

Meeting Minutes for Supporter's of Del-Nor Wiggins Park, Inc.
March 13, 2006 at 10:30 AM

The meeting was called to order by Lois at 10:35 AM with 22 members, 4 park staff and our district 4 administration CSO coordinator present. Our guest speaker at the beginning of the meeting was park ranger, Helen Zimmerman, who presented a shorebird program highlighting a study currently underway in our park. Members were invited to participate by observing various species at early morning and evenings and recording data on prepared charts. We were shown pictures of a number of shore birds and their outstanding features were described, such as bill shapes, sizes, color of legs and feet and other identifying markings. This presentation was one of a series of planned programs designed to enhance our knowledge about the park, meet individual rangers, and gain an appreciation for what their job entails.

Officer's reports were read. Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Lois, as Joe Gagnier, secretary was unable to attend. Approved as read by Dick Liden and seconded by Pauline Cataldo. Lois also mentioned that the meeting minutes are now being posted on our website so that those who miss a meeting can be up to date. Olga Williams gave us the treasurer's report from the recent bank statements in hand. Final totals of expenses and revenues for February were not available at the time of the meeting. Joan Erb stated that we now have a paid membership of 70.

Robert Steiger, our park manager, gave us an overview of the status of the proposed new ranger station, posting an architectural drawing on the wall for us to view during the refreshment break. He briefly reviewed some of the issues associated with obtaining various permits from the county. He also talked about recent difficulties in hiring a ranger for the open position, having to get an extension on the hire date so we don't lose this position. Meanwhile, he and Mark are planning more interviews.

Mark Nicoletti, our assistant manager, brought us up to date on various repairs, tools and lumber acquisitions purchased by the CSO. Also on order is a birding scope that will be valuable to the rangers who are participating in the current shorebird identification project. Mark also related a story about a sea turtle washed ashore at the pass. He and his son answered a call about a dead turtle and to their surprise, the loggerhead was alive and gasping and coughing up water. Sea turtles are often caught in nets and drown, but this one, which Mark, Jr. named "Lucky" survived, was kept overnight for observation and released the following morning. Mark also urged our members to participate in training to sell annual passes on the first couple of days each month, especially during season to help out the rangers when it is so busy and at times when they are short staffed. There are times when they may sell as many as 150/day. Interested members should see Carolyn Shaw to sign up for training. Mark also provided a copy of the DEP News for us to be in tune with what is happening in the park system.

Carolyn Shaw, our park specialist and volunteer coordinator, brought us up to date on the vendors she has contacted to participate in Family Discovery Day on April 29th. She also circulated a sign-up sheet for those interested in purchasing a DEP Cook Book for \$10.

The latest recycling option for our organization to earn money from was also presented. Volunteer Larry Beer had brought this to her attention and got the information needed to implement this new program, which involves recycling plastic 20 oz bottles. He is setting up the collection container and will send the bottles in special packing cartons, as well as familiarize many of us with the process. We expect to gain about \$60/month by participating in this program. Since everyone was in favor of adopting this plan, a motion was made by Dick Liden, seconded by Phil Nye to proceed.

The following announcements were made by Lois:

1. Members were reminded to bring any tools, nuts, bolts, screws, power equipment in good condition to the park for possible use in building and renovation work. If anyone is unable to bring in these items, arrangements can be made to get them from you.
2. Park Ranger Programs held on Fridays at 9:30 AM were highlighted for the remainder of March, including kayaking, sea creatures and turtles.
3. Next Family Discovery Day planning meeting is scheduled for March 23, 9:00 AM.
4. Next Work Day: Thursday, March 30, 8:00 AM
5. Next CSO Meeting/Board Meeting: Monday, April 10, 10:30 AM, 11:30 AM
6. Easter Clean-up: Monday April 17, 8:00 AM (The "Big One")
7. The date for the May Picnic Meeting will be one week earlier: Monday, May 1st at 12:30 PM. It will be the usual covered dish picnic with the main dish to be decided.
8. Two notebooks were introduced that will reside on the bookshelf in the conference room. They contain the current year's meeting minutes and our CSO documents, so that anyone can access this information at any time.

Lois asked for feedback on the latest newsletter which was favorably met. The next edition will come out in the first two weeks of May, following our Earth Day event and our last meeting of the season. Deadline for articles is set at April 19th, if anyone would like to submit an item.

Lastly, an update on the progress of plans for Family Discovery Day was given by Lois and a Work Schedule for the event was circulated. Jo Ann Linck is the event coordinator. This year's theme will be: Preserve, Conserve, Support Our Park. Various activities and programs are still in planning stages and members were encouraged to participate in preparations.

Motion for the meeting to adjourn was made by Dick Liden and seconded by Pauline Cataldo at 11:30 AM. A light refreshment was served, during a half-hour break before the Board of Directors meeting which followed.