Florida Native Plant Society
Council of Chapters (Goto) Meeting 10/23/16 Minutes
Created on 10/23/16 by Nicole Zampieri

In attendance (16)

Dave Feagles – Director (Serenoa)
Donna Bollenbach – Assistant Director (Suncoast)
Nicole Zampieri – Secretary (Magnolia)
   Juliet Rynear
   Al Squires (Mangrove)
   Ginny Stibolt (Ixia)
   Jan Allyn (Pinellas)
   Jeannie Brodhead (Sarracenia)
   Greg Thomas (Heartland)
   Jonnie Spitler (Nature Coast)
   Julie Wert (Nature Coast)
   Miki Renner (Hernando)
   Susan Lerner (West Palm Beach President)
   Wendy Poag (Lake Beautyberry)
   Lucy Keshavarz (West Palm Beach)
   Julie Becker (Tarflower)

Dave Feagles officially called the meeting to order at 6:35

I. Introductions
   Any first timers

   ● Susan and Lucy here for the first time
   ● Newcomers announced where they are from and others discussed whether or not they could hear each other. Lucy Keshavarz and Susan Lerner from West Palm Beach County Chapter, Ginny Stibolt from Ixia Chapter, Greg Thomas from Heartland Chapter, and Miki Renner from Hernando Chapter
   ● Al asked Donna if she knew any chapters that were going to order more brochures. Donna says they are planning on ordering but doesn’t know of any else. She knows her chapter will, and asked if he got hers from Marlene. Al has not received them and Donna confirmed he will receive them at the November meeting.
   ● Glitches in the beginning – feedback loop. Dave asked everyone to be quiet to end the feedback loop and asked if Donna or Juliet started the meeting, Juliet confirmed it had to have been Dave. He was unable to mute everybody. He hoped to eliminate feedback loop by muting
everyone.

- Julie Becker cannot enter the meeting at all except by phone, Greg is having issues getting on via computer so he will call in.
- Welcome at 6:44

New Secretary – Nicole Zampieri

- Nicole Zampieri introduction – New secretary for the council. Currently an undergraduate at Florida State University studying Environmental Science. Will graduate in December and am applying to graduate school, hoping to study Ecology or Biogeography. Currently the milkweed intern at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge and working at Trillium Gardens with Vanessa Crisler and Dan Miller and just came back from an internship in Alaska doing exotic plant management at Katmai National Park & Preserve… you have seen pictures of this park, they have the highest density of brown bears of anywhere in the world. So I got to see tons and tons of brown bears and it was a whole lot of fun but I am happy to be back in Florida.
- Dave clarified the importance of everyone stating their name before speaking for accurate minutes.

II. Comments

Major Computer Issues = No minutes
Conference Support Get the word out – Volunteers needed

- Dave – I wanted to let you know in case you haven’t heard I’ve had some major computer problems. I mean really major. In fact it seems that it’s more of a matter of electronics – I am afraid to start my truck for fear it will blow that computer too. My telephone lost data, computer lost all pictures, I lost all my council of chapters files, and one of the things I lost off my phone was the recording of the last meeting we have, and unfortunately that means that there were no minutes from that meeting. We just don’t have any. The only thing that I could comment too was that we discussed at length the problems chapters have had with websites. But there are no minutes from that meeting I am sorry to say.
- Al – I’ve got the last meeting recorded I’ll send it to you after this session.
- Dave- okay. When you say the last meeting are you talking about the face to face?
- Al – oh no, I am talking about the goto meeting.
- Dave – It is the face to face meeting I lost on my phone.
- Al – can’t help you.
- Dave – the conference is upcoming. We really need to get the word out about the conference - what its gonna be about, see if we can generate interest, and it would be nice if we could get people to help with that conference as well. So please put the word out in your chapters. Especially those that are located somewhere in the vicinity.
- Donna Bollenbach- We have a couple of new volunteers. Shirley Denton has volunteered to be field trip coordinator. If you have ideas for field trips in that area please contact her. She has a form she would have you fill out. She is looking for people to lead field trips in that area. I think she is gonna be an excellent field trip coordinator. She is very familiar with the area and will be great for field trips. We already have a couple that we have gotten semi-confirmation for. The other thing I will let Juliet talk about is Theresa from Juliets chapter is gonna be program coordinator. We are still working on the speakers. But it is very important that we let our chapter members know that they need to be making their reservations sooner rather than later. This venue is requiring we get them in a little bit further ahead of time. Also, there is only so many different types of rooms available at so many numbers, so if you want a specific type you want to get your reservation in early. Our organization has been pushing to get us to have this available earlier, and we have, and many organizations have theirs available a year out, and we
just ask that you sign up and I guarantee we will have a great conference. And I’m gonna let Juliet continue on that.

