



**The Board of Directors of the Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS) hereby establishes the Purpose, Goals and Powers of the Council of Chapters**

The Board of Directors takes this action in accordance with the FNPS Bylaws (rev. May 2018) Article 12.02 and 12.04 as reference below:

**FNPS Bylaws Article 12.0 — Council of Chapters**

**Article 12.02: Powers.** The goals and powers of the Council of Chapters shall be specified by the Board of Directors. Where powers are not specified, the council has all powers that are reasonably necessary to achieve its goals, not otherwise restricted by these bylaws.

**Article 12.04: Activities.** In support of the mission of the Society, the Council of Chapters shall share information and initiate programs and actions consistent with its goals. Meetings may be held at a physical location or during a live teleconference or video conference at the schedule and location determined by the Council of Chapters

**Council Charter**

**Purpose of the Council of Chapters**

- To serve as a communications bridge between the chapters and the FNPS Board of Directors and vice versa.

**Goals of the Council of Chapters**

- To ensure that each Chapter Representative understands the FNPS Bylaws so that each Chapter Representative can ensure that their own chapter's Bylaws are not in conflict with those of FNPS.
- To ensure that the FNPS Executive Director or Board of Directors is in receipt of each chapter's most recent Bylaws.
- To encourage that each chapter is represented in a minimum of 4 online or in-person meetings per year. Proxies are encouraged if a Chapter Representative is unable to attend.
- To report to the FNPS Board of Directors, those chapters who have not been represented at either online or in-person meetings in the calendar year.

- To ensure that all chapter members have access to their own chapter's Bylaws, meeting minutes, annual budget, and strategic plans.
- To ensure that all Chapter Representatives report on their chapter's fiscal and organizational status, and when there are concerns, to promptly report these concerns to the FNPS Board of Directors.
- To ensure that each chapter is reporting its volunteer hours so that FNPS may recognize and promote chapter programs, achievements, partners, and mission-related work.
- To work with FNPS staff to ensure that each chapter is receiving recognition for its mission-related programs.
- To ensure that the Council of Chapters website is updated regularly with Council meeting minutes, calendar entries for meetings, and resources.
- To undertake chapter support through the production of educational materials and manuals to assist chapters in their mission to foster the growth of FNPS.

#### **Powers of the Council of Chapters**

- The Council shall have the powers necessary to meet the Goals specified by the FNPS Board of Directors.
- Powers outside the scope of the Goals specified by the FNPS Board of Directors must be approved by the FNPS Board of Directors after the Council provides an estimated budget of project cost (including staff, contractor, and volunteer time), work plan, and a timeline for completion of any proposed project or initiative outside the scope of powers granted the Council by the FNPS Board of Directors in this charter.