

Meeting Minutes for Supporters of Delnor Wiggins Park Inc. Membership Meeting, April 14, 2008

The meeting was called to order by President Dick Liden at 10:30 A.M. with 18 members present and 2 staff. The president presented an agenda and established that we had a quorum.

The minutes of the March 10, 2008 were read and approved.

The Park Manager indicated that Park attendance dropped by 800 for this Easter Sunday. The clean-up went very well as the Park was not as messy as in the past even though there was a busier than normal Saturday before Easter.

The topic of recycling was our focus with the presence of our guest from Collier County Solid Waste, Janet Go. It was announced that Larry Beer will be returning to the North this week and the Park will need volunteers to donate time in the summer to our recycling efforts. Recycling generates the third largest source of income to our CSO budget. Ms. Go handed out information packets for those present and told us about Collier County's efforts to recycle wastes. She answered questions about items which can be recycled and showed a DVD on the whole process from household use to re-milling for reforming of plastics, glass and metal containers. Ms. Go reported that locally, restaurants present the greatest challenge. She indicated the movement for "green" provider certification which Florida State is mandating as conferences are held in the area, will increase change there.

Our treasurer, Olga Williams, reported that our March bank statements totalled \$37,481 distributed between our checking and money market accounts and certificates of deposit. Payment went out in the past month for the new EZ Go and one savings account was closed as it fell below the minimum balance needed to avoid monthly fees. There was a recent donation of \$700 from the Bonita Springs Shell Club which had not been deposited to the accounts.

Bob gave the Park Manager's Report. He advised us he had not attended the County Commissioner's Meeting on March 25th where a request for a variance in order to begin construction of the new Park Administration Office and other planned construction projects. Much of the proposed project was approved. He indicated exotic removal will be part of the permitting process and that they have an estimate of about \$200,000 to remove the 47 Australian Pines. The permits alone for their removal will be about \$44,000. This process must be done by the State and there is money now for the Ranger's station in the State budget.

Bob spoke of the Wiggins Pass Estuary Conservation Association meeting today at 4:00 where the subject of dredging at the Pass will be discussed. There is an Advisory Group which was formed through this Association which is looking into how to correct the design & function of the Pass. A report is due in June on this and will involve use of a computer modeling program run by a Boca Raton engineering firm. Bob indicated the

dredging permit expires in 2010 and that dredging would take place this fall or next winter.

Bob also reported on a Collier County plan to look at the carrying capacity of the Park. There is a Florida State Planner who will be coming in to study usage as this has not been done since 1999. He also told us about a Naples development which has asked the County for permitting to build beach access facilities on the road right of way just outside the Park.

Other local events include April 26th Bay Days and Collier County with Keep Collier Beautiful will be looking for volunteers for a beach clean up.

Dick Liden told the group he had received an email from Bill North asking for permission from the CSO to use our website as a portal for he and our current Resident Artist, Carol McArdle, to sell stuff on-line. Mr. North indicated they would assume all responsibility for any Florida Sales Tax which might be involved. A motion was called and was unanimously passed. Dick said he would let our webmaster, Alicia Astorga, know of this plan.

Dick announced that Carol will at the Park painting on April 23rd. He will arrange for the director's chair to be monogrammed for her.

Our next workday is April 24th at 8:00. On May 12th the annual farewell picnic will be held in the Pavillion in Area 5 at 12:30. Hot dogs will be donated by Dick & Alliene Liden and members are asked to sign-up for donations of pot luck dishes.

Phil Nye gave a report on the success of the Field Trip in March to the Myakka River State Park. Everything went very well and included a free boat ride as well as sighting of their 79+ year-old alligator.

Carolyn Shaw reported the Volunteer Appreciation Day held on 3/15/08 at the Gamble Plantation in Ellenton, had about 600 people in attendance. Our CSO received certificates of appreciation for our Wildlife & Wetlands Art Show event.

Certificates of appreciation went to Dick Liden and Joe Gagnier for their work on the railings and louvers at Park bathhouses and also for a 2007 Take Pride in America award. Fred Eckert also received a 50 hour pin and appreciation certificate.

The meeting was adjourned at noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Schwartz
Secretary