

## Friends of Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park

### Board Meeting Minutes November 3, 2025

#### Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park Service Area and Call-in

Board Members Present: Eric Cosentino (call-in), Skip Counselman, Kim Finer, Donna Graham, Janice Kmetz. Unable to attend: Valerie Thompson

Park Staff in Attendance: Park Manager Cody Peters

Vice President Kim Finer called the meeting to order at 9:00am and a quorum was established.

President's Report: Janice had nothing new to report.

Vice President's Report: Kim had nothing new to report.

Secretary's Report: Janice made a motion to approve the minutes from October 6, 2025; Donna seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Eric distributed the Comparative Balance Sheet (September 30, 2025, and 2024) and the September 2025 and September 2024 Profit and Loss Comparison. Eric reported for the period ending September 30, 2025, total current assets were up \$18,956 or 7.5% year-over-year. Total income declined \$29,238 or 50.9% for the same period. Total expenses were down \$936 or 7% and net income was down \$28,303 or 64% for the period ending September 30, 2025. It was noted that in 2025 most of the net income is derived from the Adopt-A-Nest Turtle Program and from Apparel Donations, while Membership Revenue is up slightly to \$7763, despite a decline in renewal rate.

Membership Report: Donna reported that renewals are declining, although we are receiving a few new members each month, although not enough to offset losses. Currently there are 100 Members. Donna reported that it is a frequent question at renewal asking when will the system of 12 free parking passes per year for members be restored. Cody addressed this and suggested he is working on a system that will allow this to happen again, and it may be implemented in 2026, once a mobile Ranger Station and new parking pay stations are established.

Nominating Report: Donna advised that the recent request to members that they offer to join our board had resulted in two viable candidates, each with relevant experience. Although it is anticipated that there will be one opening to fill in January, Donna recommends that the board size increase by one in order to bring both candidates aboard, as it is anticipated there will be further vacancies to fill, and it is challenging to

find qualified candidates willing to serve. It was recommended that this be addressed at the board and membership meetings.

Park Manager's Report: Cody had an expansive list of recent activities which he shared and discussed with the board. Multiple Volunteer Service Awards and Cards were issued including to Val and Jay (5000 hours each) and to Donna (1,000 hours). Currently there are two park staff openings for which Cody is conducting interviews. Plant donations continued and plantings have been completed by Volunteers and Staff. Shop sheds and trailers are being reorganized to facilitate efficiency, space and resilience. Florida Foundation provided a grant for additional battery-operated tools.

Annual Pass Sales have been re-initiated, and Cody has submitted a proposal to our CSO which would allow selling passes multiple days/weeks, rather than only on Wed-Fri mornings. This would require purchasing and outfitting a customized Mobile Interpretation Trailer that also would be used to store a limited supply of CSO items offered for CSO donations. Board members agreed to consider and discuss this approximately \$25,000 request at the December meeting.

Also discussed was an initial draft of the 2026 CSO Plan which must be prepared and submitted in January. Included in that plan is consideration of purchasing a UTV for Resource Management and Education, with special capability for planting and watering. Again, the board agreed to consider and discuss this request and plan at the December meeting, with the intention to adopt a 2026 plan at that time, allowing it to be submitted in January as required. It was noted that if the forementioned Mobile Interpretive Trailer purchase is approved, the 2025 CSO Plan will need to be amended, which would be done by Kim and Cody.

Cody also reported that electricity and sewerage service have been restored in the Service Area. Temporary asphalt road repairs have been affected and the plan for repaving park roads is progressing.

Dellora's Garden: Area 5 will not be restored and is reverting to a natural area, as it is very vulnerable to over wash during extreme tides and storms. However, it could be restored as an Environmental Area that includes and encompasses Dellora's Memorial, not just a garden, and the feasibility of this is under investigation.

Adopt-A-Nest: Donna reported 65 total nests in 2025, a record number.

Other Events: Janice reported shelling had a low turnout but was well received and she is developing a program to enhance this offering. Boutique sales were good in October

with several new shirt and hat offerings and the frequency needs to increase, but limitations are a very limited number of volunteers available to set-up and staff the table. Donna and others are organizing a December 3 Friends sunset event on the beach. The Lunetta Turtle restoration and placement is planned to be near the newly located Delnor-Wiggins sign, which awaits permitting approval. It is hoped that the CSO could assist with a new planting project to enhance the park entrance.

New Business:

Alicia wishes to relinquish hosting the website and the board agreed to the recommendation to use GoDaddy at a cost of approximately \$300/year. The CSO also needs a new Webmaster and that is being investigated as well. The board approved spending up to \$500 annually for website hosting on a motion made by Skip and seconded by Janice.

A new CSO-FL State Park Form, as required, has been signed by Kim.

John Finer is planning an Environmental Park Walk for late November.

It was recommended that we investigate using Square for boutique sales, in addition to accepting cash, allowing the use of credit cards, as many guests no longer carry cash.

The Annual Meeting at St. John's on January 12 at 10am requires a \$150 donation which should be approved in December. The next board meeting will be December 1 at 9am in the Service Area and by call-in.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35am.

Submitted by:

Skip Counselman

Date Approved: **December 1, 2025**