• Juliet – the only thing I would add is that we have been giving the regional chapters of central Florida the first chance at volunteering to do tasks at the conference, because when you do some kind of volunteer tasks or job at some kind of capacity you get a free conference day, which is $85 a day saving depending on the level of involvement. Entire chapters have been taking on tasks, a chapter is gonna do a game, instead of jeopardy they are gonna come up with a new game, plus as Donna mentioned Shirley volunteered to be the field trip coordinator. If we don’t fill the slots soon though, then we are gonna open up the opportunity for the entire society. First come first serves.

• Donna – and am I right that Field trip leaders will not be getting an entire day free?
• Juliet – I think they may have some perk but TBD
• Greg – I was curious, I have not seen the registration email, unless I missed it, has it already been sent?
• Juliet – a notice has been sent out to all members about the conference. The phone number to call for reservations is on the website.
• Donna – I did post it to Facebook with the link. And we will keep sending things out
• Juliet – we are going to keep on communicating
• Al – Just to clarify The only thing that has been sent out is information about the venue, no info has been sent out about signing up for the conference
• Dave – Donna can you clarify conference topic?
• Donna – The theme is connections above and below I am pulling up notes
• Juliet – So many ways you can go with this, we are looking at speakers to address connections such as underground mycorrhizal connections. Theres been a number of really good books come out lately about trees and how they communicate and help each other below ground. Also the venue is located in the heart of what was the everglades watershed so there are tons of connections there, all the things that have gone wrong with the discharges out of Lake Okeechobee, it’s a political hot potato right now, it is very important we keep talking about how we move forward and how we restore that watershed. Some of the speakers that have signed up are doing restoration work in the Kissimmee watershed area, and then the Kissimmee prairie. We are trying to get 2 field trips, donna is working on the second one
• Donna – this “connections” includes urban and natural landscapes connections, plants to people connections, the roots to the canopy connections. It does encompass a lot, but we felt that this central area was so connected to the way everything in the state – the health of the environment in the state – that we wanted to be able to explore those areas while we were out there. The field trips are gonna be phenomenal I am trying to get 2 at Kissimmee prairie, we have one on Thursday for sure, then we have the Kissimmee river restoration we are gonna work on, and theres a lot of nice preserves we are working on out there, also looking at Forever Florida, course I can’t say how many are actually confirmed, we are even going to include some of the lake Kissimmee and buggie rides, it is going to be a variety of field trips and landscapes and restoration areas
• Greg – I am curious how about the Green Swamp? It is the headwaters of 5 rivers
• Al – too far away
• Donna – It is too far away. There are some areas that touch fairly close… talk to Shirley
• Al – I am hoping someone can get permission for us to go to Avon Park
• Donna – it is on the list
• Juliet – it is but we have a no from Steve Orzell, They hesitate to schedule things because they can be cancelled at the last minute. That doesn’t mean that one of our members can’t try to
organize something, it is still subject to cancellation for the last minute but the people at Avon Park bombing range don’t want to take that on

- Al – Also you’ve got the state forest, there’s actually 4 trails there, wonderful scrub
- Donna – Share your ideas with Shirley Denton, you can find her contact information on the website
- Miki Rener – What city is the conference held in?
- Juliet – To the West, Lake Wales and to the east is Yeehaw Junction
- Al – be careful in Yeehaw junction… joke about the rooster
- Donna – very close to the Osceola Cty line in Polk county
- Al – get gas before you get there
- Juliet – closest gas station in Yeehaw Junction
- Donna – I love that about this venue, I love that we are gonna be out there. We are gonna own the place when we are out there.
- Dave – That is what I was hoping to do to get the flavor out there with what the conference is gonna be about so people know how to talk about it. Thanks for the information
- Juliet – Check the website.

