

MINUTES of the Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
Membership Meeting – February 9, 2015

Alliene Liden conducted the 50/50.

Before the meeting began, Ranger Rosa Simone presented a very interesting program about the hard bottom reef at our park. She showed photos of the coral and other marine life on the hard bottom reef and described the development of this type of reef. The best access to the reef is at low tide, out past the buoys from area 2.

Call to order: The Membership Meeting of the Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park was held in the CSO Room at Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park, Naples Florida on February 9, 2015. The meeting convened at 10:20 AM by Ann Petrillo, President. A quorum was established.

Board Members in attendance: Larry Beer, Marcia Byrd, Kathy Foster, Elsie Morgan, Phil Nye, Ann Petrillo, Kathe Rasch, and Valerie Thompson **Absent:** Joe Gagnier

Staff present: Robert Steiger

The minutes of the January 12, 2015 meeting were approved as read.

The first order of business was the installation of the Board.

Officers' reports:

President: Ann reported on the success of the 17th Annual Art Show. She thanked Kathe Foster for turning in her board application after the January meeting. The new brochures are to be delivered this week.

Treasurer: Kathe announced that end-of-year financials were completed thanks to the new accountants. The full report will be filed with the state and is available in the financials notebook. She distributed the End of Year 2014 report showing Net Income of \$8,811, giving highlights of income and expenses. The entire report is attached to be filed in with the minutes. Kathe also provided reckoning of the January Art Show, showing an estimated profit of \$2292

Park Mgr: Bob announced that on Thursday an audit by the inspector general was planned. Volunteer records must be in order, including evidence of background checks. The new CSO Handbook has new rules for special events in which Board members have to sign an application and agreement. Bob directed us to the new Florida State Park website, still at www.floridastateparks.org and he explained how to look up other Friends groups. Personnel changes include ranger Elan Weisz taking on a new opportunity in Oregon, Gavin _____ and Gail Brooks are new OPS workers.

Bob said the volunteer appreciation picnic has been done away with.

Park Svs. Lori was off and thus there was no report

Committee Reports:

Membership – Membership is low, hovering around 44 members. Kathe will send out another email blast to nudge members to renew.

Children's Art Show - Marcia reported that the February 7-8th Children's Art Show was a success. There was a noticeable increase in the number of families and the diversity of those families most likely due to free gate passes being sent to the teachers to distribute to the families of their students exhibiting artwork. There were a fair number of Friends who volunteered to help with the show. Marcia thanked the volunteers who were in attendance and suggested that members come to see the beautiful artwork displayed even if they are not working. Plans are to continue with the show in the future.

Boardwalk – Larry gave the status of the boardwalk, still a dream. He showed where it would be located using the aerial map of the park. He commented that no other State Park has such a boardwalk that would cut across the barrier island containing 80% mangroves. Unfortunately the project is very expensive and even though we have qualified for a PIP, the state has no money to give us for the boardwalk. Both the bureau chief and the district chief met with board members and they support the project. A biologist from the state will come to study the environment and the potential for our boardwalk

Unfinished business:

The field trip to Cayo Costa State Park is being planned for March 11th. Car pools will be set up and the fee will be \$25 for the boat over to the island. Lunch will be on your own. More on this will follow on email.

New Business:

The Friends will set up an exhibit at the Planet Earth Festival on Saturday, March 28th from 1pm-5pm at Shangri-La Springs in Bonita Springs. More volunteers are needed.

Ann announced that JoAnn Linck is no longer going to run the annual art show. She thanked JoAnn for her years of service and asked for volunteers to chair that event. Marcia also credited JoAnn and her committee for the repeated success of the show and stated that it is now the only fundraiser we have aside from memberships, donations and recycling. She suggested that two members might consider co-chairing the event but that one should be here full time or at least be available in September when the new artist is chosen.

Kathe Foster won the 50/50. The prize was the last egret t-shirt from Ed Krauss and a visor from the Friends.

Adjournment: 11:20 AM.

Michele Williams, speaker, Archeology.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Byrd, secretary
Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park

Date of Approval