

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

Meeting chaired by Athena Phillips, Co-President
Attendance: 21 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 and comments during the program.

Our membership is currently 124. Athena reminded everyone that if their membership has unintentionally slipped, please contact FNPS or us to renew. Our contact information is on our website.

Athena extended congratulations to the Pinellas Chapter for raising awareness and funds to secure the Gladys Douglas Hackworth Preserve. This preserve was targeted for conservation but had ended up going for development. Lots of people joined together to save this land and turn it into a conservation area. It is a successful example of the power of people.

Athena showed a slide from our website showing the Volunteer Opportunities for our chapter. Details can be found on our website, citrus.fnpschapters.org. Upcoming opportunities include but are not limited to the following:

- Tue March 9, Ft. Cooper State Park
- Wed. March 10, Weedy Wednesday at Crystal River Preserve State Park
- Sat. March 13, Gardening with Barbara, Lecanto Demo Garden
- Sat. March 13, Spring Home & Outdoor Show, The Depot, Inverness
- Sat. March 20, Save the Wildflowers, Fight the Invaders, Brooksville
- Tue. March 23, Ft. Cooper State Park

Athena announced that Board Members are needed. All current members are reaching the end of their terms. Now is the best time to learn from the current officers before they leave office in December. Positions needed are President, Vice President, Chapter Representative, Treasurer, Membership, and Secretary. Athena emphasized that the chapter cannot exist without a team at the helm and that is it not hard, just a commitment.

A slide with upcoming activities was shown. Details can be found on our website for these events:

- Tuesday March 9, Rare Plant Walk, Dunnellon
- Tuesday April 6, our next Chapter Meeting, Deborah Curry, Marion County Chapter President, will speak on the preservation of endangered plants.

Athena announced that we will be holding a Plant Swap on April 18, 2021. Now is the time to start dividing or transplanting Native Plants only to be ready for the swap.

A slide was shown of the new FNPS License Plate. 3,000 must be presold prior to production. Orders can be made through DMV.

A new Solar Co-Op is now available in Citrus County. A link will be posted regarding more

information and upcoming webinars.

Athena introduced our speaker, Barbara McCormick. She is a member of our chapter and Master Gardener and Master Naturalist. She does the popular “Barbara's Bits” for our chapter's monthly meetings.

Barbara presented a pre-taped video in which she demonstrated the proper care of our plants this spring. She also presented a bouquet of “What's Blooming.”

What's Blooming included Walter's Viburnum, Coral Honeysuckle, Yellow Jessamine, Lyre Leaf Sage, Conradina and Tropical Sage.

Topics covered in the video: Selecting Plants, Pruning and Cleaning-up of plants, Propagation, Transplanting, Cuttings, Seed, Division, and Layering.

Following the video, Barbara joined Athena live for Questions and Answers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM.

Minutes submitted by Gwen Dunaway, CCNPS Secretary

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