

**MINUTES of the Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
Membership Meeting – February 8, 2016**

Board Members in attendance: Larry Beer, Marcia Byrd, Kathy Foster, Joe Gagnier, Gabriella Miyamoto, Phil Nye, Ann Petrillo, Kathe Rasch

Board Members Absent: Valerie Thompson

Staff Members Present: Mark Nicoletti, Lori Heath Thorn

Alliene Liden conducted the 50/50.

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 8, 2016. The meeting convened at 10:04 AM by Ann Petrillo, president. A quorum was established.

The Board was installed by Mark Nicoletti.

President - Ann Petrillo, Vice President – Phil Nye, Treasurer – Kathe Rasch, Secretary – Marcia Byrd, Directors – Larry Beer, Kathy Foster, Joe Gagnier, Gabriella Miyamoto.

The minutes from the January 11, 2016 meeting were read and approved.

Reports from officers and staff:

Ann Petrillo - The March Field trip to Barnacle State Park Miami is being planned. Ann will send out an email blast with details. Ann thanked Kathy and Valerie their work in putting on a fantastic Art Show.

Kathe Rasch – Kathe gave the monthly report \$34,592 in Everbank MM, \$15, 285 in Wells Fargo MM, \$14,788 in Wells Fargo Checking. End of year report will be available later this week. She is working on the budget for next year. She stated that we got no gate income from Nature Fest. A blue binder on the shelf in the CSO room is up to date and has all the financials.

Park Manager- Mark Nicoletti reported that boardwalks are still awaiting the permitting. The park has received 2 of the 5 from Collier County. There are two new OPS hires. Volunteer applications must be up to date.

Park Services Specialist - Lori thanked Valerie and Kathy for working so hard for a year to do the Art Show. She gave details of the Children’s Art Show coming up on February 27-28. A volunteer sign up sheet was circulated. She attended the district 4 CSO meeting with Bob at Gamble Plantation. There were good discussions about recruiting members and board members. The new volunteer online system was explained. The state is moving to a paperless system. Lori will send out a link to record hours again in the next newsletter

Committee Reports:

Membership – Gabriella reported that we have approximately 50 active members. She is looking into ways to boost the membership. A suggestion was made to target seasonal rentals for membership in the Friends. Getting a deal on the gate passes is a good selling point.

Art Festival – Valerie was out of country. Kathy thanked all the volunteers, Lori and rangers. Most were Friends and some volunteers are not members of the Friends . The committee revised all written materials. The committee consisted of Alliene Liden, Larry Beer, Mark Nicoletti, Valerie Thompson, and Kathy Foster. One of the main objectives was to increase communication between committee and board. Kathy expressed appreciation for support of

the board. The weather was fantastic, a lucky day sandwiched between two very bad weather days. The park closed at 11 which disappointed artists and patrons. There is a need to work on options when this happens. Naples Beach Adventures cancelled 10 days before the event but Joneses BBQ saved the day and even contributed \$100. A few of the changes were a registration fee, music, a raffle, a comment form, and more. The banner was redesigned. Signs were placed outside the park, a week before. Kathy passed around a notebook showing all the publicity for the show. This year there were three new artists. The committee will meet Feb 25, 9:30 in the CSO room and it is open to everybody.

Children's Art Show - Marcia reported that 7 schools have signed up to participate in the Third Annual Children's Art Show to be held February 27-28 at the pavilion. She reiterated that volunteers will be needed and the signup sheet was being circulated. It was suggested that the members attend even if they are not working.

Unfinished Business:

Coastal Forum – The next Coastal Forum with ECA will be at 6:45 Tuesday, February 9, 2016, at the pavilion. Marcus Henning will speak on Sea Turtles in Southwest Florida. Volunteers will be needed and members are encouraged to attend.

New Business:

Beach Erosion – The board is considering writing a letter to the DEP expressing concerns about the loss of beach due to dredging and the storms. Direction from Bob will be necessary in order for the board to go forward with the letter.

Collier County Sheriffs Cars – Two sheriff's cars have been assigned to manage the intersection at the county entrance and the park entrance.

50/50 winner – The winner received \$12.00

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM

Speaker: Park ranger, Rosa Simone, gave an interesting power point talk on barrier islands. We must keep in mind that barrier islands are dynamic and thus always changing. She described the effects of El Nino on our beach and park showing aerial views of our park.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Marcia Byrd**

Date Approved _____