

**Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
Board Meeting Minutes October 6, 2025
Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park Work Area and Call in**

Board Members Present: Eric Cosentino, Skip Counselman (call in), Kim Finer, Donna Graham, Janice Kmetz, and Valerie Thompson. Absent: none

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

President Janice Kmetz called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and a quorum was established.

President's Report: Janice reported the electric wheel chair is back in service.

Vice Presidents Report: Kim reported the Friends September 29 newsletter was distributed to membership through email.

Secretary's Report: Janice made a motion to approve the amended minutes from September 8, 2025; Donna seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Eric distributed the Comparative Balance Sheet (August 31, 2025 and 2024) and the August 2025 and August 2024 Profit & Loss Comparison. Eric reported for the period ending August 31, 2025, total current assets were up \$22,346.60 or 8.1% year-over-year. Total income was down \$27,212.91 or 49.4% for the same time period. Total expenses were down \$2,300.33 or 17.8% and net income was down \$24,912.58 or 59.0% for the one-year period ending August 31, 2025.

For the 2026-2027, we discussed possibly removing "critter donations" as a line item on the Profit and Loss statement and including those figures in a new "merchandise donations" category.

Membership Report: Donna commented that membership numbers in September were trending down with fewer renewals and new memberships. She reported there are currently 108 members.

Park Manager's Report: Cody reported:

- More railroad vine has been donated and will be planted on the dunes.
- The Planting Plan has been completed and will be available for use.
- 56,500 visitors entered the Park in September.
- Revenue has increased, however continues to be considerably below expected amount due to visitors not paying the entrance fee.
- Annual State Park passes are now being sold on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at the north end of Area #1. Friends Facebook post helped publicize this new service.
- No predation was seen on the sea turtle nests this season. During 2026 turtle season, nests will be identified and marked, but initially, no cages will be placed on the nests. The goal is to be less intrusive. If predation occurs, use of cages will be reinstated.
- New staff: AmeriCorp staff member Paige Muller and OPS Daniel Fillmore.
- Moved from new business: "Five State Park Adventure Series" with area state parks and their CSOs scheduled for March 2026. Funding request for (merchandise)—50 units total: (shirts, hats, critters, or other items as selected by Friends Board members). Following discussion, Janice made a motion to "Participate in the series program and allocate up to 50 items from our inventory, if we do not have 50 items then spend up to \$200.00 to purchase items." Skip seconded the motion. Janice, Skip, Eric and Valerie voted in favor; Kim and Donna abstained. The motion passed.
- New program: Fridays "Pilates on the Beach" with community member Barbie Ortnier.
- Friends membership amenity: Kim asked if we could go back to providing members with the 12 "free visits" passes. How can we use new technology to make this work? Cody will follow-up with some ideas and possibilities.

Old Business:

Adopt-A-Nest Update: Donna reported all donor packets had been mailed or hand delivered. A new chairperson for this fundraising program is needed for the 2026 turtle season.

MOSH: Grant funds have been spent out. Park plants are being identified for propagating. Park volunteers have agreed to assist in maintaining (watering) the MOSH plants.

Friends Shell Event: Oct 8 @ 9 a.m. Janice will lead this educational program on the beach.

Boutique update: October 11 @ 8 a.m. - noon. Janice, Kim and Valerie will work. Next boutique is scheduled for October 24. In the future, when possible, boutiques will take place a couple times per month and correspond with the Park staff's sales of annual passes.

International Beach Clean Up, September 20 update: Janice and Donna represented the Friends and helped coordinate this event at the Park. Forty-four volunteers worked at our park.

James Matthew's book announcement was posted on the Friends Facebook page.

Website update: Alicia is keeping our website updated. Is there someone else who would be skilled in this area and interested in working in this area?

New Business

Collier Seminole State Park has a "Trunk or Treat" planned for October 25. The staff at the Park forwarded an invitation to our CSO.

Dellora's Garden: Kim presented "Dellora's Garden Planning/Considerations" for discussion. Following discussion, Donna made a motion to "Keep Dellora's Garden on our Board Meeting Agendas under Old Business going forward." Kim seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Nominating Committee: Donna and Eric volunteered to form a committee to complete the Board nominating process.

Janice tendered her resignation from the Board effective December 1. She submitted a letter of resignation. Janice indicated she is willing to continue to handle the Friends social media, including the Facebook page/posts.

A special Board Meeting is scheduled for October 24, 4:30 p.m. at the Park.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

Submitted by
Valerie Thompson

Date approved: November 3, 2025

Upcoming dates:

October 8	Shell Program with Janice
October 11	8 a.m. Beach Boutique
October 24	8 a.m. Beach Boutique
October 24	4:30 p.m. Board Meeting
November 3.	9 a.m. Board Meeting
December 1	9 a.m. Board Meeting
December 3	Membership event at the Park
January 5	9 a.m. Board Meeting
January 12	Annual Membership meeting (time and location TBD)