



Friends of Anastasia Meeting – Thursday June 8th – Water Sports Classroom

President: Rich Gallik – Present

Secretary: Louise Gallik – Present

Vice President: Andris Duffy – Absent

Treasurer: Katrina Denny – Present

Board Members - Present – Bridget Blake, Mary Boutte

Board Members (absent) - Cecile Nusbaum, Beth McCoy, Ann Sokol

Park – Michael Watkins & Michelle Schenck

Members- Theresa Nguyen, Maureen Long, Robert Edwards, Jackie Rudy, Cathie Forier, Susan Barrow, Laurie Gilmore

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 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.

Minutes from April & May 2023 approved.

President's comments-

- a. Thank you to all who attend. We appreciate your ideas and volunteer enthusiasm. Please remember to enter your volunteer hours on the Florida State Parks website.**
- b. Our CSO Reports have been submitted to the District office. Thank you Michelle. The PSS offices have been relocated to the Ranger Station to make room for a Park Planning office at the Administration Building. Michelle's office will now be located there as well as the office for the new PSS who will be starting at the end of June. Michelle reports many of our turtle nests have been washed away by high tides. We do have a record number of least terns and black skimmers nesting on the beach. Her monthly Anastasia State Park activities List has a QR code with direct access to the Park website as well as our donation site.**

c. Michael reports the Park is getting ready for the extremely busy summer season. The Park grounds have been given a clean up and trimming. He has been preparing for the beach renourishment project in August (Turtle nests that have not hatched will have to be relocated). Fort Mose will soon be having the groundbreaking for the replica of the old fort.

It was announced that Florida residents may now reserve one of the 139 campsites at the Park one month before the general public.

d.

Financial Report – Katrina sent May financials to the Board. We have approximately \$107,138.00 in our account. The budget for 2023 is on our Website. Thank you Katrina for all you do.

The Playground Committee reports success with their fundraising activities. Many new businesses have been contacted about our new ADA Project. The information packets have been designed to be given directly to a prospective sponsor or to be sent to them online. We appreciate the generosity and financial support of our community.

Membership Report – Maureen reports our current Friends Membership continues to grow. We have about 233 members. We have a new corporate sponsor- English Landing Marina. Thank you to Nico Ricor and John Valdez for his generosity. Thank you to Maureen and Ann Sokol for their management of the membership roster.

Turtle Nest Program- Bridget: Turtle Nest Season has begun. Please join our Program. Members receive updates on local turtle data as well as a tote bag, insulated water glass, membership card for 12 entries into the Park. She will post updates on Facebook relating to their activity. Turtle Nest Season runs through October.

We will have a table at the Saturday Pier Market on June 24, 8am to 12:30. We will be selling our turtle stickers as well as past Endless Summer Run t-shirts for \$20.00. We will also be talking about our new ADA Playground Project. See you there. Remember to bring a chair. Come see our beautiful new tablecloth with colors of the 2023 ESR turtle.

Site/Facebook -Cecile. Thanks to Cecile and her company for creating such a professional website. Thank you for creating our QR codes. All information relating to our ADA Playground is now accessible from our website.

Endless Summer Run 2023 is scheduled for Saturday, November 18, 2023. This is our 20th year. We have a new colorful turtle logo. Sign-ups have begun. We have recently added \$1139.00 in race fees to our account. You may access Don's Friends website (www.DonsFriend.com) for additional information. Jim and Renee have been busy organizing the event as well as lining up sponsors. Andris will again be crafting a beautiful turtle quilt for our Silent Auction.

Business:

Mary Boutte suggested we invest in a Turtle costume to help advertise our Friends Organization and to help draw attention to our table at our many fundraising events and projects. More discussion at the July meeting.

- 1. Annual Meeting still needs to be scheduled - (date to be determined).**
- 2. Next Friends Meeting July 13, 2023 at 6pm.**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.