III. Native Plant Month

- Dave – can you share what counties have a proclamation?
- Lucy – Palm Beach county did
- Al – Charlotte county Sep. 27
- Julie Becker – Winter Park, we had 2 proclamations, one from the district and one from the city, we did have our annual backyard biodiversity day, lots of environmental groups were there
- Donna – we had one for Hillsborough county, city of Tampa and temple terrace. Lots of events going on for native plant month… Birding and nature festival, we had 4 FNPS members speak on various plant topics
- Lucy – when you do this proclamation, all the things you mention you do and you talk about native plant month? Is that how you do it? And which chapter are you?
- Donna – I am suncoast, Andy spoke during our proclamation, we had a post card printed and he was able to talk about the upcoming events at the proclamation. We tie them in.
- Lucy – … we accepted the proclamation from our county commissioner. We had a really great meeting on advocacy. We had Sue mullen? As a speaker and our commissioner who is very much into natives and advocacy. And also our local chair person for sierra club. In September we normal do a co-meeting with sierra club so it was a really good meeting. At the beginning of October we have our annual garden tour and its been (thanks to the president Susan) she does a really good job with publicity, in Palm Beach County, our county is very large, so we break it up each year and this year it was in southern in Boca, last year we started using it as a fundraiser and we have been extremely successful, we only charge $10 for nonmembers and members are free, honestly I think because we charge people take it more seriously, it’s really been amazing last year and this year. I think that’s part of our native plant month too.
- Dave – I agree with your small charge people perceive it has more value
- Donna – great Segway into the brochure….
- Dave – before we leave this topic there is a list of about 4 (?) people who actually had proclamations in their area.
- Donna - Jeannie has had in Wakulla and Franklin
- Jeannie – We had presentations for the city commissioners and we had a booth at the Monarch Festival yesterday with Magnolia from Tallahassee
• Dave – Other chapters without a proclamation, did you celebrate Native Plant Month? Before I ask you to answer that, I had asked chapters to post a monthly summary of events on the forum before our meeting, so that we could all look through what’s been going on before the meeting. I don’t think anybody did that this time around, and that may be my fault, because I was late getting that up on the forum, but that would be the ideal place to put this kind of information. Then we can scroll down and take a look at that stuff before the meeting. We will review how to go about doing that at the November 5th meeting. But I will let that go for now. Are there any other chapters who had events or activities associated with Native plant month specifically?

• Greg – Heartland Chapter I don’t think we did anything formally but yesterday we had a very good day at a festival here in Lakeland we sold all of our plants.
• Dave – Did you put the word out about Native Plant Month?
• Greg – verbally yes, and also at our last chapter meeting we had really good attendance. We are making progress.
• Dave- that’s what we are looking for – progress. To get the word out.

IV. Gift Memberships – Jonnie Spitler
• Jonnie - The first thing I want to say after listening to everyone talk about their proclamations and October is native plant month and all the festivals you were at, did anybody push membership or get any new members during those festivals and plant sales?
• Lucy – Yes from Tarflower, Palm Beach county, and Suncoast
• Jonnie – that’s great, my point is, I am not a scientific person like many of the members but I am an administrator and I try to get members, that’s what my job is. Everytime there is a meeting – and there are 14 people listening to me and hopefully they are from 14 different chapters. At all of your chapters it is up to you as chapter rep to let the board know to get up at the meetings and welcome visitors visitors to your meetings and encourage them to become members because it is a worthwhile mission. So that’s what we are doing. We have 3700 members and we only need 300 more by the end of the year to make the 4000 which is our goal for 2016. That is not that many people. I will give kudos for Devin H. VP of finance for this idea… We would like to go back to chapters to encourage gift memberships. So I would like if you folks went back to your chapters and said okay $35 is a reasonable amount to give a gift… government official? Who gave the proclamation? A chapter can give a gift, and individual member can give a gift. No reason we cannot get up to the 4000 mark by the end of the year.
• Al – We push it at our meetings but we do plant walks the last Saturday of every month. Everyone who shows up that is not a member gets a membership pamphlet and a calendar….. During the proclamation every commissioner got a calendar too,
• Jonnie – that’s wonderful
• Juliet – I think it’s a fantastic idea.. on our mail in form and website I don’t see anywhere that says you can give a gift membership.
• Jonnie - I am working with Cammie to put a sticker on the back of their membership card that says “Gift from” and the persons name. So they will know they are getting a gift membership. of course they will get the emails and the palmetto. Talk about this with your chapters, and let them know that the person will know who gave the gift using the brochure. But there is no reason we can’t get to 4000 by the end of the year.
• Al – I am also pushing the sustaining membership at our chapter meetings.
• Jonnie – that is super
• Al – The thing is for $35 for some people it might be a little much, but if you come up with $10 a month it might be very easy to do. I have switched over to it so I can talk about it to them.
• Jonnie – of course you never know if someone signs up for it or not…. Right on the brochure it
says “Give a gift membership and please send a card in my name”. What they will do is put a sticker on your card.

