

**Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park  
Board Meeting Minutes – Pavilion DWPSP  
January 3, 2022**

**Board members present:** Larry Beer, Eric Cosentino, Barb Craig, Kathy Foster, Gabriella Miyamoto, Ursula Gibbons and Valerie Thompson **Absent:** Heidi Gagnon and Phil Nye (A quorum was established) **Park staff present:** Park Manager Terrance Torvund and PSS David Baniak

Board President Kathy Foster called the meeting to order at 9:50 a.m.

**President's Report:** President Foster led a moment of silent reflection in memory of longtime Friends member and volunteer Richie Twiefel.

Kathy reminded Board members that the Board election for 3 Board members will take place at the January 10, 2022 Friends membership meeting. Kathy announced that she did not plan to run for re-election for the presidency, but will remain on the Board.

Vinyl Stickers: Barb made a motion to make each sticker available for a \$5.00 donation; Gabriella seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Kathy announced an additional \$25.00 has been donated to the Roy Haase memorial fund now a total of \$725.00, which will be used for boardwalk repairs.

**Vice President's Report:** In Heidi's absence, Ursula reported that critter inventories are getting low and the only remaining critters are alligators and turtles. Heidi will be notified about inventory status. Supply chain issues are causing some delays in delivery. Thanks to Ranger James for collecting critter donations amounting to \$360.00 on Christmas Day.

**Secretary's Report:** The minutes from the December 6, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved. Barb moved for approval, Ursula seconded.

**Treasurer's Report:** Eric announced a \$1,000.00 donation from the Richland County Foundation/Wilbur G. and Esther L. Beer Donor Advised Fund to be used to support the Children's Art Show.

The November 30, 2020 – November 30, 2021 year over year comparative balance financials showed assets were up by \$27,751.68. (16.3%) The increase is due largely to more direct public support through critter donations, gate donations and the Adopt-a-Nest project support. Income was up 52%, year over year. 2021 expenditures of \$44,984.81 were greater than the \$12,383.61 expense figure for 2020. The increase in expenses is attributed largely to the purchase of new equipment for the Park.

Discussion about designated funds for the "Boardwalk Through the Mangrove" project took place. Currently, funds designated for the project total \$70,000.00. The feasibility of the project was addressed and whether to put more money into the designated fund. Larry will provide some history of the project. The discussion was tabled until the February meeting. Terrance will give an update about the project at the next Board meeting.

**Membership Chairperson:** Gabriella reported membership currently stands at 223 members (including both family and individual memberships) A discussion about engaging members in the organization took place. Kathy asked for ideas from the Board members.

## **Park Manager's Report**

Administration: The Park is currently down five staff members until January 12, 2022.

There are two openings, which are being filled and three employees are out due to illness. BJ Givens will be the new Bureau Chief of our District. DWSPS PSS Steven Pindal will be moving to work at the District in the position of Design and Construction Consultant, leaving DWSPS at the end of January.

Visitors' Services: Terrance noted the increase in visitors:

Christmas Day 2021: 4,037

Christmas Day 2020: 1,173 (riptides and red tide present)

Christmas Day 2019: 2,578

New Year's Day 2022: 3,695

New Year's Day 2021: 3,400

Also noted: 540 Annual Passes were sold in December 2021.

Interpretation: Park staff is focusing on the upcoming Art Show

Resource Management: Terrance showed the new informational signs that will be installed on the new Nature Trail kiosk. He also talked about and shared the "gopher tortoise" warning sign which he hopes to be able to have installed by the end of January. The county will begin dredging Wiggins Pass in the next couple weeks and sand from the dredging will be placed at the north end of the park to expand the beach area.

Maintenance: Work on the Nature Trail continues. If weather holds, Terrance hopes it will be framed by the end of January. Area #3 improvements: including building #3 renovations, new showers and boardwalk has finished the engineering phase. The cost to complete: \$222,000.00. Terrance requested \$150,000.00 from the State for the engineering and permitting.

## **Committee Reports:**

Art Show Report: Twenty-four artists have registered for the January 15 Show. Two food truck vendors will be available at the Show. The Show will be promoted through Facebook, Eventbrite, online & print newspaper notices and signage near the Park.

Seashells and Santa: The toy drive resulted in a large collection of toys that were delivered to Pathways Early Education Center. A file of ideas has been created the 2022 event.

Children's Art Show: Since the Beach Bus will not be running on the days of the Children's Art Show, Terrance will check to see if he can borrow a large passenger cart to transport visitors back and forth from the gatehouse to the show in Area #5.

Friends Annual Picnic: no report

## **New Business:**

Audit Committee: Ursula, Larry and Terrance (or Mark) will meet as the Audit Committee prior to the first Monday in February.

## **Upcoming Dates:**

Friends Annual Meeting: Monday, January 10, 2022 10:00 a.m. in Pavilion

Wildlife and Wildlands Art Show: Saturday, January 15, 2022 9:00-4:00 in Area #3

Children's Art Show: Saturday, February 26, 10:00-4:00 and Sunday, February 27, 1-5 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Valerie Thompson, Secretary

Approved: February 7, 2022