

**Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
Board Meeting Minutes – Pavilion DWPSP
March 8, 2022**

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

Board President Ursula Gibbons called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

President's Report:

- Ursula announced that Gabriella Miyamoto has submitted her resignation from the Board and also as membership chair. During Gabriella's tenure, the membership grew considerably and her work with professionally handling memberships and organization records is very much appreciated.
- Prior to the meeting, Ursula talked with Friends member Kim Moody regarding the vacant Board and membership chair positions and Kim agreed to assume this responsibility.
- Heidi made a motion that Kim Moody be appointed to fill Gabriella's term (which ends in 2023), Eric seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved Kim's appointment.
- Ursula explained a new automated record system for membership recordkeeping. Raklet Software is a product that should make the membership system easier for registration and tracking for renewals. The cost is \$50.00 per month. Memberships can be entered by hand or through the memberships coming through the Friends website. Kathy made a motion to try the Raklet Software for a 6 month minimum and then evaluate it for easy of use, effectiveness and cost. Donna seconded the motion; the Board members unanimously approved the motion.
- The Friends group has been invited to participate in an April 22 "Earth Day" event at Cambiar Park. Ursula and Donna volunteered to represent the friends. Other Board members were invited to join them, please let Ursula know if interested.
- The Board agreed that President Gibbons could spend Friends funds for door prizes and snacks for the monthly Friends meetings, with maximum cost of approx. \$40.00 per mtg.
- Donna expressed the Park's need for a new leaf blower. She will research the type of blower and the cost and report back to the Board.
- DWPSP Friends representatives Ursula, Barb, Heidi, Kathy and Donna reported on a successful trip to District 4 Volunteer Appreciation Day at Weeki Wachee Springs State Park.

Vice-President's Report: Heidi updated the critter order information and said inventory records are current. Ranger award for most donations in a given period was discussed. Terrance, Jenn and David will discuss this further and an award structure will be determined.

Secretary's Report: After an update to the February 7, 2022 minutes to show Art Show income of \$5,395.24, Kathy made a motion for approval of the minutes, Barb seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Eric shared the Balance and Profit and Loss information for January 2022 vs. January 2021. January 2022 showed a year-over-year net income was up 53% due to the Art Show once again being held and an increase in individual and business contributions.

Membership Chair: Currently 265 memberships (including both individual and family) are registered.

Park Manager's Report: (PSS David Baniak reported for Manager Terrance Torvund)

Administration: A candidate for the PSS Maintenance position has been selected, now waiting on approval from Tallahassee Office.

Visitor Services/Interpretation: Terrance has submitted a quote to the Fortune Foundation for 6 interpretive panels to be installed in the picnic areas. Panels include: Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park, Gopher tortoise, Shore Birds, Birds of Prey, Florida Manatees, and "What Have I Caught?". The Park has been very busy and full, and closing to vehicles around 9:00 a.m.

Maintenance: The top priority is completing the Nature Trail with a completion date of April. The Friends have provided funds for additional lumber to be used in the project. Interpretive signs, which give information about Park flora, have been installed in various locations throughout the park. Due to high visitation, the persistent water leak has not been identified. Shut off valves have been installed 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/beach re-nourishment is expected to be completed by next week.

Committee Reports:

Children's Art Show: Barb reported on a successful two-day event. Eight schools signed up, seven participated with 154 art pieces. It was noted that each of the seven schools had at least one ribbon winner. Winning students also received park critters. Over thirty volunteers, including students from Stew MacFarlane's Rotary group and FGCU, helped throughout the two days. Thanks to the Committee who worked hard to provide another community event that showcased the "Real Florida" and our Park. Thanks also to Park AA Jenn Marques for securing the Beach Bus transportation for the weekend!

Ranger Lounge Renovations: Eric and PSS David Baniak are working on a wish list of items/furniture for the renovated lounge. Ursula will begin clearing and painting the room during the upcoming weekend. \$1,000.00 has been budgeted for the project.

Adopt-a-Nest: Donor registration for the Adopt-a-Nest program will begin on April 1. Kathy has written an article that will be submitted to various print media outlets, including *Florida Weekly*. 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 at a cost of \$10.00 each. 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 (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's schedule, catering, volunteer invitee list, etc.

Shell Finding Brunch: Barb shared her idea for springtime Friends member event. The proposal received favorable responses from the Board members and Barb will proceed with planning for the event and bring budget requests and information to the Board.

There being no further business, Valerie moved for adjournment, Kathy seconded. Unanimously approved.

Upcoming Dates:

March 14 Friends Membership Meeting, 10 a.m. in CSO Room at the Park
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: April 4, 2022