



Friends of Anastasia Meeting – Thursday August 11, 2022 – Meeting at Water Sports classroom at 6pm

President: Rich Gallik – Present

Vice President: Andris Duffy – Present

Secretary: Louise Gallik – Present

Treasurer: Katrina Denny – Absent

Board Members - Present –Maureen Long, Mary Boutte

Board Members (absent) - Nico Recore, Cecile Nusbaum, Bridget Blake, Beth McCoy,

Anastasia State Park – Michael Watkins, Michelle Schenk

Members- Irene Bergeson, Ann Sokol, Jackie Rudy, Laurie Gilmore, Jerry Parks, Dian Hartley, Scott Navin, Theresa - Kiet and Eric Nguyan, Robert Edwards, Richard Goldman

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 July 14, 2022 were approved.

President’s comments-

- a. Thank you to all who attend our meetings. We appreciate your help as well as your ideas.**
- b. The Board approved by an email vote the purchase of a Liability and Directors & Officers Policy now that our coverage through The Florida State Parks Foundation has expired as of August 1, 2022. We will now have policy coverage through Herbie Wiles Insurance. Approval was for a cost of \$1394.20 for \$1,000,000 Liability Coverage (2,000,000 Aggregate). Bind date- August 1, 2022. This will also cover our Park events such as Endless Summer Run with up to 2,500 participants.**

- c. At our July 14, 2022 Meeting our Board approved the purchase of an 8x10 shed to house washers and dryers for Camp Hosts in the amount of \$3000.00. Check #2066 was written for \$3,039.00, an overage of \$39.00 to include a door.
- d. A farewell luncheon was given for Ranger Shelly after 14 years of service. Friends of Anastasia donated \$200.00 towards the event. (Check #2067).
- e. We have been asked to participate in next years' Lullaby of the Rivers Music Festival which will be held April 22 and 23, 2023. This will be the third year for this event which celebrates our rivers and environmental responsibility. Friends will have a table with information about our resources and programs. This event is hosted by Bob Patterson and Bob Ganley and will be held in Vilano Beach.
- f. A Ravine Gardens State Park Spooktacular will be held October 29, 2022 from 6 to 9 pm. There will be a Haunted House, Games and Food Vendors. Volunteers needed. Andris is getting more information.
- g. District has requested changes to Park Membership card terms of use. We will add "Member must be present - Entry good for one vehicle (up to 8 people including cardholder). Does not include camping or other fees." This information will be added to our Website and Friends Membership Trifold Boucher. We will have labels printed which will adhere to back of current card.
- h. Friends will be ordering Volunteer and Ranger t-shirts to substitute for those we can no longer procure through our regular vendor. Will need an estimate of necessary sizes. Unfortunately, Friends shirts have been put on hold.
- i.

Park Manager Michael Watkins and our PSS (Park Service Specialist) Michelle Schenck (our Friends' liaison and camp host manager) attended tonight's meeting. The Park will be adding a new Ranger Residence within the Park as well as one on adjacent property. The new 8x10 shed will house the washer and dryer.

Michael is still getting quotes to replace the damaged playground equipment at the Sea Turtle Pavilion. The new ADA compliant equipment will be down-sized due to budget constraints and volunteers will be utilized to help remove the old structure and prepare grounds for a new weather resistant structure. We may apply for a grant to help finance the new playground and/or have a fundraiser. Friends presented Michael with a check for \$1600.00 to pay for four loads of fill dirt for various projects within the Park.

Michelle reminded us to post our volunteer hours. Also continue to renew training. There will be a meeting with Richard Goldman, President and CEO of St Augustine, Ponte Vedra and the Beaches Visitor and Convention Bureau to discuss ideas on Fundraisers for the State Park on August 18th. Rich Gallik, Andris Duffy and Michael Watkins will attend.

Financial Report – Katrina sent July financials to the Board. Our total balance is over \$76,584.00. Thank you to Katrina for all you do.

Membership Report – Maureen reports our current Friends Membership continues to grow.

We will have a table at the Saturday Pier Market on August 27th to encourage new Friends Memberships and provide information about Anastasia State Park. Volunteers needed. We now have a QR Code to help facilitate membership sign-ups.

Endless Summer Run November 19, 2022 – Registration sign-ups for the 5K and 10K Run have been opened. A Virtual Run is also available. Letters will be created asking for sponsorships and for Silent Auction donations. If you can help please contact Rich.

Turtle Nest Program 2022 – the Sea Turtle Program has been reorganized. The program will include more educational and community outreach with a new website that is now operational. Our Sea Turtle total at present is 97. There is a need for Corporate Sponsors.

We will need to create new Sea Turtle Program Bags. Need to research size and cost. This year many Turtle Nest Program adoptions have been for gifts (Father’s Day, birthdays, etc.). What a great idea! We have 23 Turtle Nesters in the Program.

Our Friends of Anastasia Vice President Andris Duffy was awarded a certificate and pin for 3000 Hours of volunteering. Congratulations!

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. We will be ordering the 2022 Turtle stickers shortly.

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

Thank you to Mary Boutte for providing some very tasty food for our Meeting. It was delicious.

Business:

- 1. Annual Meeting needs to be scheduled - (date to be determined).**
- 2. Next meeting September 8, 2022. Location to be announced.**
- 3. Saturday Market Friends Booth August 27th – Volunteers needed**
- 4. October 29, 2022 A Spooktacular Event at Ravine Gardens State Park in Palatka will be held 6pm-9pm. A haunted good time.**
- 5. National Night Out is October 4, 2022 at Pier Park.**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.