

Friends of Anastasia State Park

Annual General Meeting of the Membership

Notes/Minutes

January 25, 2015 4:00 PM –5:30 PM

President: Greg Adams (present)

Vice President: Rita Roberts (present)

Secretary: Sharon Burbelo (present)

Treasurer: Doug Imshaug (present)

Board members in Attendance: Dennis Salvati, Karl Holland, Triss Holland, Rich Gallik

Member/Guests: Diane Glass, Colby Wholeben, Doc Wilson, Richard Adadow, Kathy Salvati, Fred Schmidt, Louise Gallik, Kayla Douglas, Bob Ganley, and Liane Stark

Anastasia State Park: Brittany McDermott, Warren Poplin and Alex Shamraevsky

Total Attendance: 21

1. Call to Order

2. Mission

Friends Gathering Together to Celebrate, Protect & Enhance the Natural Beauty in Anastasia State Park.

3. Roll Call

3.1 Board Members – Greg Adams, Rita Roberts, Sharon Burbelo, Doug Imshaug, Rich Gallik, Dennis Salvati, Karl Holland and Triss Holland

4. Presidents Remarks: Greg Adams presented a review of activities that the CSO has been involved in this past year. Some of these activities raised money to for purchases not within the current park budget while others were activities for the community to enjoy.

They included the following:

1). A number of Music in the Park (formerly known as Dogs and JAM) programs were held at The Island Grille showcasing the local talent. The next one is planned for 2/7/2015 at 6pm.

2). Aluminum cans were collected at the campground which netted \$800 this year.

3). Endless Summer Run held in September annually.

4). The Playground was completed and the CSO purchased two Golf Carts and ten 2-way radios.

5). Four roadside cleanups were held this year.

Greg also announced that:

In May both Warren Poplin (Manager) and René (Assistant Manager) joined The Anastasia State Park.

In June the CSO purchased an Ice Machine for the Park staff

February through August, the Park participated in the Frog Watch

In August we provided funding to make improvements on the Park Jeep

In September we held the ESR with Don's Friends

In October The Haunted Hay ride was held

In December we reached a total of 174 Friends of Anastasia State Park members and also obtained Liability insurance and Bonding.

5. Anastasia State Park Managers Report Warren Poplin: Warren began by recognizing Brittany McDermott who was selected as December's Employee of the Month from District 3. He and Alex Shamraevsky presented her with a plaque and desk set. The group congratulated her!

Warren presented some interesting facts about Anastasia State Park which included that it has over 1600 acres and offers campgrounds that have an 86% occupancy rate. Over 700,000 visitors enjoyed the Park in 2014. He explained that these visitors have a huge economic impact on the community, including both the purchases that they make and the attractions that they visit. The Florida Park Service is 72%-78% self-sustained.

Warren also reported that the Unit Management Plan of the park is currently being reviewed. He thanked the CSO for all that they do to support Anastasia State Park such as holding special events and helping to purchase needed items for the park. He remarked "I have enjoyed my time here so far and thank you for your vision."

He presented the following as possible CSO projects for the future:

- 1) Interpretive Pavilion: where guests can be educated and learn about things that have an impact on the park such as the protection of fresh water.
- 2) Improve the surface of the park's nature trails.
- 3) Assist with future expansion plans for the park.

Warren encouraged CSO members to read the new handbook which is based on the new laws because it will help with their interpretation.

6. Anastasia State Park Brittany McDermott: Brittany reported that the CSO had 1305 volunteer hours in 2014 and thanked everyone for their efforts. Events currently planned for 2015 include Ride for The Wild Side on 3/8/2015 and the Earth Day Fair on 4/18/2015. More info about both can be found on the website. She also reported that Anastasia consistently keeps a full group of camp hosts and they work hard to keep the facilities clean, allowing rangers to focus more on resource management and visitor services.

4. Financial Report: Doug Imshaug reported that it was expected that we would have a profit of \$1,300 in 2015 with about \$5000 expected in park expenses. We have now incurred the cost of Liability Insurance (about \$1,500). Karl Holland made a motion to approve the 2015 Budget and Rich Gallik seconded the motion with the Board voting and approving unanimously.

5. Membership Report: Dennis Salvati and Diane Glass reported that we have a total of 177 members which includes an increase of 33 this year. The breakdown includes 166 Individual/Family (includes 9 Gift memberships), 9 Lifetime and 2 Corporate Memberships (Cape Leisure and Kayak of St Augustine).

6. Island Grille Pavilion: Brian informed us that he is continuing with plans to improve the pavilion area.

6. Thank you: To outgoing Board member Dennis Salvati who has been a member of the Board for the past 6 years.

7. Introduction: Of nominees to fill 2015 open Board positions, Louise Gallik was nominated by Rita Roberts and the motion was seconded by Triss Holland with the Board approving unanimously. We still have one opening.

8. Special Guest: Doc Wilson: The group was lucky enough to have Doc speak to us about the treasures that he has found walking the Anastasia Park Beach shoreline every day for the past 8 years (missing only 5 days). They included 456 pairs of sunglasses that he donated to the Lyons Club! A recent find has been identified as a curved rib belonging to a ship. It is going to be sent to the Lighthouse Maritime Archeology Program for possible positive identification and may be put on display at the Park in the future. He encouraged the group to look for creative ways to protect what we have and envisions a beach without trash. He also shared with us the book that he published in 1992 entitled "Totally Trusting."

Announcements: The 2015 Endless Summer Run (ESR) will once again be a partnership with Dons Friends and for the first time Chip timing will be offered. There are currently 1200 flyers that will be distributed for ESR and as of 1/19/2015 nine people have registered for the event which will have a cap of 450 this year.

Don't forget to turn to radio station 1610 while visiting Anastasia State Park to hear Brittany McDermott talk about what's happening in the Park!

8. Next Monthly Meeting February 17, 2015 7pm, Park Administration building.

9. Adjournment: Thank You....Friends Party/Social Followed