

**Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
Board Meeting Minutes. February 3, 2025
Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park Office Area and Call-in**

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

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

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

President's Report: Janice reported that it was a busy January at the park with staff and volunteers working hard to prepare for the park reopening. Approximately four months after Hurricane Milton, the park was able to reopen parking lots 1 & 2 on February 3. Work continues throughout other restricted areas of the park. Janice reported that the attendance at the January Membership meeting was very good and thanked Cody and Lauren for their park updates and sharing information about park goals.

Vice-President's Report: Kim announced the quarterly newsletter will be emailed to members on March 1. Kim also reported on the Friends outreach at the Dunes Volunteer Information event. Kim and Valerie recommended Friends participate in future Volunteer Information events held at the Dunes community.

Secretary's Report: Donna made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 6, 2025 Friends BOD meeting, January 13, 2025 Friends BOD Organizational meeting and the January 13, 2025 Friends Membership meeting. Kim seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Eric reported for the year ending December 31st, 2024, total assets were up \$47,259.18 or 18.4%. Total income was down \$4,419.06 or 7.2% led by decreases in critter donations, membership, and merchandise sales. Expenses were down 356% or \$51,001.66. Net income for the year was \$47,259.18.

Membership Report: Donna reported 147 members as of January 31.

Park Manager's Report:

Staff:

New staff member Rochelle Martin began working on February 3.

An OPS position for late field on weekends will be filled soon.

An opening for a full-time ranger position will be posted soon.

Facilities:

Cody announce there will be no front gate closure when the parking lots are full. Instead of working at the front gate, park staff will be located throughout the open park areas to provide interpretation and information. The park gates will open daily at 8:00 a.m.

Other: Cody briefly reported on the Managers' Meeting he recently attended. Resiliency and adaptation to changing environments was stressed.

Old Business:

1. Tent update: Donna reported the new tent had arrived.
2. zeffy.com: Donna is holding off on transitioning the Friends onto the zeffy.com platform due to the Adopt-A-Nest program beginning earlier than initially planned.
3. CSO District Meeting update: Skip shared information about the meeting and provided examples of successful fund-raisers from various state parks.
4. Sea turtle refurbishment: PSS Lauren is working to find someone to help with the refurbishing. When completed, Lunetta will be placed at the park entrance with the park sign.

New Business:

1. Adopt-a-Nest: Donna reported as of January 31, 2025, we have 18 nest sponsors.
2. Annual Audit: The audit committee, Kim, Eric and Skip, will convene on February 13 to conduct the annual audit.
3. Non-profit corporate filing: Eric has completed and filed our annual Sunbiz registration.
4. Virtual Sea Turtle Training: an email listing dates for training has been sent to volunteers and Friends members.
5. Boutiques dates: Janice asked Board members to let her know their available dates. She will work on a schedule. Saturdays were recommended.
6. Volunteer Orientation, February 11, 2025. Lauren reported there are approximately 23 individuals registered for this first orientation training. Board agreed to provide funding for refreshments.
7. Banner at front entrance: Donna has a draft design for a new banner. She will share the design with park staff prior to ordering.
8. Florida State Parks Foundation grant: Kim will submit the grant request (\$250.00) to the Foundation prior to March 14.
9. Laptop computers: The Friends own three laptop computers that are no longer needed. Janice, Donna and Skip will work on donating the computers to a non-profit or school in our area.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,

Valerie Thompson

Date approved: March 3, 2025

Future dates:

February 21	Sea Turtle Training Webinar (future dates March 14, April 12 and May 29)
March 3	Board of Directors meeting, 9 a.m. Park Office
March 22	Great America Clean-up, Delnor-Wiggins Pass SP
April 7	Board of Directors meeting, 9 a.m. Park Office
April 12	Earth Day Event at the Conservancy of SW Florida