion of Board structure ensued and whether or not committee chairs should be required to serve on the Board. A topic of discussion

was that perhaps the Committee Chair for the Conference no longer be a Board member as most conference logistics are currently being performed by the Executive Director. Shirley Denton expressed a concern that the knowledge and expertise brought to the Board by the Science Advisory Committee Chair, Education Chair, Communications Chair and others would be lost. Carol Sullivan moved that the position of Conservation Coordinator be created for Todd and that he should continue conservation work for the Society but not as a board member. Grace Howell seconded, **motion passed.**

2. Treasurer Bonnie Basham

- a. Paul Schmalzer moved to direct the Treasurer, Bonnie Basham, to sign the 990 tax return for 2019. Ron Blair seconded, **motion passed.**
- b. Bonnie Basham presented the report and recommendations from the Finance Committee:
 - i. Ron Blair moved to approve the amendments as presented to the *Internal Controls, Authorizations, and Financial Records Procedures* policy. Paul Schmalzer seconded, **motion passed.**
 - ii. Paul Schmalzer moved to approve the amendments as presented to the *Fiscal Management Policy and Procedures* policy. Wendy Poag seconded, **motion passed.**
 - iii. Susan Carr indicated that a donor approached FNPS about establishing a new Fund for FNPS mission work. This would be a donor restricted fund of \$6,000 for 4 years if approved by the Board. The fund would make small annual grants of up to \$1,500 for the purpose of collecting information and data on unstudied native plants, populations, plant communities and/or habitats. The fund would be open to all but with a preference for FNPS members or chapters. A name for the fund can be considered at a later date as well as how the funds will be maintained. Shirley Denton moved to approve the new fund and policy in support of the fund. David Martin seconded, **motion passed.**
 - iv. A Legacy Society bequest was made and the Finance Committee recommended that the monies be invested in a 6-month CD for the time being, until the Finance Committee makes a long-term recommendation.

3. Executive Director – Juliet Rynear

- a. Juliet Rynear informed the Board that the Society had received the check from the Cares Act Paycheck Protection Program via Live Oak Bank. The Care Act funds will help cover the pay for the two employee salaries that were lost when the annual conference was cancelled.
- b. Juliet Rynear discussed the budget revisions. Bonnie Basham moved to approve the budget as amended. Wendy Poag seconded, **motion passed.**
- c. Dan Austin Grant
 - 1. Juliet Rynear informed the board that no applications were received by the Conservation Grant subcommittee during the application period for the Dan Austin Award for Ethnobotany. However, after the applications were closed, a

graduate student at Florida International University, in Dr. Suzanne Koptur's plant-ecology lab asked if they could apply for the award. Discussions ensued whether to open the grant for applications again, or allow this individual to apply. Paul Schmalzer moved to have the committee review the application, given the unusual circumstances with the Covid 19 pandemic and to make the award upon satisfactory review by the committee. Carol Sullivan seconded, **motion passed.**

- d. Juliet Rynear indicated that an individual was interested in a 3-month internship with FNPS that would be paid for by the Career Source Central Florida. Juliet Rynear had compiled a list of possible tasks to be done remotely, but also included some field work.

New Business –

- Annual Members meeting agenda & update (June 6th)
- Election of officers
- FWF MOU signing at Annual Members meeting
- Presentation of year-end reports of committees
- Presentation of awards
- July meeting date – Bonnie Basham will send out a Doodle poll to the Board and set the date.

Bonnie Basham made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Wayne Baker seconded, and meeting was adjourned at 8:59 pm.

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

June 6th - (annual meeting & awards)

June – TBD

August – TBD

November – TBD

December – TBD

I certify that these minutes were approved by the Board of Directors on 9 April 2020.

Signature

Jacqueline Y. Rolly
Printed name

Secretary
Title
Date