

**Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park  
Membership Meeting Minutes – CSO Room DWPSP  
March 14, 2022 (unapproved)**

**Board members present:** Barb Craig, Kathy Foster, Heidi Gagnon, Ursula Gibbons, Kim Moody, Valerie Thompson and Donna Wallin **Absent:** Eric Cosentino and Kim Finer. **Park staff present:** PSS David Baniak

PSS David Baniak presented an informative program about the Park's sea turtles and nesting rules and regulations. The presentation raised awareness and provided tips for helping our sea turtle population. Sea turtle nesting season begins around April 15. Loggerhead turtle nests are found on the Park's beaches; in 2021 a Green turtle also nested in the Park. David shared a video narrated by Ranger James Aldrich. The video is available on the Friends Facebook page and can also be found on our Youtube channel. A member recommended that a sign informing visitors about the nesting season be displayed at the Ranger Station.

Board President Ursula Gibbons called the business meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. A quorum was established.

**President's Report:**

- Ursula introduced new Board member and Membership Chair Kim Moody. Kim will be filling Gabriella's term that ends in 2023.
- The renovation of the Rangers' lounge is in process. The Friends are funding new paint and furnishings. Those interested in helping with the project may contact Ursula.
- Ursula discussed the wide variety of volunteer opportunities available at the Park and she and PSS David Baniak encouraged members to join the volunteer team.

**Vice President's Report:**

Heidi reported that a full inventory of critters is available and that critters may be ordered online for \$30.00 each (includes shipping costs) or acquired at the Ranger station for a recommended donation of \$20.00 per critter. A recommendation was made to add hatchlings to the inventory.

**Secretary's Report:** Valerie presented an amendment to the February 14, 2022 Membership Meeting minutes to include the critters donated by a group of members to the Children's Art Show. Members provided the funds to purchase twelve critters at cost to be given to winners of the Art Show awards. Kathy made a motion to approve the amended minutes; Skip Counselmen seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ursula reported that the Balance, and Profit and Loss information for January 2022 vs. January 2021 showed a net increase in income of 53% due to the Art Show once again being held and also an increase in individual and business contributions. Net assets were up 19%.

**Membership Chair's Report:** Currently there are 265 memberships (including individual and family memberships) with 27 renewal reminders and 13 expired memberships. An electronic recordkeeping system that will handle membership registrations, reminders and renewals is being investigated.

**Park Manager's Report:** PSS David Baniak reported on recent Park news:

Administration: A candidate for the PSS Maintenance position has been selected.

Visitor's Services/Interpretation:

- The Fortune Foundation previously contributed \$15,000 toward the construction of a new Nature Trail. The foundation has most recently funded a \$12,000 grant request developed by Park Manager Torvund to fund six interpretative signs that will be placed in picnic areas throughout the Park.
- David thanked Friends member and Park volunteer John Finer for conducting a “Getting to Know the Park’s Plants” program and a walk on the Nature Trail for a group of 35 homeschool visitors.

Maintenance:

- The top priority is to complete the Nature Trail. Installation of safety rails needs to be finished and David hopes to have project completed by the end of March.
- An information kiosk will be constructed and placed along the trail. The Friends are providing funds to have the construction completed by an outside company.
- The water leak continues. Shut off valves have been installed to try to isolate the issue.

Protection: The safety office gave the park funds for one speed bump, which will arrive in late March.

Resource Management: The Pass dredging is almost completed.

**Committee Reports:**

Children’s Art Show: Barb shared a fact sheet about the successful 2022 Children’s Art Show. She thanked the many volunteers that contributed their time and talents to making the two-day show a wonderful event for our community.

Adopt-a-Nest: Kathy reported that donor registration for the Adopt-a-Nest program would begin on April 1 and continue to sometime in August. A waitlist will be established if needed. The program management, including registration, updates and thank you messages will be totally handled “online”. Again this year, donor recognition plaques will be displayed on nest protection cages. The “license plate” plaques are produced by Cecil’s Copy Express. Sponsorship levels for 2022 are:

- Green Turtle: \$500.00 Business with a customized logo (recognition plaque on nest cage)
- Loggerhead Turtle: \$250.00 Individual and Business with program’s standard logo (recognition plaque on nest cage)
- Hatchling: \$20.00 Individual and business (donor’s name on “Adopt-a-Nest” display board in pavilion)

**New Business:**

Friends Field Trip/Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, April 11, 2022 at Lover’s Key State Park. The field trip will include a visit to the new “discovery center”, lunch and opportunities to enjoy the park. David, Ursula and Kathy will work out details and make the arrangements for the day. Ursula will send out information to Friends Members and David will invite volunteers that are being honored.

There being no further business, Kim moved for adjournment, the motion was seconded. Unanimously approved.

**Upcoming Dates:**

April 4 Board Meeting, 10 a.m. at the Park

April 11 Friends Field Trip and Volunteer Recognition at Lover’s Key S. P.

Submitted by Valerie Thompson, Secretary

Approved: