

Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
November 4, 2024
Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park Maintenance Area

Board Members Present: Eric Cosentino, Skip Counselman, Kim Finer, Donna Graham, Janice Kmetz and Valerie Thompson

Park Staff in Attendance: Manager Cody Peters and PSS Lauren Hagen

Others in Attendance: no other individuals attended

Meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. A quorum was established.

President's Report, Janice Kmetz

- Flags were posted to observe 9/11.
- Park shut down on September 25 due to Hurricane Helene damage.
- Information about the Park closure, condition and the availability of walking the shoreline has been disseminated through Friends email, newsletter, website and Facebook page.

Vice President's Report, Kim Finer

- Kim handled purchasing and delivering drinks to Park staff during June, July and August.
- Kim prepared the quarterly *Friends Newsletter*; it was emailed to CSO members on October 1.
- The next newsletter is scheduled for January 1, 2025, please send photos and information for the newsletter to Kim.

Secretary's Report, Valerie Thompson

The minutes from the September 9, 2024 meeting were approved. Donna motioned for approval, Kim seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report, Eric Cosentino

For the period ending September 30th, 2024, total assets were up \$47,264.12 or 18.6% year over year. Total income was down \$1,770.40 or 3.1% to \$57468.96 year over year. This was mostly due to a decrease in membership fees.

The \$5.00 recorded under the Children's Art show was a merch donation he posted incorrectly. That will be corrected on the October financials.

Total expenses were down \$48,357.94 or 368% to \$13,117.88. Net income year over year changed from a loss of \$2,238.46 to a gain of \$44,349.08.

The Friend's 2023 tax return was filed on November 2.

Membership Report, Donna Graham

Currently there are 152 active memberships.

Park Manager's Report, Cody Peters

- No timeframe for Park reopening
- The slope of the beach needs to be determined before the sand can be redistributed. Protecting the dunes and plant life is a major concern.
- The sewer abandonment in parking lot areas 1 & 2 will be completed when the area is accessible.
- What can we do to be better long term? Ideas are welcome.
- CSO work day for mangrove clean-up will be scheduled in November.
- CSO members guided walk is being planned, more information to come.
- Beach yoga instructor has completed the paperwork for reestablishing classes on the beach when the park reopens.
- Delnor-Wiggins staff is working at other state parks
- Two Park Ranger positions are open, interviews are ongoing

- Park staff will set up a pop-up tent on the beach near the public beach access point after the sand has been redistributed.
- The Connex storage box (discussed at the September 9 BOD meeting) will not be possible.
- Cody is exploring the idea of removable information kiosks to be located at the walkovers from parking lots to beach areas. Information about the Park, CSO/Friends, flora and fauna, etc. will be displayed.
- Kim asked about the resilience of the beach and how “quickly” the County was able to reopen some local beaches following Hurricane Milton.

Old Business:

- September 21 International Coastal Clean-up was a success. Next Coastal Clean-up: March 22.
- Turtle Adoptee Certificates: The November 9 Turtle Adoption donor event was cancelled due to Park closure. Turtle Adoptee Certificates will be mailed to donors. Donna made a motion to allocate up to \$500.00 to spend on mailing the certificates, Kim seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.
- Christmas Membership Meeting 2024: December 9. Location to be determined. Janice and Valerie will co-chair a committee. Kim made a motion to allocate up to \$500.00 for December holiday meeting/party expenses, Valerie seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.
- CSO/Friends pop-up canopy/tent: Donna made a motion to work with Cecil’s Printing to purchase a custom pop-up canopy/tent at the cost of \$995.00, Kim seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.
- Photos with Santa: cancelled for 2024.

New Business:

Nominating Committee: Skip and Valerie will form the Nominating Committee for the January BOD election.

January Annual Meeting will be held on January 13, 2025. Location TBD

CSO Annual Program Plan is due by the end of December. Cody will prepare a preliminary plan which will be reviewed by BOD at the Dec. 2 meeting. Board members are asked to review the 2024 plan prior to the December BOD meeting and bring thoughts for the 2025 plan.

zeffy.com: Donna discussed an on-line platform that she and Eric have considered. Donna talked about the advantages of the platform in consolidating various operations (membership, donations, announcements, etc.). BOD members are asked to look at the zeffy.com site. *Tabled until the December meeting or, if needed prior to Dec. 2 meeting, it will be brought up for on-line discussion & voting.*

Friends clean-up in the mangroves. 9-11 a.m. November 13. Event announcement will be emailed to Friends members. RSVP to Donna Graham. Meet in the Park’s boat dock parking lot.

Meeting adjourned 10:28 a.m.

Submitted by

Valerie Thompson

Date approved: December 2, 2024

- November 13. Mangrove Clean-up. 9-11 a.m.
- December 2. BOD meeting. 9:00 a.m.
- December 9. Friends Holiday Gathering/Meeting. Time and location TBD
- January 6. BOD meeting. 9:00 a.m.
- January 13. Friends Annual Meeting and Election of Board members. Time and location TBD