

**Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
Board Meeting Minutes – Pavilion DWPSP
January 5, 2021**

Board members present: Kathy Foster, Phil Nye Larry Beer, Todd Richards and Valerie Thompson. **Absent:** Eric Cosentino, Clarette Frank and Gabriella Miyamoto. (A quorum was established) **Park staff present:** Park Manager Terrance Torvund and Ranger David Baniak

Board President Kathy Foster called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

President's Report:

- Kathy shared a recent *Naples Daily News* article concerning the work of Delnor-Wiggins Pass S. P. Park Historian James K. Matthews. As the Park turns 50 this year, Mr. Matthews will be working on researching and recording the Park's history.
- The \$25.00 Wal-Mart gift cards given to all Park employees were very much appreciated. Kathy read a letter from Jenn on behalf of Park staff members thanking the Friends for the holiday gifts.
- Kathy thanked Ursula for her work on fundraising ideas. Ursula said she would continue to explore fundraising options.
- The 2021 Annual Program Plan for CSO was submitted to the District Office at the end of the year.

Vice President's Report: Kathy reported for Heidi. An alligator was added to line up of stuffed critters. Ranger James Aldridge won for most donations in the Adopt-a-Turtle program during the most recent competition period. Todd offered to display critters and take Adopt-a- Turtle donations at the Concessions outlet in area #4; he is working out the details for display.

Secretary's Report: "New Business" in the minutes from the November Board meeting included Dellora's Garden, replacement of the sign and the bench. Larry questioned replacing the bench. Terrance explained that the recommendation is to replace the bench and locate it elsewhere. The name plaque currently on the bench will be retained in the Garden area. Larry moved to approve the minutes, Phil provided the second.

Treasurer Report: Kathy reported for Eric. Support for the Friends through contributions and Adopt-a-Turtle donations were up 44% in November from the previous month. However, Adopt-a-Turtle donations and gates donation were both down when looking at November year-over-year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Overall, net income was up 6%. Total expenses were up 9% and net income was up 4% year over year. Total current assets in checking and savings were up 21% year over year. Adopt-a-Turtle donations were up significantly both at the Park and online in the last two months. Eric thanked Ursula Gibbons for all of her work with the online donations. Ursula discussed promotion of Adopt-a-Turtle donations on the Friends Facebook page. Larry asked about the P & L loss of \$600.00, Kathy suggested we ask Eric.

Membership Chairperson: Kathy reported for Gabriella. As of December 30, we have 177 members. Fifty-one memberships are due to expire in January. Both individual and family memberships are treated as single memberships for counting/voting purposes. The Friends group is adding a lifetime member to the organization. Gabriella has communicated with the new member. Ursula will include information about the lifetime membership option on Friends Facebook post.

Park Manager:

Park Manager Terrance introduced new full-time ranger, David Baniak.

Ursula explained about “stars” on Facebook Live Feeds. Reminded us that posts with the Friends logo is the official page.

On behalf of the Park staff Terrance thanked the Friends for their support.

Administration: Caitlin and Terrance do not have reliable Internet service possibly due to a cut in the fiber optic line. Internet access options are being explored.

Volunteer Historian: James Matthews, an ex-military historian is working on creating a historical record of the Park.

Favorable Park inspection: Terrance will email results to individuals upon request.

Visitors Service: a drop in visitation due to cancellation of events, less visitors traveling and presence of red tide

December 2019 total 44,311 visitors	December 2020 total 37,158
December 15, 2019 total 1,842 visitors	December 15, 2020 total 790 visitors
December 24, 2019 total 1,644 visitors	December 24, 2020 total 1,645 visitors
December 25, 2019 total 2,578 visitors	December 25, 2020 total 1,173 visitors

Resource management: There will be predatory animal removal prior to sea turtle season. Raccoons are less of a problem when the population is controlled.

Maintenance: With assistance from the Friends funding, park vehicles are up and running (the ATV is in shop). Boardwalk repairs in Area #3 will begin this week, money for the materials was provided through a donation by the family of a Friends member. A permit for boardwalk and ramps in Area #4 is in process.

Protection: Red tide is in the area and the Park is noting scattered fish kills. Respiratory irritation gets worse when the wind comes out of the west.

The Park doesn't have Collier County helping with traffic control at the entrance due to COVID-19. The county used their budget to have the deputies patrol their beaches after the lockdown. Collier County Citizen Volunteers directed traffic at the entrance during the recent holiday week.

Unfinished Business: NA

New Business: NA

Upcoming Dates:

January 11, 2021 Annual Friends Membership Meeting

Zoom invite from Caitlin for the Annual Meeting was sent through email to Friends members. Board members are reminded to stay on after annual meeting for Officer election.

February 1, 2021 Friends Board Meeting, 10 a.m. in Park Pavilion.

Adjourned the meeting: 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Valerie Thompson

Date approved: February 1, 2021

**Minutes of the Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
Annual Organizational Board Meeting via Zoom
Board Officers Election – January 11, 2021**

Attending: Board members present: Larry Beer, Heidi Gagnon, Gabriella Miyamoto, Kathy Foster, Ursula Gibbons and Valerie Thompson. Board members absent: and Eric Cosentino, Clarette Frank, and Phil Nye,

Call to Order: President Kathy Foster called the organizational meeting of the DWPSP Board of Directors to order at 10:50 a.m.

Establish Quorum: A quorum was established.

1. Vice President request: A motion was made to allow Heidi to place additional order for Adopt-a-Turtle program critters in a maximum amount of \$400.00 when needed. The motion received unanimous support of the Board.

2. Election of 2021 Officers: Gabriella presented the slate of Officer nominees and asked for other nominations. With no other nominees, Gabriella moved to accept the slate of Officers, Heidi seconded. The election of officers took place with the Board members unanimously electing the following Board members to a one-year Officer term:

- President: Kathy Foster
- Vice President: Heidi Gagnon
- Treasurer: Eric Cosentino
- Secretary: Valerie Thompson

Gabriella will stay on as Membership Chair

- **Adjournment: President Kathy Foster adjourned the meeting**

Submitted by Valerie Thompson, Secretary

Date Approved: February 1, 2021