

Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
Board Meeting Minutes, March 6, 2017
10 AM – Vanderbilt Surf Colony I

Board members present: Larry Beer, Milagros Dougan, Joe Gagnier, Kathy Foster, Gabriella Miyamoto, Phil Nye and Valerie Thompson

Board members absent: Marcia Byrd and Ann Petrillo

Park Staff present: Zachary Lozano and Mark Nicoletti

A quorum was established and President Kathy Foster called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Reports

President: Kathy introduced the new Park Manager, Zachary Lozano. Zachary gave a brief introduction of himself, his Florida background, and park service experience. He welcomes communication with the Board and looks forward to working with the Friends.

Kathy provided a recap of her Feb. 24 presentation at the monthly Park Rangers meeting. A written summary, which was provided earlier to the Board members through email, is attached to minutes. Mark reported that staff was very pleased and welcomes repeated presentations from Friends Board members.

Kathy and Zachary will attend the District CSO meeting on March 25, 2017 at Hillsborough River State Park. Kathy will be using designated travel funds from the Friends' budget to cover her expenses.

The resignation of Florida State Parks Director, Lisa Edgar was announced and a related article from the *Naples Daily News* was shared

Secretary: Minutes of the February 6, 2017 Board meeting were approved as written. (Joe)

Treasurer: Milagros distributed copies of the Treasurer's Report dated March 6, 2017

Monthly report shows our cash position at \$73,002.22.

Discussion concerning the use of PayPal on the Friends website took place. Question: How can PayPal be used for Friends membership payment? Currently, membership must be accomplished by mail or in person, it cannot be completed and paid through our website. Kathy will check with Alicia about using PayPal for membership registration and payment through the website.

Park Manager:

No Park expenditures from Friends funds in February

Mark and Zachary will discuss expenditures of these designated funds

Board requested a monthly report on expenditures from the Friends funds

Kathy asked that we all think about the 30th anniversary gift to the park. Mark and Zachary will consider ideas and report back in May. Board will decide on a maximum amount to spend and any type of anniversary celebration. Kathy will send an email to Friends membership to request their ideas.

Larry explained that the budget has some flexibility if appropriate &/or emergency needs come up in the park and funds are needed. Milagros stated that there is \$1,000.00 in the hurricane fund. Zachary explained the State Park System's response to Hurricane Matthew's damage. Following the storm, strike teams made up of park rangers from throughout FL were sent to affected parks to assist.

New Florida State Parks Program: FL Park Service has held new POP (Positive Optimistic Preparedness) training. The purpose of the program is to pass along good things that are happening throughout the park system (e.g. CAS). Zachary asked we share information and photos with him from our various events and activities so he can share them with the state park system.

Committee Reports

Membership: 58 members; 25 or so previous members haven't renewed.

Kathy explained how the Friends at Lovers' Key S. P. handle memberships. She would like to investigate selling memberships at the gatehouse. An example of the Lovers' Key punch card pass was shared. Larry said the punch card format had been tried at Delnor-Wiggins Pass S. P. before without success.

Gabriella explained that DWP S.P. passes are given to members when they join the Friends. She brought up issues related to possible changes in the park's entrance system and how the use of passes would be

affected. Larry recommended the Board put together a letter of concern about proposed "pay & park" stations. It was agreed that a letter is a good idea. Larry will initiate an email and gather more thoughts from Board members and then write a letter. The letter will be addressed to Zachary and he will pass it on to the district personnel and share our concerns with them. Zachary said he would be briefed on the parking/traffic situation at the park during his April 6 meeting with district personnel.

Children's Art Show (CAS) recap:

Marcia sent her thanks everyone who helped at the Children's Art Show. In addition to other Friends and volunteers, six Board members: Gabriella, Kathy, Larry, Marcia, Milagros and Phil all volunteered during the two-day event. Many families and park visitors enjoyed the successful event. Larry reported that 58 gate passes were used; amounting to 39% of those distributed and 147 pieces of art were exhibited. Marcia will meet with the CAS committee in March and make recommendations for future CAS events to the Board at our April meeting. This is not a fund-raising event, but has other important missions. The report from Marcia was distributed via email to Board members prior to the meeting and is appended.

Art Show:

Earring Making Workshop, with RA Mary Limont will be held on March 30, 9-11 a.m. Area #3 \$3.00 materials fee

Total profit from 2017 Art Show: \$3,465.00

RA "One Artist Show" is being planned for December 2017

Unfinished Business

White trailer: Motion was made to donate trailer. Larry made motion, Joe seconded. Larry will follow-up and take care of having it removed from the park.

Park Building Project Updates:

Request was made to park personnel to keep Board updated on progress of new administrative/CSO room building project.

Bathhouse #5 and some boardwalks in the area will undergo renovation. The project has gone out to bid and bids have been closed. No start date is known.

Use of "sponsor" terminology: Larry suggested we use the term "sponsor" in our promotions of any event we are working on with the Park.

Rookery Bay field trip was cancelled due to low number who signed up.

New Business

March Membership meeting: Carol Imbriani-Bennett, Park Program Development Specialist from our District Office will be the speaker.

Park Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon: March 10, noon at Carraba's, Bonita Springs. Menu was shared.

Clean-up Day:

March 20: 8-10 a.m. Lori will distribute a sign-up sheet at membership meeting. Lori will publicize and open it up to the public if a maximum of fifteen volunteers is not met from the Friends sign-up.

Important dates:

March 10, noon Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, noon at Carraba's, Bonita Springs

March 13, 2017 10 a.m. Membership Meeting in CSO Room

March 20, 8-10 a.m. Park Clean-up, Area #3

April 3, 10 a.m. Board Meeting, Vanderbilt Surf Colony I

April 10, End of the Year Membership Picnic

April 17, 8-10 a.m. Park Clean-up, Area #3

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Two appended reports: Meeting with park rangers by Kathy Foster
Children's Art Show recap by Marcia Byrd

Respectfully Submitted,
Valerie Thompson
Acting Secretary

Date approved _____

