

MINUTES of the Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park

Membership Meeting – Januray 13, 2014

Larry Beer collected money for the 50/50.

Call to order: The Annual Meeting of the Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park was held in the CSO Room at Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park, Naples Florida on January 13, 2014 The meeting convened at 10 AM, President Marcia Byrd, presiding, and Ann Petrillo, secretary. A quorum was established.

Board Members in attendance: Larry Beer, Tom Belfiori, Marcia Byrd, Joe Gagnier, Phil Nye, Ann Petrillo, Kathe Rasch, Robert Steiger

Approval of minutes: The minutes from the November 2013 Membership Meeting were approved as read.

Officers' reports:

President: Marcia thanked the Board and the staff for their support during her tenure as president. She also thanked David Eastlake and Jan Gazdic for their years of service on the board.

Vice Pres: There were no applications for Board membership. Larry asked for nominations from the floor. A new member, Elsie Morgan, volunteered to be on the board. A motion was made and seconded to elect Elsie to the Board. The vote was favorable.

Treasurer: Kathe distributed the financial report showing \$3,281.40 in checking and \$6,778.44 in the Money Market. Highlights of income/expenditures were given. Art Show proceeds were not available as of this meeting, although the projected income will be less than last year most likely due to the cold weather.

Park Mgr: Bob gave the 2013 highlights:

The park started a concession in lot #4, hoping to get a 2-year contract with them. Bob wore the new dress uniform and announced that new uniforms are coming for all staff in February. There will also be new work uniforms. A summer camp was held at the park and is now a weekend camp

Staff completed a sensitivity study for the cultural sites in the park. Arrowheads and other artifacts located.

Attendance was up 3.9% to 492,000.

Process of design and permitting for boardwalks began.

The staff did an inventory of collections.

There was increased promotion of park through social media.

Larry and Terry installed the new TV.

2014 Plans:

Paddleboard use on the increase – received 3 new ones from Collier Seminole. State requested that a financial business plan for the next 3 years be developed, aligned to park service goals to increase attendance and revenue.

Our park is currently 70% self-sufficient.

The staff began the process of upgrading computers to meet new financial reporting needs.

There will be a new pass for volunteers with more than 50 hours of service.

Survey through UFL will end in April. Task is a count of people walking along the beach or settling down for the day.

Gopher tortoise survey underway. FGCU is tracking 5 by transmitters.

Park Svc. Spclst:

Beach steward program is very popular – 4 new stewards since last month.

Outreach program having an impact – got new members from this program.

Like us on Facebook!

Annual Wildlife and Wildlands Art Show – January 16th, area 3. T-shirts with a Monarch butterfly will be sold at the art show.

District 4 Volunteer Appreciation Picnic – February 15th, Highlands Hammock SP

First Children's Art Show – February 22-23, pavilion

Sunset Yoga on the Beach is up and running; Area 3, Thursdays 5 – 6 in January

T-shirts for Yoga need to be sold at each session.

Paddleboard sessions – Saturdays 4-5:15, Area 5.

March Awards Luncheon at Carrabba's – 5th or 7th

Eagle Scout project in Area 5 – new kiosk for information.

Need clear tennis ball cans for the fishing line project

Program: Marcia presented a PowerPoint program aligning photos of Friends' work and activities to the Mission Statement of the Friends. She introduced Rosvita Grzeskowiak-Watson who won the turtle naming contest. Rosvita explained how she came up with Lunetta for the name of our turtle. Marcia presented her with a bottle of Prosecco entitled Lunetta. She also gave Rosvita one of the new visors.

Committee Reports:

Art Show – covered in Donnas remarks

Children's Art Show – Marcia and Donna reported that 5 schools are participating and the committee is in the planning stages for the event. Volunteers will be needed on Saturday, February 22nd.

Special Events – The field trip to Ding Darling, organized by Phil Nye was very educational and fun. Thanks to Phil's planning we were able to see hundreds of birds feeding at low tide. Lunch at the famous Mucky Duck was also a hit.

Membership – Kathe reported that annual dues were due and that she would be processing memberships and passes at the end of the meeting.

Unfinished business: none

New Business: Visors and caps for retail sales are now available, costing \$12.50 each. They have the turtle and Naples, Florida on them. The Friends caps and visors cost \$10 each. Larry had Elsie Morgan draw for the 50/50 and a winner was announced.

Announcements: Next meeting – February 10, 2014 at 10 AM in the CSO Room

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Byrd, secretary

Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park

Date of Approval 1.13.14