

**Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park Board**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**October 7, 2019**

**Board members present:** Milagros Dougan, Kathy Foster, Phil Nye, Todd Richards and Valerie Thompson. **Absent:** Larry Beer, Clarette Frank, Heidi Gagnon and Gabriella Miyamoto. (a quorum was established)

**Park Staff present:** Terrance Torvund

Board President Kathy Foster called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A moment of silence was held in memory of Park Ranger Bill Thaller.

Kathy thanked Phil for arranging the meeting location for the Board meetings. Kathy also thanked the Board members for their work.

**President Report:**

Ranger Appreciation Luncheon will be held on October 18, 2019. The food will be ordered from Jason's Deli. Board members who are able to attend were reminded to make their menu choices prior to October 16. The menu and order list are in Caitlin's Office at the Park.

Summer Projects: Kathy summarized the following projects:

- Terrance and Larry, with input from Board members, completed the membership insert for the Park brochures. Terrance will contact PRIDE printing for pricing for printing and cutting the inserts.
- Kathy met with Terrance and Caitlin over the summer to discuss Friends projects and Park activities.
- Summer membership procedures were designed. Thanks to Milagros, Jennifer Marques and Gabriella for their ideas and work.
- The Park was required to purchase a locked donation box for the front gate area.
- Kathy, Terrance and Caitlin attended a membership recruitment event at Rookery Bay. Big Cypress N.P., Collier Seminole S.P, Fakahatchee S.P, Everglades-Gulf Coast N.P., Rookery Bay and our Park were represented.
- Caitlin organized a Sept. 28 "cleanup" at the Butterfly garden in Area #1.
- Terrance and Kathy will attend a state-wide CSO-Park Manager's meeting in Tampa in early November
- The contract with Naples Yoga Center was reviewed.

**Vice President's Report:**

Kathy reported that Ranger James Aldridge won \$25.00 for receiving the most turtle donation during April, May and June. The turtle preservation project has been very successful. The Board members again thanked Todd for his successful idea. Terrance is considering purchasing a "new" cart to assist in the turtle preservation project.

**Secretary's Report:**

The minutes from the April 1, 2019 meeting were approved. Voice approval.

**Treasurer's Report:** The net income through August 2019 reached \$13,516.08, which is \$14,006.18 better than the same period in 2018. Greater revenues from donations for turtles and memberships combined with lower expenses because of the purchase of the ATV last year contributed to the positive performance. Compared to budget, net income through August is \$8,599 better mainly because of the success of the turtle program. The Friends received \$230 in memory of the ranger Bill Thaller. A donation of \$200.00 was sent to the Friends of Fakahatchee State Park in appreciation of our April visit. Donations from Naples Yoga Center for the year amounted to \$494.00.

In September 2019, assets reached \$112,590.21 and designated assets were \$65,174.77. Terrance shared the Vendor Authorization Form for Naples Yoga Center. The Center's representative named on the Vendor Authorization form, needs to fulfill the terms of the contract with mandatory payment dates and a list of participants for each session. Terrance will convey these requirements to the representative, Jodi Ziajka. If Jodi agrees to the terms, the Board

approved the Agreement. Todd moved for conditional approval. Phil seconded. The Board is interested in exploring additional yoga opportunities in the Park.

### **Membership Chair:**

There are currently 199 memberships. A question was raised about quorums for membership meeting business. Terrance will request information from the District about how other State Parks handle this issue and membership meetings. A donor has purchased 12 Friends individual memberships for Robb Stan to award for on-line drawings.

### **Park Manager's Report:**

Social Media Marketing Plan: The Friends Facebook page was adjusted and the donations link was removed due to low donations, Facebook "Likes" has increased and Ursula Waynee Gibbons has taken over managing the Friends Facebook page.

**Staff:** The Park is now at full staffing with the hiring of Ranger Dan Goggin and Ranger Peggy Obear. Caitlin and Steve are attending a Ranger Academy in Orlando, James will be attending Certified Interpretive training and the new employees will be attending an orientation in Tallahassee.

### Park Projects:

- Renovation to Bath House #3
- Restriping Parking spots
- Patching pot holes
- Ongoing trimming
- Board walk removal
- Observation tower removal
- Speakers for Membership meetings: October 14: Savannah Lawson, Education Specialist. "Discover Rookery Bay". November 11, 2019: Ashlee O'Connor, Panther Outreach Specialist. FWC Florida Panther.

New District Chief: Brian Fugate. Terrance will meet with him monthly.

Budget: Terrance has requested \$6,000 in this year's budget for facilities maintenance and repairs. Lift station repair and tower removal are two additional projects covered by separate funds.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Seashells and Santa:** December 1, 2019, 1-3 p.m. The Santa Suit is available and Richie Twiefel volunteered to be "Santa" at the event. Committee member Todd discussed some new ideas for registration including charging a small fee for "tickets" to attend. A folder with a summary of committee members' suggestions from last year's event is on file. Toy distribution was discussed. Volunteers are needed to serve on the Committee.

**Art Show:** January 18, 2020. Gloria Skrobbacki will be the 2020 Resident Artist.

**Children's Art Show:** February 22 & 23. Terry Nowak added plaques to framed artwork from previous years' winners and hung the art in the CSO Room.

### **Unfinished business:**

John Finer and Ingrid Twiefel continue to enhance our Park's gardens.

**Old business:** Working with Park staff and Friends members, many volunteers made the two September cleanups very successful: 9/21, Coastal Clean Up Day (almost 300 volunteers) and 9/28, Butterfly Garden Clean Up.

### **New Business:**

April trip to the Conservancy will include a guided nature center tour and a boat ride on the Gordon River. Date TBA. Entrance fees will be waived.

Membership picnic will be held in December.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Valerie Thompson, Secretary

Date approved: November 4, 2019