

**Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
Board Meeting Minutes – Pavilion DWPSP
February 7, 2022**

Board members present: Eric Cosentino, Barb Craig, Kim Finer, Kathy Foster, Heidi Gagnon, Ursula Gibbons, Valerie Thompson and Donna Wallin **Absent:** Gabriella Miyamoto. (A quorum was established) **Park staff present:** Park Manager Terrance Torvund

Board President Ursula Gibbons called the meeting to order.

President's Report: Valerie will send thank you notes to Phil Nye and Larry Beer to thank them for their years of service on the Board.

Vice-President's Report: Heidi reported that 75 more critters have been received and the inventory is now stored in plastic tubs in the CSO Room. An inventory system has been established. A motion was made to allow the Vice President to spend up to \$600.00 on any order to keep the inventory at a good level. Kathy seconded the motion, unanimously approved. The amount and frequency of a gift card award to the Ranger receiving the greatest number of critter donations was discussed. Park AA Jenn Marques and Terrance will find out what is allowable and let Heidi know.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the January 3, 2022 meeting were revised and approved. Barb made the motion for approval, Heidi seconded. Unanimously approved. Minutes from the January 10, 2022 Board organization meeting were approved. Kathy made the motion for approval, Barb seconded. Unanimously approved. Regarding correspondence, Valerie reported thank you letters were sent to four donors during the month. Valerie distributed an updated list of Board members with their email addresses and phone numbers.

Treasurers' Report: Eric reported year over year as of December 31st 2021 total assets increased by \$32,412.40 or 18.2%. Direct public support: critter donations, gate donations and the "Adopt-a-Turtle" program, increased by \$29,133.32 or 56.2%. The income for 2020 was down due to the closure of the Park during COVID when gate and critter donations were not possible. Overall, net income increased \$41,758.43 or 53.3%. Expenses were up year-over-year 69.4% with funds used for Park facility repairs and maintenance and equipment. Eric reported the Audit Committee met and the financial records are in good order.

Membership Chairperson's Report: There are currently 267 Friends memberships (including both family and individual memberships).

Park Manager's Report:

Administration:

New Staff: A new Ranger, Mike Dunn, has joined the staff. Another new Ranger has been hired, but a start date has not been determined by the State. PSS Pindel's position is open and applications are being accepted until Feb. 10.

District's Annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic Terrance announced that the picnic would be held at Weeki Wachee Springs State Park on March 3. Kathy reminded the Board members \$500.00 is available in the budget for travel to District and State meetings. Terrance will email information to Board members. Board members wishing to attend should let Terrance know soon so he can RSVP.

Nature Trail Kiosk: Barb proposed someone be hired to assemble the new Nature Trail

kiosk. Following discussion, Heidi made a motion to allow up to \$1,000.00 from Friends funds to be used to construct and install the kiosk; Kathy seconded the motion.

Unanimously approved.

Ranger Room: Eric introduced a discussion about the condition of the Ranger Room and the need for updating the furnishings and spaces. Eric made a motion that up to \$1,000.00 in Friends funds be used to improve the functionality of the room with new furniture and paint; Kathy seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Visitor Services: Florida State Parks has a new Jr. Ranger Program Promotion. They have partnered with Florida Pre-paid and will select 10 Jr. Rangers to receive a 1-year Florida University Plan scholarship.

Resources management/Protection: The gopher tortoise sign and speed limit sign are up and seem to be working.

Maintenance: High water bills alerted staff that a water leak might be occurring. Leak Hero's was hired to investigate and were unable to find the leak source. Investigation will continue.

Major Project list was submitted to Tallahassee:

- Finish the Boardwalk around Bathhouse #3 and install new showers: shovel ready, we have plans and permits -- \$225,000.00
- Resurface .5 miles of road -- \$500,000.00
- Replace boardwalk between Area #3 and Bathhouse #2.
- Boardwalk north out to the point.
- The Nature Trail Boardwalk has passed the first inspection. The Park staff has 6 months to complete the project.

Committee Reports:

Art Show: Twenty-two artists participated in the 2022 Show. Kathy shared a fact sheet showing an income of \$5,505.62. (Amount corrected to \$5,395.24 prior to approval). The purpose of the show and amount of work to organize and hold the show was discussed.

Children's Art Show: PSS David Baniak is coordinating volunteers. 8 schools are registered for the show. Barb has agreed to chair the 2023 Show with Marcia Byrd and Larry Beer continuing to be involved. Date change for 2023 is being explored. Friends will have a table in the pavilion during the show. The Jr. Ranger Program may also have a table to promote the program.

New Business

- Fourth of July and Christmas Parade—Ursula discussed Friends participation.
- Possible small monthly Friends programs, E.g. Kids Club, Book Club. An event or activity to engage Friends members with the Park. Ideas need to be developed and discussed.
- Sample Board Contract: Terrance will check on requirement.

Upcoming Dates:

- Friends Field Trip: April 11, 2022. Proposed location: Lovers' Key State Park. Investigate combining the Field Trip with the Volunteer Appreciation event. Could the Friends provide a catered lunch for those attending? Is it within the budget? Terrance will work with Ursula to investigate the possibilities.
- Volunteer Appreciation Dinner (March--TBD)

With no further business, Eric moved for adjournment, Valerie seconded.