- Lucy – The website doesn’t have sustaining on it anymore?
- Jonnie – There is no more sustaining member online? Life time has been dismantled. Thank you for mentioning that to me.
- Dave – I also wanted to tell you during our plant sale we pressed for new members. We offered a plant discount for people who became members and we got 18 new members.
- Jonnie – Jeannie gave a gift membership for one of the presenters, we have done that also, and I was thinking of giving one to the commissioner, she came to our meeting that night also. You can do things like that and I think you are doing wonderful.
- Lucy – In our county we can no longer do things like that, we can’t give anything to any elected official. Just FYI it may be that way in other counties.
- Jonnie – Oh look at this one - Pinellas got 14 new members yesterday.
- Susan – There is a whole slew of master gardeners that graduates twice a year, we can’t afford to give them a full membership. We give them a chapter membership in the hopes that next time they will actually become a member.
- Jonnie – what a lovely idea… so its like an honorary?
- Susan – Well no we call it a “chapter member”.
- Jonnie – they get your newsletter and that kind of thing, but not the palmetto.
- Susan – It gives them something when they graduate.
- Jonnie – that’s it for me Dave thank you very much.

V. Website Committee progress

- Donna – I am not on the website committee. I was hoping we could get a progress report and then we could go on to the research I did.
- Jan – I am on the committee but I am not the chair I did not initiate the committee I have been waiting for someone to contact me and tell me where they want to go with that committee. The folks who wanted to start it had specific ideas of what they wanted to do….
- Dave – having lost that recording I do not have the names of the people interested in being on that committee.
- Jan - Jon and Wendy
- Wendy – no that wasn’t me I am computer illiterate.
- Jan – who is the other person besides Patricia?
- Dave – was it Jon?
- Donna – yes it was Jon
- Al – Juliet has contacted me about having a set aside area where Shirley Denton can work with individual people on the computer. I have til tomorrow to get her the final on it. But I am sure we will have a place for her to work. That’s something to look forward to on the 5th is tutoring on the computer.
- Donna – let me go ahead and talk about a report I prepared. Can you put that research I did up on the FNPS website?
- Dave – let me see if I can find it.
- Donna- If I forward again will that help?
- Dave – (Looking through email live on screen so we can see) ……
- Donna – (after being switched to presenter and pulling up chapter research) Basiclaly what I did was went through the whole list of chapters. Are they using an FNPS website or a different host? I also indicated whether they are importing the calendar updates from the FNPS calendar.
to their website…. I also indicated the last time they updated their pages and if they ever use their galleries and photos. 34 used the FNPS template, 3 use a different host, and 1 page is not used. 18 are updating the FNPS calendar. That means if you go into the FNPS site, one person from the chapter rep, should one person should have the ability to update the FNPS calendar of events, and when they do that the website you have will automatically pull in the calendar information to your website. So 18 are updating their FNPS calendars so that they pull in. 4 have a different calendar, created their own or some other means. 15 are not using a calendar at all, they are using their homepage to list events sometimes, or not doing anything. Or maybe they just do it by Facebook. Most of the ones that are using meetup are using other means. 30 are updating their pages with some regularity. They may stay stagnant when they …… 5 are very static pages with no updates at all. 3 are a different host, and they are all updating their pages. 5 have recent photo galleries. Most are not using this feature. And I have made some comments. My recommendations are below on that. ….. calendar it is an automatically populates their page. And it gives their site some timeliness, so you don’t go to it and see the last time it was updated was 2010 because those calendars are being updated. Only 5 are not updating any of their pages and 3 have a different host. That leaves 5 that are not using or updating at all. I think overall it is pretty good.

