

**Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**May 5, 2025**  
**Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park Office and Call in**

**Board Members Present:** Skip Counselman (call in), Kim Finer, Donna Graham (call in), Janice Kmetz and Valerie Thompson. **Board Members Absent:** Eric Cosentino

**Park Staff in Attendance:** Park Manager Cody Peters

President Janice Kmetz called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. A quorum was established.

**President's Report:** Janice made the following announcements:

- Parking lots 3 & 4 are now open.
- The Sea Turtle banner is on display. A suggestion was made to change the Friends banner on a quarterly basis.
- Facebook postings are receiving a good response and are deemed an effective way to communicate with the general public. Suggestions for posts are welcome and should be sent to Janice.
- With an emphasis on safety, Janice and Cody will be developing a design for "walking, biking and rules of the road" signs to be displayed near the park entrance.
- Live Wildly organization members assisted in construction of the "replay" beach toy boxes.
- Friends purchased a storage box for Turtle Patrol supplies.
- Friends purchased soil for the sea grape plants which were donated by the Collier County Park & Recreation Dept.

**Vice-President's Report:** Kim reported on the Friends participation in the Conservancy of SW Florida Earth Day event. Estimates are that over 200 people visited the Friends tent and Kim and Donna provided lots of information about the park, park activities, and the Friends organization.

**Secretary's Report:** Kim made a motion to approve the April 7, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes as written, Skip seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** In Eric's absence, Janice read the following:

For the period ending March 31, 2025, total assets were up \$46,256.25 or 17.1%. Total income was up \$17,787.30 or 3.1% year-over-year. Expenses were up \$1,550.53 or 49.0% and net income was down 6.8% to \$14,627.74.

**Membership Report:** Donna reported the current membership enrollment is 145.

**Managers Report:** Cody reported the following:

- Replay box construction went well
- Water bottle fill station has been installed and is working well
- Eagle Scout life jacket rack project will begin soon
- Annual FL State Park Passes will be sold at the park, date & location to be determined
- Funding request: Lauren presented a request for \$445.00 to pay for A-frame signage and Lunetta restoration. (\$108.00 restoration, \$336.00 for 8 A-frame inserts). Janice made a motion "to approve the \$445.00 for Lunetta restoration and signage," Skip seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

- A request was made for future funding requests to be emailed/submitted to Board members prior to the Board meeting in which they are to be discussed.
- Sand mitigation is almost complete. TFR will be cleaning out the swales to improve drainage.
- Welcome two new staff members: Ranger Nelson Pino, OPS Ranger Jacob Bissel. AmeriCorp staff member Raquel Martin is no longer at the park.
- Friends will hold Beach Clean-up events on the 2nd Monday of each month, 8 - 10 a.m. Janice will work with Lauren to make the arrangements.
- Post-Hurricane Ian funding. The Friends funding focus should be to enhance and improve the guests' park experience, augment and provide park enhancements. The State, not the Friends, should fund replacement and repairs.
- How do we spend Adopt-a-Nest funds? Discussion followed. Please send a couple suggestions to Janice. Info will be compiled and share with park staff.

**Old Business:**

Adopt-a-Nest: Donna reported that \$11,750 has been raised in the 2025 Adopt-A-Nest program. The first nest has been identified.

Boutique updates/donaton based ideas and new dates: Janice will conduct a shell interpretation program in June. The Friends will partner with the park to share tent space for a boutique and information table in conjunction with park interpretation programs.

Merchandise: Donna made a motion to expend \$485.35 to purchase 35 hats with expedited shipping. Janice seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. The hats cost \$11.71 per unit and the donation request for each hat will be \$20.00. Donna will send Board members a photo of the proposed t-shirt design. September is the target date to have new merchandise in stock.

Florida State Park Foundation Grant: Kim reported John Finer, Kim, Cody and Janice have met to work out the details for the new portable plant shade house. Kim share signage that would be placed on the MOSH. \$640.00 remains in grant funds for additional expenditures and the project is expected to come in under or close to budget.

Cody will work to have a consistent place in the park for park and Friends activities.

Naming the Sea Turtle: This project, suggested by PSS Lauren and sponsored by the Friends, will begin soon and run through June. The goals are to provide a fun activity and raise funds for interpretive supplies. Kim made a motion "The Friends will sponsor a 'Name the Green Sea Turtle' contest. Each game of chance entry will be \$5.00 per name suggestion." Donna seconded the motion. Following discussion, Kim withdrew her motion and made a new motion. "The Friends will sponsor a 'Name the Green Sea Turtle' contest. Each game of chance entry will be \$5.00 per name suggestion. The project will begin now and continue through June." Four yes votes, one no vote, no abstentions. The motion passed. Kim will provide the entry slips.

**New Business:**

June, July, August hiatus for BOD meetings. The Board members agreed to a summer hiatus. Business will be conducted through email. Any motion will need to go through the usual format of motion, second, discussion and vote. The vote will need to be unanimous for the motion to be recorded and passed. Board members should "reply to all" so an email thread can be recorded.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Submitted by

*Valerie Thompson*

Date Approved: September 8, 2025