

**MINUTES of the Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
Membership Meeting – January 9, 2017 CSO Room**

Board Members in attendance: Larry Beer, Marcia Byrd, Milagros Dougan, Joe Gagnier, Kathy Foster, Gabriella Miyamoto, Phil Nye, Ann Petrillo, Valerie Thompson

Board Members Absent: none

Staff Members Present: Lori Heath Thorn

Program: Rosa Simone, park ranger, gave a very interesting talk entitled Taking the Sting out of Stingrays. Her slide presentation included the most common types of stingrays that we have here in our part of the Gulf. Her discussion focused on the Eagle ray family which includes the cow nose, spotted eagle, and bluntnose to name a few. Photos showed the tubercles and the barbed stinger. Safety precautions and suggestions for dealing with any injury were provided.

Alliene Liden conducted the 50/50.

Call to order: The meeting convened at 10:37 AM by Ann Petrillo, president. Quorum present.

Election of Directors: Larry Beer, representing the nominating committee, introduced the retiring directors and explained the process and procedure for nominating directors. The three retiring directors agreed to stay on the board so Larry nominated Milagros Dougan, Joe Gagnier, and Gabriella Miyamoto. Per the by-laws, he asked for nominations from the floor and there were none. The slate of nominees was seconded, voted upon, and approved.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the November 14, 2016 meeting were approved as read.

Reports from officers and staff:

President: Ann read the accomplishments from 2016 and the goals for 2017. (attached)

Treasurer: Milagros stated that we generated about \$5900 last year. Our current cash position is \$67,657.

Park Manager - Lori reported for Mark Nicoletti about the manager hiring situation. Four applicants were interviewed. No decision yet.

Park Services Specialist

Lori talked about reinstatement cleanup days. A list of the most needed days has been given to board. Art Show volunteers are still needed in helping artists carry in their work. This starts at 7:30 AM. Also, volunteers are needed for cleanup and for helping artists return their work to their cars.

Committee Reports:

Membership – Gabriella suggested renewing memberships today. Passes will be given out. Renewals are now on an annual basis. She explained that gate passes are a benefit for joining the Friends. Every door direct mail promoting the Friends will be instituted in the neighboring areas. Membership renewals are handled through email.

Art Show – Kathy reached out to get sponsors and was successful with the Beach Box Café and Walmart. These sponsors will go on our *Friends of the Friends* link on the website. Walmart supports the Friends for the coming year, not the Art Show specifically. Beach Box Café

supports specifically the Art Show. Art Show posters are in the Beach Box Café, located at 9020 Gulf Shore Dr. The Café offers breakfast, sandwiches, salads and has a full bar with outside seating. The 2017 resident artist Mary Limont was recognized at the Holiday Party in December. Mary makes organic one-of-a-kind necklaces and earrings. Valerie spoke about the Drawing of Chance. Donations for the drawings are welcome and could include works of art that would coordinate with the beach theme, gift cards, new items, or simply make a donation. Some donations include an original work of art, gift cards, and a beach package. Terry Sutherin is chairing it. Contact Lori with any donations you wish to make.

Resident artist One Person Show – Betty Wilson, our 2016 Resident Artist will be showcasing her work, demonstrating her method, and selling her original art pieces on February 4, 2017: 10-2 in the pavilion.

The Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon will be held in March – Watch for the date and place. At the luncheon the park staff and state bureau chiefs recognize all volunteers who have reached a milestone. The Friends cover the cost of the event.

Children’s Art Show – February 25-26, 2017 are the dates. This is the fourth annual show. Caroline Brown and Ann Petrillo will co-chair the event with Marcia as chair. Six CCPS have entered the show.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: A window AC is needed for the breakroom. The board will review estimates and vote at the next board meeting, February 6, 2017.

50/50 winner – The winner received \$20 and promptly purchased two caps.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:17 AM

Next Membership Meeting: February 13, 2017 at 10 AM in the CSO Room.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Marcia Byrd**

Date Approved _____