



Friends of Anastasia Meeting – Thursday May April 12, 2022 – Meeting at Sea Turtle Pavilion- 6pm

President: Rich Gallik – Present

Vice President: Andris Duffy – Present

Secretary: Louise Gallik – Present

Treasurer: Katrina Denny – Absent

Board Members - Present – Bridget Blake, Maureen Long, Beth McCoy,

Board Members (absent) - Nico Recore, Cecile Nusbaum, Mary Boutte

Anastasia State Park – Michael Watkins & Michelle Schenk

Members- Robert Edwards, Tim Coons, John Porter, Irene Bergeson

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM.

Mission Statement: To generate supplemental resources which will provide increased recreational opportunities and further enhance protection of the natural and cultural resources of Anastasia State Park.

We have a quorum. Minutes from April 14, 2022 were approved.

President’s comments-

- a. Thank you to all who volunteered for the Kids Ocean Day event. It was an outstanding event. A special thanks to Ranger’s Maggie, Michelle and Sam for their turtle program – the kids loved their presentation.**
- b. Rich Gallik, Andris Duffy and Park Manager Michael Watkins attended the CSO District 3 Meeting on April 21, 2022 at Wekiwa Springs State Park.**
- c. We will be receiving our check for the JJ Grey Concert soon. Plus a donation from the Billy Strings event. The donation from JJ Grey will be used to repair/ replace the damaged playground equipment at the Sea Turtle Pavilion and make it more ADA compliant. In the future we may need to have a fundraiser or apply for a grant to increase money needed to build a structure that is more resistant to beach weather.**

- d. A landscape project funded by Friends has been completed. More native greenery to enhance landscape by the Ranger Station and Administration Building. Great planting job by the Rangers.**
- e. Our 2021 Legislative Report has been filed with Tallahassee. This report helps clarify our goals for the Park.**

Our Park Manager Michael Watkins and our PSS (Park Service Specialists) Michelle Schenck (our Friends' liaison and camp host manager) attended tonight's meeting. Michelle will be formulating an all-inclusive volunteer list for the very busy summer season at the Park. This way we can utilize the many talents of our volunteers. A possible newsletter advertising volunteer opportunities was discussed.

Kiosks with interpretational information will be updated. More walks and field events will be scheduled.

Michael announced there are openings for Ranger positions at the Park due to promotions and staffing shortages. We will also need volunteer assistance throughout the busy summer season as the Park has seen an incredible surge in attendance. Once the new Volunteer Website announcing volunteer opportunities is complete we urge all Friends to sign up for the jobs available.

Financial Report – Katrina sent April financials to the Board. Our total balance this month was \$28,000.00 after expenses for Endless Summer Run shirts and medals plus the revenue from JJ Grey. Thank you to Katrina for all you do.

Membership Report – Maureen reports our current Friends Membership is 208. With 36 Life Members, 4 Corporate Members and 168 regular members.

We now have a QR Code to help facilitate membership sign-ups.

Endless Summer Run November 19, 2022 – Registration sign-ups for the Run have been opened. We have about 175 runners signed up so far. A Virtual Run is also available.

Turtle Nest Program 2022 – the Sea Turtle Program has been reorganized. The program will include more educational and community outreach. We should all be aware of the turtles' nests and how fragile they are. Please do not disturb them. The new website is now operational. It was suggested a Facebook Page should also be created to further educate the public. Also there is a need for Corporate Sponsors.

Please remember to sign a volunteer agreement and complete other various paperwork posted online. Logging in your volunteer hours is very important for Tallahassee to know the amount of extra hours required to maintain the Park. Contact PSS Michelle if you need assistance.

Turtle Stickers continue to sell well. These are sold at the Beach Store and Ranger Station.

Web Site/Facebook -Cecile. Thanks to Cecile and her company for the new website.

Business:

- 1. Annual Meeting needs to be scheduled - (date to be determined).**
- 2. Suggestions for a Friends tee or polo shirt.**
- 3. Next meeting June 9, 2022. Location to be announced.**
- 4. Saturday Market Friends Booth?**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.