Florida Native Plant Society

Council of Chapters Meeting Minutes 08/11/18
Quarterly meeting – Lyonia Preserve
taken by Athena Philips – CoC Secretary

Gail Parsons called the meeting to order at 3:55 PM

In attendance (29)

Gail Parsons – Council Vice Chair (Nature Coast Rep)
Athena Philips – Council Secretary (Citrus Rep)
Lucy Keshavarz (Palm Beach Rep)
Jeanne Rothchild (Dade; Dir at Large)
Stephanie Dunn (Broward Rep)
Ginny Stibolt (Ixia Rep)
Kara Driscoll (Naples Rep)
Nicole Zampieri (Magnolia Rep)
Tayler Figueroa (Pine Lily Rep)
Sonya Guidry (Pawpaw Rep)
Jeanie Brodhead (Sarracenia Rep)
Sandy Saurers Paynes Prairie Rep)
Carol Sullivan (Sparkleberry Rep)
Daina Karol (Martin Rep Proxy)

Linda Eastman (Martin Co)
Julie Becker (Tarflower Rep)
Mark Kateli (Cuplet Fern Pres/Interim Rep)
Mikel Renner (Hernando Rep)
Al Squires (Mangrove Rep)
Juliet Rynear (Heartland; FNPS Exec. Director)
Susan Carr (Paynes Prairie; FNPS Pres.)
Wendy Poag (Lake Beautyberry Rep)
Susan Knapp (Passionflower)
Lois Harris (Sea Rocket Pres/Chpt Rep)
Martha Steuart (Conradina)
Jan Allyn (Pinellas Rep)
Deborah Curry (Marion Big Scrub Pres)
Emma Haselow (Sea Rocket; FNPS Admin)
Kim Zarillo (Conradina)

➢ Old Business

• Minutes from previous two meetings No corrections. Julie Motions to approve, Kara
  Seconds – Motion approved

• Chapter bylaws Juliet requests again that Chapters submit a copy of their bylaws to
  her, as some still have not. Discussion on FNPS bylaws being consistent with
  Chapter bylaws and how Chapter Reps are elected.
New Business

- **FNPS Newsletter Page** Juliet, says that Shirley Denton wants to know if the FNPS newsletter page should stay up or delete it as the last posting was in March.

- **Landscape Brochure order** Juliet, reports that Broward would like to re-order and seeks any other willing chapters to place a bulk order with. Cocoloba has reprinted 3 times already.

- **Committee Reports** – no reports

- **Nominating Committee** Gail, informs us that we need a Nominating Committee. Due to a Chapter Administration issue, Kara was not the Naples Rep during the April election and disqualified from running for Council Chair. The Council requires three members to seek eligible and willing candidate(s) for the vacant position. Volunteering for the committee: Julie Becker, Wendy Poag, Susan Knapp.

- **Native Plant Month** Gail, asks for chapters to share their plans for Native Plant Month or any success their chapter is proud of this year.

  *Lucy: Palm Beach Chpt will continue with their NPM County Proclamation, as they have in past years. Their rare plant auction raised $3,000. They have an “Adopt A Spot” trip to a natural area, where they remove litter. They had a very successful native art exhibit, in partnership with the Palm Beach Photography Center, resulting in a $5,000 donation to produce a catalog of the show. They are looking into touring the exhibit. Ginny, congratulated them on the Facebook promotions. Lucy, credited, Susan Learner, for that. Their chapter also is holding a pressed clay craft, called, “Native Impressions”. They also had a joint meeting with the local Sierra Club.

  *Al: Mangrove Chpt has workshops on container gardening with natives, and shade plants. They offer grants of $250 (maximum of $1000 per year)

  *Ginny: Ixia holds a plant sale during the River Keepers Home Tour

  *Stephanie: Broward is participating in Ginny’s new book tour, offering a free workshop on Oct 21. They have a new Instagram account, and request Followers. They hold a plant sale in Aug.

  *Gail: please post pictures of these activities to the Facebook Council Group
*Martha: Conradina gave two grants in March, they held their 8th or 9th yard tour, which is a big chapter fund-raiser. They have a holiday wreath making event, and will host Ginny’s workshop in October for NPM.

*Gail: who has big sales achievements? Sandi, reported that the Paynes Prairie sale grossed $14,000 (Friday is an exclusive day for FNPS & Morningside members).

*Kara: reminds Reps that the Google Drive is the place to document these ideas.

*Sonya: Pawpaw adopted 2 miles of Hwy 40, to do roadside cleanup four times a year. They have a problem with sourcing plants, so they are starting to propagate.

*Athena: Citrus Chpt NPM events include the 4th annual County Proclamation, a Plant ID workshop, Ginny’s book tour workshop, a fall wildflower tram tour at a State Park, and likely another field trip TBD. Successful activities this year: a member offered her garden to new members, who wanted to divide and take home native plants; the chapter started taking credit cards via “Square” at a plant sale held in conjunction with a wildflower lecture, which accounted for approximately a third of sales; scheduled a summer member only crafting event, which prompted a new Family membership.

*Gail: used to belong to Suncoast Chpt, and still attends their joint meeting with Audubon and Sierra, which has a huge turnout, and gives each group’s President the opportunity to talk about their organization. Nature Coast Chpt is doing a booth at the State Fair, which they are given $250 for. Last year, they won 3rd place, and won 1st this year. They have a demo garden in front of a baseball field at a Park.

*Ginny: Been planning a special multi-chapter event for Sept 15th, at Lyonia Preserve. Seeks three outreach people per chapter to come. (was later canceled)

*Gail: who is doing Partnerships with other organizations? Julie said Tarflower is, and Miki said Hernando has a Holiday party with local environmental groups.

*Gail: how much work do we do? Julie, suggested we may need to tweak the Council SOP (Standard Operating Procedures), to allow the Chair to have an Assistant Chapter Rep, to help cover their Chapter duties. Kara, asks if anyone wants to help fix the SOP? Julie said that she’d help and possibly get Richard Brownscombe, to assist.
• **Board suggestion for Council to be a Standing Committee**  Gail, brought up the FNPS Board suggestion that the Council Of Chapters might function better as a Standing Committee, rather than it’s current subset. Al, said no. Julie, concurred that the Council is our voice. Consensus was a No on becoming a committee.

➢ **General Discussion**

• **Round-table discussion**  Nicole expressed that she likes this style of round-table discussion, but it would be better at the end of Business.

*Meeting Adjourned 4:46PM*