

**Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
Board Meeting Minutes
April 1, 2019**

Board members present: Larry Beer, Milagros Dougan, Kathy Foster, Clarette Frank, Heidi Gagnon, Phil Nye, and Valerie Thompson. **Absent:** Gabriella Miyamoto and Todd Richards **Park staff present:** Terrance Torvund
President Kathy Foster called the meeting to order at 10.00 a.m. A quorum was established.

President's Report

New Board member: President Kathy Foster announced the election of Clarette Frank to the Board to fill the term of Joe Gagnier. The election was accomplished prior to the April 1 meeting through email ballot. Kathy welcomed Clarette to the Board. Dellora's Garden update: Kevin Duncan and John Finer are working to add plants to the garden by transplanting existing park plants into the garden. 2018-2019 Season Accomplishments: Kathy shared the following: Visitor Services

- New event called Seashells and Santa
- Used social media for first time to promote attendance Fundraisers
- Developed donation for Adopt a Turtle Project to raise funds for the Parks Sea Turtle Protection Program and additional funds for Friends budget
- New paddleboard yoga contract signed
- Promoted use of Smile.Amazon as fundraiser

Vice President's Report: Heidi provided the following update on the Adopt a Turtle Project: 272 plush turtles have been distributed through March 31. A gift card was presented to Ranger James Aldridge for his outstanding efforts at raising donations for the turtle project. A new order for 50 additional turtles was placed on March 25.

Secretary's Report: The March Board meeting minutes were approved as amended. Larry made motion for approval; Phil seconded. Since there will not be an April Membership Meeting, the unapproved minutes from the February 11, 2019 and March 11, 2019 Membership Meetings will be posted on the Friends website and voted on for approval at the October Friends Membership meeting.

Treasurer Report:

Income: The net income for the month of February 2019 was \$6,825.72, an increase of \$3,129.24 over the net income in February 2018. Designated funds investment: In the April report it was noted that there is an increase in designated funds, \$13,000.00 instead of \$10,000 as previously approved. The funds will be invested in a 2-year CD at TIAA Bank.

Adopt a Turtle Project: Through March 31, 2019 donations for the 272 turtles reached \$5,440 in revenues. Including donations for the cost of the turtles, the net profit is \$2,302 or \$8.46 per turtle net of \$1,360 directed to the Sea Turtle Protection Project.

Art Show: Total revenues of \$3,741 and expenses of \$438.00 resulted in net income of \$3,303.

Donation to Friends of Fakahatchee Preserve S. P.: The Board voted unanimously to raise the donation to the Friends of Fakahatchee Preserve State Park to \$200.00. The swamp walk, which is an option for our April 8 Friends trip, is normally \$75.00 per person. The Fakahatchee Friends are providing the park tours as a courtesy and not charging our members for the trip. Thirty-two people have registered for the trip.

Membership: Membership stands at 184, with 10 outstanding March renewals.

Managers' Report:

Budget: Terrance announced that the Park's budget request to the state included a new UTV and a new SUV vehicle. The Park staff expects higher operation costs in the upcoming year due to increased costs for trash pick up and water.

Visitor Services: Ranger programs continue to be on hold due to high Park visitation and quality control. The T-2 Auto Count System set-up is progressing while the decision on how to present the data to the public is considered. In February approximately 453 visitors rode the Beach Bus into the Park. Two thousand visitors entered the Park via the boat shuttle from Tarpon Cove Community. Visitation numbers: March 2019: 82,157; March 2018: 70,628.

Protection

Resource Management: Raccoon project has concluded. Approximately 50 cages are needed for Sea Turtle Protection Project. Materials have been purchased using the Adopt a Turtle Project donations.

Projects: Terrance presented a Social Media Paid Marketing Plan for Spring 2019 through Winter 2020. Specific items, goals, costs and recommendations were listed. The total budget request from the Friends was \$300.00. Terrance has been exploring the idea of a Beach Cam. Due to the high cost, the County dropped its offer to fund the project.

Park Brochure: Larry and Terrance have been working on designing a Friends membership information insert for the Park brochure. A first draft was shared. Larry will email the second draft to Board after he and Terrance agree on format. The Park's Nature Fest is scheduled for November 2, 2019.

Old business: none

New business

A Beach/Park cleanup is scheduled for April 22. Park staff will assist in organizing this event and Friends members are welcome to participate.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Valerie Thompson, Secretary

Date approved: October 7, 2019