• Dave- Is it possible some of the updates are because of what Paul was doing?
• Donna – I think from our last meeting when we told people to contact Paul and Shirley some people are using it a little bit more. I think it made people think “Okay I just have to contact them and tell them to update”. Now the photo gallery – I stopped using it. I am gonna stop using it because we have Facebook, meetup, we can do Flickr if we want it…. Very time consuming…. I recommend using Facebook of meetup if you have, get a lot more traffic that way.
• Dave – Someone made a recommendation that we include Facebook and whatever accounts are associated, that information to put on the websites themselves
• Donna – Juliet brought that up. That would be such a simple thing to show people how to do. Now half of the chapters upload newsletters. This is important because if the chapter has a newsletter, they should be creating a page where they can have a link to the PDF. everytime Suncoast gets a newsletter it is sent to me, I am told it is final, I go into the FNPS website and I copy all the emails for all our members and I BCC them, I send it to them with a link to the website where I upload the PDF and I attach it, so I say if you can’t see the attachment you can go to the website. It is simple and we need to teach people how to use this.
• Dave – I think this is too much detail… we need to talk to john about whether or not he is heading the committee and to see what he can do before the 5th. …..
• Donna – the committee was not formed for that. The committee wanted to find an alternative. They were not formed to do this
• Jan – I agree with Donna
• Dave – I thought the committee was too address the shortfall for the current system … or alternatively then look to some other facility
• Jan – I think the committee was supposed to look at what the shortcomings were for the current system and whether we needed to change something else or not, and if not how we can make the current system work for the members/chapters. The members of the committee who are not happy with the current system …. 
• Dave – I didn’t catch the last of that. The ones who are not using?
• Jan – Patricia and John were not happy and so they wanted to have this committee, they wanted to be able to investigate other alternatives. If that’s the case they need to carry the ball down the court and tell us what it is they don’t like and etc.
VI. Landscape Committee Initiative

- Dave - I understand that we have 5/6 that are completed and the last one is being worked on. I haven’t been able to get any information on whether or not the map is being published down in Charlotte Harbor estuary?
- Donna - you mean the logo?
- Dave – no I am talking about the publication
- Donna - its done.
- Dave – it has been published?
- Donna – yes, and I have copies, and Marlene has copies, and I am bringing them to the regional meeting, and it has been a big hit
- Dave – why don’t I know any of this?
- Al – Don’t feel bad I am Charlotte County And I don’t know any of this
- Dave – This is a problem with our communication, it is very annoying to me. Everyone has my phone number and email has been spotty, but now looking at my email I don’t see any emails about this, I’ve asked to be kept in the loop and I am not hearing any of this.
- Jan – We got our copies of the brochure yesterday and we gave a few out at our plant sale
- Dave – how many copies did you receive?
- Jan – Not sure, we got delivered a whole box.
- Dave – I thought Charlotte Harbor was going to do their own distribution?
- Donna – Just so you don’t feel out of the loop I thought so too and then a box showed up at my house
- Dave – Wonderful, wow that’s great.
- Greg – I haven’t received any, our chapter hasn’t, who in the chapter is supposed to receive them?
- Juliet – We aren’t in that region we are in central Florida and those are for West. What happened was Marlene found a funder, Charlotte Harbor estuary program, to pay to print them. the approval was given by the board. Her printer was able to print them to our specifications at a greatly reduced price. For 10,000 copies it was less than what we had estimated. Now the situation is we need to find funders for the rest of the regions. If we can’t find sponsors it is in the budget for 2017
- Dave – if that didn’t make any sense, the society decided we would pony up and spend the money to do it ourselves if we couldn’t find other people who would support us in our, but we really are looking for people who will show an interest, the fact that we now have brochures available that are regional we should be able to show what the product will look like and make Andy’s life a lot easier as he tries to find people who will go on doing this. The money wasn’t available to do it this year because the 2016 budget was voted on in 2015
- Julie Wert – we are in the Central region how can we get some brochures for Nature Coast?
- Dave –they haven’t been published yet
- Julie wert – The West central region?
- Dave – I understand they will be brought to the November 5th meeting
- Juliet – are the chapters in that region are going to be getting brochures at the in person meeting
- Juliet – yep yeah you are in that region.
- Dave – they are the northern most chapter in that meeting
- Susan Lerner – I had to step off for a minute what brochures are we talking about?
- Dave – the landscape brochures we have been working on
- Al – Just so people understand, what we originally started calling the Southwest Brochure was
changed to the West Coast brochure because we went so high up the coast

