

CITRUS CHAPTER of FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
Meeting Minutes February 2, 2021
Virtual Meeting via YouTube and Facebook

Meeting chaired by Athena Phillips, Co-President
Attendance: 18 persons watched the meeting live

Athena Phillips introduced herself, welcomed everyone and encouraged viewers to say hi in the written comments section and to post questions during the program.

Our membership is currently 132, plus approximately 14 Tri-County members. Membership plans include Business, Sustaining, Student, Individual and Multi-Family memberships.. Multi-Family memberships are those living in the same household and can include multi-generations.

We have many ongoing projects. In addition to our native plant Demo Gardens, we offer two different types of grants for public gardens. One is the general multi-purpose grant and the second is for Chapter Members only. It is smaller and an easier application. These applications are on our website. Any person or business who is willing to plant and maintain a public garden is welcome to apply.

Sue Wassermann presented the "Plant of the Month" in conjunction with "What's Blooming." Sue found that the only plant blooming on her property at this time is the native violet. She described the plants, showed slides, and discussed propagation and other facts.

Athena showed a slide with upcoming activities and encouraged everyone to sign up for our emails in order to get the latest information. Upcoming events include several days of invasive plant weed pulls in conjunction with Lake Beautyberry Chapter, and a biologist guided eco-tour at Crystal River State Park Preserve. Reservations must be made by contacting Ben as attendance is limited to 20 and 6 have already signed up. Details are on the website. Barbara McCormick who presents Barbara's Bits at our in person meetings will be our guest speaker at our March 2, 2021 chapter meeting.

Due to CoVid-19, our major fundraiser, the Spring Native Plant Sale, has been cancelled. It is hoped that it can be rescheduled for the fall. It has been suggested that we hold another Plant Swap. Details and a date have not been worked out yet but Athena asked everyone to start collecting plants and seeds to swap.

The Annual Florida Native Plant Society Conference will be entirely virtual this year. The cost will be reduced and our chapter will be working on a video to present.

The new FNPS License Plate design is on the website. Purchasing one will support our mission. As soon as 3,000 plates have been ordered, production will begin. Orders can be made at our local Tax Collector's office or online or at <https://www.floridanativelicenseplate.com/fnps/>

Athena introduced our guest speaker, Nancy J. Bissett, co-author of Native Plants for Florida Gardens. She described her book, its layout and components. She highlighted about 30 of the shrubs, trees, grasses, vines and wildflowers included in the book, which has about 100.

The proceeds from book sales go to the Florida Wildflower Foundation. The book is available from Amazon.com, UniversityPress.com and BookShop.org.

Following a question and answer session, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25PM.

Minutes submitted by Gwen Dunaway, CCNPS Secretary

Citrus Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society (CCFNPS)

US Mail: PO Box 465 Lecanto, Fl 34460

Email: CitrusNPS@gmail.com

Phone: 352-631-8444 (leave a message)

Website: citrus.fnpschapters.org

Facebook: Citrus Native Plant Society