

NATURE COAST CHAPTER  
FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 4, 2020

Due to the Covid 19 virus, this meeting was held on Zoom. Those participating were Jonnie, Nancy, Peter, Carol, Molly, Jan, Becky, Julie, Karen, Pat, and Melissa.

We discussed how we would be handling our organization at this time. There will be no general meeting this month. We will need to go month by month. Due to the uncertainty, would people feel comfortable coming to a meeting in the community center – wearing masks and staying 6 feet apart? Nancy offered her 4-acre property off 75 and 52 for further outdoor FNPS meetings. This was discussed at length with regard to heat, mosquitoes, possibility of rain, program, etc. A mini meeting and program could be combined and everyone could bring their own chairs and wear masks and stay apart. This could be something different and fun. A Tuesday meeting in June at 4:00 was suggested. Nancy, Pat, and Becky will work on scheduling a meeting for June.

The question came up as to the best method to communicate with members. All agreed that we should use all three of our resources; e-mails, facebook, and web site. A pollinator program offered by Pasco County will be announced on all.

**Field trips:** Becky reported that field trips were cancelled for April and May. A kayak/canoe trip through Windsong Rentals in New Port Richey is scheduled for June. She is not sure if the company is still running trips. If OK, we will go ahead with it.

**Facebook:** Molly reported that 47 members joined our facebook page but there is not much active posting. She would like members to start sharing information and knowledge with pictures and information about plants. We had a discussion about how to post on facebook and invite friends to participate. It was suggested we reach out to Roger Hammer and Craig Huegel and ask them to do some posting on our facebook site to hopefully get more people involved. Molly will change our facebook page to match the name of our web page, which is "Nature Coast Chapter, Florida Native Plant Society."

**Website:** Melissa will put June information on our web site. She will take old things off after they have been completed.

**Programs:** Pat has scheduled John Lampkin for June, but he could be rescheduled for later. Will leave this up to Pat, Becky, and Nancy as they make plans for our next general meeting. We are not sure what will be happening due to the virus. Will continue to discuss.

**Membership:** Julie said that we only lost 4 members. She will send out an e-mail to remind everyone to keep up their membership. She is trying to get books and was able to get some, but is having some problems with delivery, etc. She will keep working on this. Francisco volunteered to call members whose membership needed to be renewed. Julie is not sure if he is doing this. Julie will take over the job of printing name tags for new members.

**Treasurer's report:** Pete reported that we are doing fine and are about where we were last year at this time with an end-of-April balance of \$10,533.24. Signs for plants at Werner Boyce are in a waiting mode as the park has been closed.

**Chapter rep.:** Diane went to a Council of Chapters Regional Meeting. We have been invited to join three other chapters to purchase time on Zoom for a whole year for \$40.00 each. Then we could get together with other chapters for a meeting. We will go ahead and do this.

Since Jonnie is not able to keep her role as president of our chapter, she has come up with a proposal for all of us to consider. Her proposal is to change her title from president to facilitator. Everybody could get involved and lessen the president's tasks, such as doing the opening letter on the front page of our newsletter. Someone else could run the meeting each time. Everyone seems to be in agreement and will all think about this. Pat suggested that Jonnie put more thought into rearranging jobs and could write down what she does and where everyone could help. We would have to figure it all out.

**Conservation:** Jan talked about the grant to Starkey to spruce up the native plant garden and make signs. The application has been completed and approved. Julie and Richard have already been there and surveyed. Audubon has been doing most of the maintenance, and it is also taken care of by the employees who work for Starkey Park. 4x4 signs with a slanted top will be posted. Jan will follow through.

With no other business, the meeting was completed at 12:35 pm. Jonnie will set up another board meeting on Zoom on Thursday, May 28, 2020 at 11:00 to follow through with programs, facebook, etc.

Minutes submitted by secretary, Carol Vanek