• Dave – I thought Pinellas was as high as the west coast went, but apparently it goes up to Pasco

VII. Nominating Committee Creation

• Dave – we need a nominating committee because my 2 years will be up at the conference in 2017, and we need to find my replacement. And so we need a nominating committee to see who would be willing to do this for 2 years starting next May, well actually the beginning of June

• Al – the person that we choose must be a member of the council of chapters?

• Dave – Yes, unless we can figure some way around that requirement, because that troubles me frankly. We have about 38 people to choose from excluding our officers, and that is rather small pool to grab from. Donna can’t do it, Nicole can’t do it, I can’t do it, and so the number is quite small and we need someone to pick it up from here. We need someone who will head that committee up and it can’t be me.

• Al – why not? You can’t run

• Dave – if you read through Robert’s rules the current officers are not allowed to be a part of the nominating committee

• Al – I think we should hold off until the 5th to see if we can button – hole somebody

• Dave – I think we need to start moving towards this, because it was all done quite informally when I came in 2 years ago, and Scott turned up Nicole and Donna more or less volunteered which is the reason we have them. We need to spiff this up, we need to have a nominating committee. It seems to be the logical thing to do to tell someone who is not in this meeting that they are in charge.

• Al – You have to be willing to accept

• Dave – always those complications, but this is a very important thing because the council cannot run without those slots filter, if for no other reason, those 3 positions report directly to the BOD

• Al – on the exec committee?

• Julie Becker - Why don’t you send an email after this meeting to every chapter and ask them to nominate 2 people from the council of chapters that think might possibly be a good chairman. And then we will finish that off in November/December

• Dave – I think sending an email out that says we need to have a nominating committee, that’s something that I will initiate that email.. when you say 2 people, um.. well I am just trying to think maybe usually when you ask a chapter they are thinking within their chapter and not the council

• Julie Becker – well maybe if you ask for 2 you get 1, do it how you like but see what you get.

• Al – a suggestion send that to the chapter reps and the chapter president

• Dave – That is how I send all of these emails because some of the presidents are the chapter reps and not listed as chapter reps, some fill dual roles

• Greg – Can I trouble you for a little bit of clarification on this committee? Is this the nominating committee for what body?

• Dave – for the council of chapters director? And then a year later the same thing will come up for the secretary and the assistant director

• Greg – thanks

• Dave - I think that’s as far as we are gonna get with that tonight. This Thursday we have a Board of Directors meeting … what should I take to the board?
VIII. What issues should we bring before the Board of Directors

