

Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
Board Meeting Minutes. (Unapproved) March
3, 2025
Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park Office Area and Call-in

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

Absent: Valerie Thompson

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

President Janice Kmetz called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. A quorum was established.

President's Report: Janice Kmetz reported that all has been going well in the park. She stated that the park is seeing more birds and that our pop-ups have been well received.

Vice-President's Report: Kim Finer reported that she and Donna Graham attended the Collier County Grant Foundation Zoom meeting. From this meeting she learned that we need to update our profile on their website. She reported that she had applied for the \$625.00 Support Grant from the Florida State Park Foundation. The foundation has subcontracted with a third party for payments. After getting the payment situation straightened out, we will await our check. Kim reported that our pop-up on February 22 was very successful. Kim stated that she is in possession of the three laptops that have been cleaned and making contacts for donation.

Secretary's Report: Donna Graham (sitting in for Valerie Thompson) asked for a motion to approve the minutes of February 3, 2025. A motion was made by Skip Counselman and seconded by Janice Kmetz. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Eric Cosentino reported for the period ending January 31, 2025, total assets were up \$50,000.68 or 19.1% year-over-year. Total income was up \$3,947.46 or 60.2% due to the Adopt-A-Nest program starting earlier than in the past. Total expenses were up \$1,205.96 or 69.1% and net income was up \$2,741.50 or 56.9% year-over-year.

Membership Report: Donna reported 149 members as of March 1, 2025.

Park Manager's Report:

A contract has been made with the park and Tarpon Cove Ferry to transport passengers to the boat dock from the Tarpon Cove Association. Hiring packets have been forwarded to the district office for final hiring approval. The Sea Turtle will be picked up from the taxidermist next week. The controlled situation for storage has been remedied. Cody is currently checking with the electricity company twice a week regarding the return of electricity to the office. There is a tentative start date of July to start initial preparations for construction on the shop building. No parking signs have been added to the park due to over parking last weekend. The Collier County Sheriff's Office will always be providing assistance.

Cody asked for monetary assistance for a volunteer appreciation luncheon to be held towards the end of March or first of April, date to be determined. A motion was made by Janice Kmetz to approve up to \$250.00 for the event. Skip Counselman seconded the motion. Motion approved. The event will be held in the shop area. Lauren will be handling the details and provide the board with an update.

Old Business:

1. Banner update: Donna Graham reported the new banner will be arriving this week.
2. Adopt-A-Nest update: Currently we have 60 individual nests donated for a total of 34 nests. This time last year we had 24 nests donated. Donna reported that we are currently marketing to those that previously purchased, to our membership and one public notice.
3. Audit Committee Update: Eric Cosentino reported the audit had been completed with no issues.
4. Boutique Updates: Janice Kmetz reported that we have held 2 pop-ups in February and plan on two more for March. They will be held on March 8th and March 22nd in conjunction with the Great American Clean Up.
5. Florida State Park Foundation Grant Update: Kim Finer reported the status is muddled at this point. There has been a breakdown in communications, the best management practices has to be updated and well as other reports. At the time of us applying for the grant and receiving the grant, these reports have not come up. Kim and John Finer met with the state biologist and prepared all the times we were required to have. Cody stated that Sean would be sending out a building list by the end of day March 3rd which would include the supplies required along with a budget. Cody stated that some of our issues came up after the change in park management.

New Business:

1. Great American Clean Update: Janice Kmetz reported that we had over 100 people respond to attending the event at the park. She asked the organizers to limit attendance at our park to 35. We will be located on the beach. Other discussion was held earlier in the meeting.
2. Laptop Computer Update was presented by Kim Finer in the Vice Presidents report.
3. Donna Graham asked Cody about the status of the beach in areas 3-4 due to the drop off and how it would affect turtle nesting season. Cody responded that he is currently working to resolve this situation. He also stated that he is working on the permit for the roping to be added to area 5 for the birds.
4. Donna Graham provided an update on our inventory. 35 more hatchlings has been ordered and received. We were down to 2 hatchlings. She is also investigating new vendors for critters, hats and shirts.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned

at 10:03 a.m.

Submitted by: Donna Graham

Date approved: April 7, 2025

Donna J Graham