



Florida Native Plant Society

**Council of Chapters Meeting Minutes 8/25/24**

Online Zoom Meeting taken by  
Tiffany Duke – Secretary

Melanie Simon called the meeting to order at 06:32 PM

**In attendance (26) – 19 of 32 Chapters**

**\* indicates proxy or guest**

Broward County - Tiffany Duke – **Secretary**  
Citrus – Gail Taylor\*  
Citrus – Marcie Clutter  
Dade – Karina Gomez\*  
Dade - Riki Bonnema  
Hernando – Heather Sharkey  
Hernando - Janet Grabowski\*  
Ixia – Cate Hurlbut  
Lake Beautyberry – Tina Mertz  
Longleaf Pine – Kimberley Bremmer  
Magnolia – Maddie Snuggs  
Mangrove – Laura Soule  
Mangrove – Gail Brynildsen\*

Martin County – Dianna Wentink  
Palm Beach County – Rebekah Kaufman  
Palm Beach County – Ethan Aparicio\*  
Passionflower – Melanie Simon – **Chair**  
Pawpaw - Sande Habali  
Paynes Prairie - Sandi Saurers  
Pine Lily – Dana Sussmann  
Pinellas – David Perkey  
Sarracenia – Ann Reams\*  
Sarracenia – Lynn Artz  
Sarracenia - Jeannie Brodhead\*  
Sea Rocket – Elizabeth Bishop  
Sparkleberry – Carol Sullivan

## Regular Agenda Items

- **Minutes from 7/28/24 meeting**
  - Rebekah K. motioned to approve the July 2024 meeting minutes. Cate H. seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Next Meeting September 22, 2024 at 6:30 pm.**

## News/Announcements/Reminders

- **Sparkleberry Chapter** o Dissolving this chapter, second chapter lost in the past year
- **Data Distribution portal inactivated**
  - o Laura Soule – asked if data transferred to another site
  - o Melanie – yes – transferred to forms.fnps.org – if looking for info, reach out to her
- **Conservation Committees/Reviews of State Park Unit Management Plans**
  - o Melanie collecting names so they can be contacted if assistance is needed for reviews or training is developed - please email names
  - o Lynn A. – Sarracenia does land management reviews
  - o Dave P. – Pinellas does too and involved in State Parks
  - o Rebekah – Melissa Moyroud heads – will share contact info with Melanie
- **New E.D.** – goal to start by end of September
- **“Protect Florida Natives” Poster** – copies of poster going to IFAS ext offices, date TBA

## Initiatives/Updates

- **Council Survey** – missing 1 chapter’s participation so results are pending
  - o Fastest growing regions – West Coast, Northeast, and Southeast
  - o Growth trends – membership boost during COVID, 7% growth projected for 2024, but we want to see 10% in growth/yr
- **Fundraiser Plates & Frames**
  - o Reviewed concepts for frame and vanity plate as a fundraiser for FNPS
  - o Be mindful of size of letters – design consideration
  - o Sell plate and frames separately
  - o Need a tight plan on # ordered so we don’t have extra inventory
  - o Heather – consider pre-order to get an idea of demand but will also need to figure out logistics to deliver orders
    - Melanie – planning to have orders picked up at conference
  - o Melanie – is there a chapter that accepts merchandise sales?
    - Dade Chapter
      - Karina G. – V.P. of chapter, has an online plant store – Melanie will contact
      - Karina G. may draft some designs
    - Any design ideas send to Karen Walter - [karenlw72@gmail.com](mailto:karenlw72@gmail.com)
    - Melanie – sales tax must be collected
- **Reminder for two committees:** Chapter Award and Nominating Committees – send interest to Melanie
- **Native Plant Month Proclamations**
  - o Link with instructions posted on Council website
  - o Citrus – Oct 8

## Council of Chapters Meeting Minutes 7/28/24

- Beautyberry
- Sarracenia will discuss at upcoming Board meeting
- **Landscape Architects** – could be a good partnership - <https://www.aslaflorida.org/>
  - Suggestion to contact Landscape Architects and invite them on field trips to learn about native plants
  - Heather S. – the outreach makes sense
  - Cate H. – yard tours – to see what actually works/grows
  - Tiffany D. and Stephanie D. (Broward) – coordinate who to contact if there is chapter interest
- **FWF Intergovernmental Affairs Manager** reached out to Citrus Chapter – Gail T.
  - Wildflowers on roadside - resource to get Counties to stop mowing when in bloom - Contact - mertz@flawildflowers.org
  - Florida Wildflower Foundation – <https://www.flawildflowers.org/roadsides/> – info on roadside wildflowers

## New Business

- **Strategic Plan**
  - Reviewed the 5 goals and suggestions taken
  - Melanie will post the goals document with notes on the Council website
  - Please review and add other ideas - action on hold until new E.D. starts

## Open Floor

- Pollinator survey discussed - <https://gsepc.org/>

## Motion to Adjourn

- Rebekah. motioned to adjourn. Cate seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:53 PM**