

**Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
Board Meeting Minutes September 8, 2025
Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park Office and Call in**

Board Members Present: Eric Cosentino, Kim Finer (call in), Donna Graham (call in), Janice Kmetz and Valerie Thompson (call in). **Board Members Absent:** Skip Counselman
Park Staff in Attendance: Park Manager Cody Peters

President Janice Kmetz called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and a quorum was established.

President's Report: Janice reported:

- Lots of visitors have been enjoying the park
- A large planting project was successfully completed.
- The Friends supported a volunteer breakfast that was attended by a dozen individuals.

Vice President's Report: Kim reported:

- A July 7 beach clean-up was successful with 8 volunteers helping.
- The "Name the Turtle" information has been available at Friends boutiques and name submissions continue.
- July "Friends Newsletter" was distributed and the next schedule newsletter will be sent out on October 1. Any news or photos should be sent to Kim prior to September 28.

Secretary's Report: Donna made a motion to approve the minutes from May 5, 2025 meeting. Eric seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Eric reported that for the period ending July 31st 2025, total asset were up \$22,406.16 or 8.1%. Total income was down \$27,110.09 or 49.8% due mostly to decreases in direct public support. Expenses were down \$2,257.07 and total income year-over-year was down \$24,853.02 or 59.4%.

Membership Report: Donna reported: Current membership is 119, down from the May report of 145. Donna asked what can we do to increase membership. Suggestions are welcome.

Park Manager's Report: Cody reported:

- Recognition for volunteer hours: Janice Kmetz, 1000 hrs.; Kim Finer, 500 hrs.; Donna Graham, 1000 hrs.; Valerie Thompson, 5000 hrs.; and Alicia Astroga, 3000 hrs. Pins and annual FL Park passes were awarded. Kim will put Friends recognition information in next newsletter.
- Park Operation Budget allotment information was shared.
- Concession options are being explored.
- Visitation has been over 100,000 every month since March.
- Revenues from entry fees are up from last year but still low.
- Park staff will begin selling passes soon. Friends will work with park staff to coordinate boutiques/information dates.
- Honor boxes are still being used for admission fees. Eventually, stand alone pay stations provided by the Park Services will be used in the parking lots. Donna asked for the cost of each station. (Note: 9/10/25 Cody's email: Per unit cost is \$8,925.00.)
- Dunes restoration planting went well. American Farms and the Park Biology team worked with Park staff to secure 16,500 plants. Eighty volunteers and staff members planted.
- The Friends website is being updated to show current Park employees.
- Mobile Interpretation trailer is being planned. More information at future meetings.
- Suggestions and thoughts are welcome on the improvement of the front entrance.
- New AmeriCorp employee will specialize in interpretation and outreach, new OPS will be hired to work with administrative data management.

- Following Cody’s request, Janice made a motion for Friends to provide \$1,805.99 for a solar generator system, keyboard and mouse to be used primarily for pass sales. Three voted in favor, one vote no and there were no abstentions. The motion passed.

Old Business:

1. Adopt-a-Nest: Donna reported total dollars raised in 2025 was \$14,250.00 with 33 sponsored nests. 75% of the sponsors have previously sponsored nests. In 2025 there were 65 total nests on the park beach, 57-58 have already hatched. Idea: provide a “turtle trip” opportunity with a certified staff or volunteer for selected donors.
2. MOSH: Kim reported the MOSH trailer is up and plant cuttings are growing. The original grant funds have been spent out and Dellora’s Garden funds are now being used. John and Kim have been working to identify, cut and propagate plants and now need information on where to locate new plants. Eventually, Kim would like to set up a MOSH volunteer program.
3. Sign development for rules of the road: Janice reported she and Cody are working on verbiage for safety signs. How to best display this information was discussed.
4. Lunetta restoration is progressing, painting is the next step.
5. A-frame signage requested at the May meeting has been received and is in Lauren’s shed.
6. Boutique update: Next date—October 11. Other future dates will be scheduled.
7. Shelling event: Janice and Lauren will work out an early October date.
8. International Beach Clean-up (Sept. 20): 50 volunteers have registered for our Park.
9. Merchandise Update: New hats (\$25.00-in person donation, \$35.00-online donation) and shirts (\$25.00 & \$30.00) are now available.
10. Name the Turtle project continues. Kim has the supplies for this project and we will continue to encourage submissions and donations through the Newsletter and at boutiques.

New Business:

1. Janice reported an injured sea turtle rescued by Cody and Lauren is now cared for at the Mote Marine Laboratory.
2. James Matthews and “Creation of Delnor Wiggins State Park”. Author James Matthews has offered to donate the proceeds from the sales of his book to the Friends. The first check has arrived. Donna made a motion to share an announcement about this donation opportunity through the Friends Facebook account and also on the Friends website. Kim seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. This will be an announcement not an endorsement.

Upcoming dates:

October 6	9 a.m. Board Meeting
October 11	Beach Boutique
November 3	9 a.m. Board Meeting
December 1	9 a.m. Board Meeting
December 3	Membership event at Park
January 5	9 a.m. Board Meeting
January 12	Annual Membership meeting (time and location TBD)

Meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

Submitted by Valerie Thompson

Date approved: October 6, 2025

Addendum:

Motion to purchase merchandise. Unanimously approved. July 2, 2025

Donna Graham: “I make a motion to purchase a total of 90 tank shirts and t-shirts combined for a cost of \$1260.00 plus shipping cost.” Kim Finer seconded the motion.