- Susan – can we get the online sign up resolved … ?
- Dave – I am not clear on what you are asking
- Susan – I am asking for a priority to focus on the new members sign up on the website
- Juliet - I thought Shirley had addressed that. Are you still having problems?
- Susan – the last time someone tried to sign up they had a problem
- Juliet – I let Shirley know and she went through and fixed it so I am wondering if that is still a problem
- Susan – That I don’t know
- Dave – Are we talking about when the membership changes of the council? Getting that information?
- Juliet – We are talking about if someone wants to sign up If you go online and try to renew your membership. Apparently it’s a browser issue. Shirley went in and made a hack to make that work.
- Susan – thanks
- Al – I don’t know if it was the BOD or COC they brought up of possibility of making a packet of land ownders, State and I guess federal lands, trying to educate them to the problem of invasive plants moving in to these protected areas from their properties. I am wondering is that a board thing or a chapter thing?
- Juliet – that was Wendy’s idea
- Al – was that for the board or council of chapters?
- Juliet – I think it is gonna be an education committee thing
- Al – can you bring up to push that? And try to get something going on that? I mentioned it to a couple managers of state lands and they were thrilled. I told them it would be a couple years in coming but they are really interested in having that available to them
- Wendy – As Juliet said, the education and outreach committee is gearing up to rock and roll. That is on our agenda. We planned with the beauty berry chapter to actually roll something like that out during NISA National Invasive Species Awareness Week, lots of organizations with free food, free native plants, and we are going to start doing these in these communities that are under served like these communities that pop up along protected natural areas, we are also going to be presenting it at the CISMA meeting, we will be talking to them about it, what papers do we want in these types of packets and what hand outs do they want to have. I do think it should be brought up at the BOD meeting like what does FNPS want to see as their face when maybe multiple groups are partnered? I know what I am gonna put in my packet but that doesn’t mean it is the statewide vision of what should go in such a packet
- Dave – You mentioned invasive species week… what is that?
- Wendy – I think it’s the first week of March, if you go on the national invasive species awareness They have like 5 days in 2017 I think it’s in march, but our state invasive species partnership they extend it to two weekend of 5 days during the week and the weekend on either end of the week. We do invasive species pulls and community outreach, similar to like native plant month just obviously focusing on the invasives outreach.. sometimes we do beetle releases and other things. Partnering with these things, we have the same mission.
- Dave – and CISMA has been involved as well?
- Wendy – many of us wear many hats, and our local CISMA will be participating in these under served communities. It is just formulating, we are working on that.
- Julie Becker – if you are going to the Nov. 5th meeting I would suggest to bring an outline of some of the stuff you would suggest to go in here. I know we have air potato raids in
January/February… with a lot of our stuff beginning to grow before March. One of our normal events is not going to be held this year. That might be a great alternative for us to do early, to think of pulling stuff as it starts to grow. A lot of us would like to see, I know you are not finished…

- Wendy – I am not the chair, we have a new education/outreach committee chair, she will be presenting and I sent her an outline of some of the stuff on this list, they will be brought up at the November 5th meeting. Everything I have talked about at the last meeting will be brought up. You will get an update on that, as well as, I am also on the land managers and partners committee, Patricia and I will be doing a presentation regarding land reviews

IX. What else should we thinking/talking about?

- Juliet – I just want to remind everyone to get your volunteer hours on to the web form. We have a little over 6000 hours entered but I know we are missing a lot of stuff. When people start talking about all the events we are having, a lot of it is not in the data base yet
- Dave – it would be great if they entered it before the end of the year …..
- Al – our president arrived in town today, as soon as her yard is cleaned up we will put her on it
- Juliet – Thanks Al
- Julie Wert – Yesterday at our plant sale we had 1 person walking around making sure everyone who had volunteered signed up and put their hours in

X. November 5th Meeting in Englewood-Time is short to make arrangements

- Al – I want to welcome everyone to Englewood on the 5th. Our mangrove chapter is providing sandwiches and non-alcoholic refreshments for the meeting. I explained they paid about $125 for me to travel to each meeting so lets use it to feed you folks and they agreed to it. There is a newly charted Motel 6 in town, looks like they are fixing it up, the most reasonable place to stay around here. It is on South McCall Rd & Englewood. I can’t guarantee it but it is probably the most reasonable place.
- Dave – What was the name of the road for that Motel again?
- Al – South McCall also known as 776
- Juliet - that’s on the list on the calendar. There is a plant list for the place where we are having the meeting and a list of motels with addresses, phone numbers, and price range
- Al – we will be giving everybody a tour of our demonstration and butterfly garden and rain garden, which we received an FNPS award for, and for anybody who is interested a tour of the property which is 115 acres. We won’t walk it all though
- Dave – the proposed schedule for Nov 5, did you leave any room for that?
- Juliet – there is an hour for that right before lunch
- Dave – the venue is close enough that you can just wander over there?
- Al – You pass it going up the stairs to the meeting.
- Dave – I guess that’s close enough
- Al - If you fall off the side walk you are either in the rain garden or the demonstration garden

Dave – thanks to all who participated, this is the best turn out we have had in a while. Still moving forward looking forward to see you on the 5th.

Al – that’s something else you can do on 5th is try to get chapter reps to sign on to the gotomeeting

Dave – I’m not understanding what you mean

Al – Well we only had 16, theres how many chapter meeting?

Various people- 34? 36? 38
Al – Well you can get to the rest of them to sign on to the meeting. You can get more to join us
Dave – believe me I have been making that effort and some people just don’t respond. I’ve got to go

Meeting adjourned at 8:05