

Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
Membership Meeting
January 13, 2025
St. John the Evangelist Church—Rome Room

Board members in attendance: Kim Finer, Janice Kmetz, Skip Counselman, Donna Graham and Valerie Thompson Absent: Eric Cosentino

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

1. **Welcome and Introduction of the Board:** Janice Kmetz welcomed Friends to the meeting. Each Board member and Park staff in attendance introduced themselves.
2. **President's Report:** Board President Janice Kmetz called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. A quorum of members was established. Attendance: 34 Friends members, 5 board members and 2 Park staff.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** In Eric's absence, Valerie read the January report: Eric reported for the period ending November 30th, 2024, total assets were up \$45,853.64 or 17.9%. Total income was down \$3,469.36 or 5.8% to \$59,615.75. Expenses were down 351% or \$48,673.42 to \$13,836.09. Net income increased \$602.60 for a total amount of \$45,779.66 year over year. Valerie also mentioned the proceeds from a generous donation of a boat.
4. **Membership:** Donna Graham reported the membership stands at 149 members.
5. **Year in Review:** A handout, prepared by Kim Finer, listing the achievements and activities of the Friends organization in 2024 was distributed. Donna and Janice invited input from the Friends members.
6. **Park Manager's Report and Presentation:** Manager Cody Peters presented a slide presentation focusing on the Park, the effects of the three 2024 hurricanes, the Park's resilience and goals for the future. Four major goals presented were: increase resilience, increase interpretative services, increase volunteer opportunities and improve habitat. The 2024 Natural Resources report listed fifty-five Loggerhead nest were laid at the Park, one leucistic color pattern hatchling was identified, and seventy false crawls were counted. The shore bird population is increasing and the need for shore bird awareness is important and potentially nesting area will be flagged off. Related to natural resources, the Park staff is also working to remove non-native plants from the Park. No opening date has been set for the Park. Contractors and Park staff are working hard to relocate the sand and make the Park safe for visitors.
7. **Election for Board of Directors:** Janice introduced the nominating committee and presented the committee's recommendation for the slate of officers to fill two vacant Board positions. The recommended Friends members were Kim Finer and Donna Graham. Kim and Donna introduced themselves. Janice asked if there were other nominations from the floor. There being no additional nominations, a motion was made to elect Kim and Donna as Friends Board Members, the motion was seconded. The Friends members voted unanimously to elect Kim and Donna.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Thompson

Date approved: February 3, 2025