

## FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY—THE VILLAGES CHAPTER

Friday, January 28, 2022

Big Cypress Recreation Center, 3110 Hendry Drive – Periwinkle Room

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Sue Egloff at 1:30pm.

Present: 41 in person; 3 on zoom; 29 signed in as members.

New Business:

**Sue welcomed members and guests.** Sue welcomed all first time attendees and explained that we are not a Villages club, but a Chapter of the statewide FNPSociety which has 37 chapters and over 3,000 members state wide.

**Linda Neff – Membership Representative.** Linda spoke about the benefits of membership and how to join. Our chapter has over 180 members.

**Green Isle Gardens Sponsors** our plant drawing. They contribute 6 plants, plus there are plants provided by various members.

**Florida Native License Plate now available.** You can support FNPS by ordering your FNPS license plate. Three thousand pre-orders are required at the DMV before they will begin production. You can pre-order via DMV or [www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org).

**Kudos to John Nicholson.** Our Villages Chapter FNPS has “adopted” the entryway to Lake Griffin State Park. Since we have not been able to keep a group of volunteers to weeds, mulch etc., Steve Turnipseed connected us to John Nicholson. We have hired him to maintain the entryway for us and he is doing a great job!

**Field Trips.** Sue Egloff talked about past and future field trips organized by Pam Powell for our Chapter, some of which are available only to members. In November, Chapter members went to Lake Griffin State Park. Pam Powell talked about upcoming trips and how to sign up for them.

**Change in General Meeting Day.** Sue Egloff and the board have decided to move the monthly meetings from the fourth Friday of the month to the second Friday of the month, same time (1PM) and same place (Big Cypress, Periwinkle room) effective in April 2022. Also there will be no general meetings June-July-August. The future general meeting dates for 2022 are: February 25, March 25, April 8, May 13, September 9, October 14, November 11, December 9. (new business cards will have to be ordered, or cross out the irrelevant info on the old business cards).

**The Village Chapter FNPS FaceBook page.** Anyone can join our FaceBook page. It's a good place to get answers to questions and see what is going on in others' yards. Linda Hunt administers the FB page.

**2022 Chapter Officer Positions** – Sue thanked out-going board members for their service – Susan Hamilton, long-time treasurer, Nancy Kavanaugh, secretary in 2021 and Nini Conner, in her position as Program Chair.

The Chapter Officers & Executive Committee slate for 2022 as it currently stands is:

- President – Sue Egloff
- Vice President –
- Secretary – Young-hee Andrean
- Chapter Representative – Gary Babic
- Treasurer – Marcia Gould
- Program Chairs – Vicky McLean & Kat Manczak

Sue asked if there were any other nominations from the floor – she encouraged the idea of “co-chairs” so positions could have a back-up person to assist on projects or fill-in if needed. Sue stated the Chapter is for the members and the members should be providing input. Members can self-nominate. There were no other additions to the slate.

Sue asked if all members in favor of this slate could raise hands – YEA! And any not in favor – there were none. The elections carried unanimously.

Starting in March, Alysyn Culbertson will take over the plant raffle for Vicky Mclean.

**Long Leaf Pine Straw Orders** – Jo Hudak is taking orders for bales of long leaf pine straw for \$5/bale, to be delivered sometime between Feb. 7-21. Buyers must pick up their pine straw from the on the day it's delivered from the Big Cypress Rec Center Parking Lot. Jo will call or text buyers and volunteers as soon as delivery date is known. Jo is looking for some volunteers organize the drop off at Big Cypress and to help direct buyers for pick-up. This pine straw is the long-leaf pine straw – it will be freshly raked and baled just 1-2 days before it's delivered, so it will be “clean” and have that beautiful copper color. If anyone wants to order and did not bring their checkbook today, see Jo after the meeting to arrange for purchase and payment.

**Presentation: Lake Griffin: What Does it Have to Offer.** Jan Wichterman, Park Service, Specialist and Volunteer Coordinator presented information on the history of the park and the recreational opportunities from kayaking-fishing-hiking-camping. She took questions from the audience.

Call for 5-minute talks on plants. Vicky Mclean asked audience members to consider giving a very short talk (5 minutes or so) on a plant in their yard at each general meeting. The chapter is looking for input and participation. The presentation might include a plant in pot, cuttings,

photo, slides and just some information about why that plant in in your yard, interests you, etc.  
Contact Vicky if interested.

**Plant Drawing** – Vicky McLean managed the native plant drawing.

The meeting adjourned shortly before 3PM.

The next general meeting will be February 25, 2022, at 1:30pm at the Big Cypress Recreation Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Hudak

Filling in for vacant secretary position

