



Florida Native Plant Society

Council of Chapters Meeting Minutes 01/20/19

Online Go 2 Meeting

taken by Athena Philips – CoC Secretary

Kara Driscoll called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

In attendance (20)

Kara Driscoll --	CoC Chair/Naples Rep	Gail Parsons –	CoC Vice-Chair &
David Martin --	Eugenia Rep		Nature Coast Rep
David Perkey --	Pinellas Rep	Helen Laurence –	Palm Beach Rep
Deborah Curry --	Marion Big Scrub Rep/Pres	Jeannie Brodhead --	Sarracenia Rep
Dianna Wentink --	Martin Rep	Jessica Spencer –	Ixia Rep
Jaya Miliam --	Big Bend Rep/Pres	Mark Kateli --	Cuplet Fern Pres/Interim Rep
Kurt _____ --	Dade Chap Proxy	Sonya Guidry –	Pawpaw Rep
Gail Taylor --	Citrus Rep	Tayler Figueroa –	Pine Lily Rep
Al Squires --	Mangrove Rep	Martha Steuart –	Conradina Rep
Patricia Burgos –	Lake Beautyberry Rep	Athena Philips –	CoC Secretary
		Susan Carr –	FNPS President

➤ **Regular Agenda Items**

- **Minutes from previous meeting** Patricia motions to to approve, Martha 2nds the motion
None opposed – Motion carries
- **Meeting Schedule:** Do past dates/times still work for everyone? Continue on Sun 6-7.
Look for Doodle Poll
- **New Board Officers & Committee Chairs.** If you did not receive Susan Carr’s email about the BOD Officers, please email Kara, so she can forward it. There are a few new Officers, and several open spots. Society needs help with a few committees: Education, Communications, Membership

➤ Old Business

- **Two new regional initiatives:** Torreyakeepers and SE Policy Initiative.

Patricia: On the Policy Initiative, will there be a template?

Helen: There will be a handbook.

Kara: Please post that document to the Forum and we'll put it on the website.

Susan: Post the whole Table of Deliverables.

- **Website:**

Helen: Trying to register for the Forum and there is a 404 error code.

- **GEL:** Chapters must be under the General Exemption Letter and collect sales tax.

Susan: This is a big liability, if your chapter is not in compliance. FNPS is doing this within the next 6 months, and will help chapters. Contact Juliet Rynear.

Gail P: Is there something I can present my Board?

Susan: Not at hand, but we can get this together.

Gail P: Being in compliance reduces your chapter liability.

Susan: If chapters don't, we are going to have to let them go.

Kara: Juliet said she will walk people through.

Taylor: Is the list of 10 non-compliant chapters posted anywhere? [being emailed out]

Al: Example, if you receive a large donation or inheritance. If not in the GEL, income tax would have to be paid.

Gail P: Cuplet Fern just came under the GEL prior to their \$10,000 award.

Sarracenia is working on it. Cuplet Fern would like confirmation they are in GEL.

- **Nominating Committee:** two ways of doing this, one Representative join with the Society Nominating Committee and work together, or we have three Representatives volunteer for our election.

Al: no reason to change the way we are doing it.

[Pause for discussion, and there was none]

Kara: Okay, then we'll move on.

- **Council Communications:**

Patricia: Is there a reason why we can't have these meetings earlier in the day?

Kara: The Go 2 Meetings, or the In-person?

Patricia: The retreats, where people get ansy. Maybe rotate the time sometimes?

Kara: We have two extra blocks of time at the next meeting. Maybe we'll swap for one of the earlier time slots.

Gail P: Sometimes we only have one room.

Susan: We'll have two rooms at this one.

- **SOP:** Last update was 2015. The Officer terms are inconsistent with some Representative terms.

Gail: Three years doesn't necessarily trigger an overhaul.

Al: Can you write up proposed changes and we vote in February? Perhaps they should be Rep to be elected, but not necessarily to finish the term?

Athena: I was a Chapter Representative when elected as CoC Secretary, but term out at the end of 2018.

Tayler: We discussed this at the Lyonia meeting – Tayler, Kara, Nicole, maybe Julie Becker.

Gail P: Can that committee get together?

Kara: Julie has not communicated in a while, Tayler, Nicole, and I are busy. Anyone want to help?

Tayler: Email out the SOP for review before the retreat.

Athena: I can review a printed copy at the Retreat, if anyone wants to join me, if it can wait that long.

- **Website:** We want to make it mobile friendly and extremely user friendly.

Gail P: It's a bad website, I dread using it. Facebook group is a good way to share.

Kara: Not everyone uses Facebook.

Tayler: When the website is improved, we can link to it in Facebook posts.

Kara: I'd like one person to assist Tayler and Shirley on updating the website. I'm looking for someone that is technologically challenged, to insure that it is user friendly.

Tayler: Does anyone have something specific that they'd like to see, or things you've had trouble finding?

➤ **New Business**

- **Retreat Workshop Ideas?:**

Gail P: I'm curious as to who doesn't have a Chapter Rep, or how we could improve attendance.

Kara: We will have a small meeting to identify those chapters and reach out to them.

Gail: Always nice to hear what has been successful for membership, or drawing in people.

Al: Could Shirley go over reporting on the Forum again?

➤ **General Discussion**

- **Chapter Disaster Relief Fund:**

Mark: Cuplet Fern just finished their budget and will earmark \$100 to a disaster fund. We'd like to see other/all chapters do the same. Pledges would stay in your accounts, unless needed. Cuplet Fern is willing to keep tabs on who pledges. Have already asked Suncoast, Citrus, and Tarflower. Please talk to your Treasurers. Can be useful in supporting Mission work of chapters that suffer damage. Any chapter can email us. Beautyberry and PineLily will ask their chapters.

- **Forum Login assistance:** Helen and Deborah need to be registered.

- **Susan:** Can you or Tayler provide links to what we've discussed? The website, Forum, Google Drive Collaborative folder, etc. And I'd like to thank you for a great meeting!

Gail Parsons made motion to adjourn.

Helen Laurence 2nds.

Meeting Adjourned 8:24PM