

Minutes of the Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
Membership Meeting – November 12, 2018

Guest Speaker: Dr. John Finer, Department of Horticulture and Crop Science OADC, Ohio State University.

Topic: "Suitable Plants for Dellora's Garden: What I am learning about Florida native plants and what can be planted in Dellora's Garden"

John, a member of the Friends group and Park volunteer, has been working during the last few months to renew Dellora's Garden. He works closely with Park staff to select plants for the Garden. John presented many things he has learned during this project: I cannot plant whatever I want. I cannot remove whatever I want. No exotics or invasive plants are allowed. Species of approved plants are identified in DWSPSP Unit Management Plan. John shared an imperiled species inventory and reviewed plants that he has transplanted and also purchased and planted. John is focusing on plants that may be grown in our Park environment and in a shaded area. John welcomes any suggestions about how to improve and grow plants in Dellora's Garden. He can be reached via email: finer.1@osu.edu

In addition to thanking John for his work in Dellora's Garden, Kathy also acknowledged and thanked Ingrid Twiefel and Alliene Liden for their gardening work at the Park.

Business Meeting:

Board Members in attendance: Marcia Byrd, Milagros Dougan, Kathy Foster, Phil Nye and Valerie Thompson

Board Members Absent: Todd Richards, Joe Gagnier and Gabriela Miyamoto

Staff Members Present: Mireille Gruppo, Terrance Torvund and Rangers James and Steven

Call to order: President Kathy Foster convened the meeting. A quorum was established.

Reports from officers, staff and committees:

President's Report: Kathy Foster welcomed attendees and recognized and thanked the military veterans in the group. Kathy provided a summary of the recent District 4 meeting. The focuses of the sessions were fundraising, building a strong Board of Directors and establishing a good group of volunteers. The Friends group, a 501 (C) (3), can fundraise, the Park staff cannot. The Park is purchasing a microwave for the Ranger break room using a recent donation. Due to the complete remodeling of Baleens, LaPlaya Beach and Golf Resort management donated six framed Rod Wiley photos to be used for display in the CSO Room. Park Specialist Mireille Gruppo was introduced and thanked for conducting a successful Nature Fest. Jared Marques, a Boy Scout in Troop 243, is working on his Eagle Scout project at the Park. Jared has built sixteen recycle bins to be used throughout the Park. In addition to these bins, he will also be preparing sixteen trash containers to replace old ones. Jared has received an award for his conservation project. Through Jared's efforts, all materials were donated. Project donors included: Ace Hardware, Lowes, Naples Lumber and a grant through Home Depot.

Vice President's Report: No report

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the October 8, 2018 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: The Friends lost \$139 through September 2018, which is an improvement over the loss of \$490 previously reported. Even though the revenues for this year are higher than last year, the Friends purchased an ATV for the park. Total investments for September 2018 are \$91,841, split between money market accounts and certificates of deposit.

Membership

New and renewing members may join the Friends at the Ranger Station, online or at meetings. Currently there is a “contest” for Rangers working at the entrance to see who can register the most memberships. Since November 1, ten memberships have been completed at the Rangers Station. Memberships are being offered as an alternative for people who are here for short periods of time. Membership registration has received a lot of support from the Rangers and Park management

Park Manager Report

Terrance Introduced Rangers Steven and James. Terrance introduced himself and gave a brief timeline of his experiences with Florida State Parks—he has worked in approximately sixteen different parks through his years with the Park Service.

Staffing: Terrance announced that a Ranger position has been upgraded to Maintenance Park Service Specialist. Park news: Terrance reviewed the vehicle situation and said that various vehicles are down for repair. In 2017, the management spent \$11,000 on vehicle maintenance; they have exceeded that amount in 2018. The Ranger station is being painted. Delnor Wiggins Pass State Park Friends Page on Facebook has been changed to “non-profit” and there is a donate button that links to the Friends webpage. Terrance has submitted a request to the district manager to close the boat basin for boats on January 19, to provide better parking for Art Show visitors. He is also investigating borrowing a tram from another Park to use for the day. Collier County will start the Beach Bus route on Nov 23. In a Florida State Parks ranking, DWSP was 14 in visitation over the last year with 460,000 visitors and raised \$882,000 for the state. Nature Fest on October 27 was a success, and visitors were up 400 visitors over the same date in 2017. The Donation/Sea Turtles project has been very successful—“Donate \$20.00, get a sea turtle”. Signage on the park sign and collecting donations at the ranger station has worked. Turtles have been reordered.

Committee reports

Seashells and Santa event: December 16, 2018, 1-3 p.m.

Marcia Byrd shared information about the proposed event. The goal of the event is to increase visitation to the Park. Todd Richards is chairing the committee working on organizing the event. Marcia shared ideas about the event activities and asked for volunteers to help prepare craft materials and also work on the day of the event. A sign-up page will be available at the December 10 picnic.

Wildlife and Wildlands Art Show: January 19. Volunteer sign-up will be at the December 10 Membership Picnic.

Children’s Art Show: The 6th annual Children’s Art Show will take place on February 23 and 24. The subject matter is: “Real Florida.” Three judges have been secured. Last year, the Beach Bus provided shuttle service to the pavilion in area #5. Volunteers will be needed to hang art.

New Business

AmazonSmile: Mireille is working to set up a Friends (Supporters of Del-Nor Wiggins Pass) account on AmazonSmile. Website: smile.amazon.com Mireille will also prepare directions about how to access the AmazonSmile page. {Note: From the Amazon website: “AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.”}

Membership Picnic: The picnic is planned for December 10 at 11 a.m. in the pavilion. Turkey and water will be provided. Those attending are asked to bring a side dish or dessert.

Thank you to Richie and Ingrid Twiefel for donating the turkey. Additional information about the picnic will be sent to members.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Valerie Thompson

Date approved: 12.10.18

FRIENDS OF DELNOR-WIGGINS PASS STATE PARK

Treasurer's Report - November 5, 2018

<u>Financial Results</u>	31-Dec-17	31-Dec-16	\$ Change	30-Sep-18	30-Sep-17	\$ Change
Total Income	\$41,314.85	\$15,520.75	\$25,794.10	\$12,494.39	\$10,880.04	\$1,614.35
Total Expenses	\$19,142.88	\$9,587.03	\$9,555.85	\$12,633.75	\$6,727.22	\$5,906.53
Net Income	\$22,171.97	\$5,933.72	\$16,238.25	(\$139.36)	\$4,152.82	(\$4,292.18)

<u>Cash Position</u>	Cash Position 12/31/2017	Cash Position 10/31/2018	Interest Income 2018	Interest Rate
<u>Wells Fargo</u>				
- Checking Account	\$10,353.65	10,573.42		
- Money Market Account	\$9,797.74	9,801.82	4.08	0.05%
<u>TIAA Bank</u>				
- Money Market Account	\$25,336.58	10,387.46	50.88	0.50%
- Cash Dellora Garden	\$10,000.00	10,102.39	102.39	1.64%
- Board Designated CD Certificates of Deposit				
- 3-Month	\$10,068.84	10,177.29	108.45	1.64%
- 6-Month	\$10,071.28	10,188.98	117.70	1.73%
- 1-Year	\$15,167.63	30,610.33	442.70	2.08%
Total Board Designated	\$35,307.75	\$50,976.60	\$668.85	
Total	\$90,795.72	\$91,841.69	\$826.20	