



## **Friends of Anastasia Meeting – Thursday February 8<sup>th</sup> – Water Sports Classroom**

**President: Rich Gallik – Present**

**Secretary: Louise Gallik – Present**

**Vice President: Andris Duffy – Absent**

**Treasurer: Katrina Denny – Absent**

**Board Members - Present – Ann Sokol, Theresa Nguyen, Jessica Glenn, Cathie Forier**

**Board Members (absent) – Bridget Blake**

**Park – Michael Watkins, Michelle Schenk- Absent**

**Members- Maureen Long, Robert Edwards, Bruce Cathcart, 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 January 11, 2024 were approved.**

### **President’s comments-**

**a. Thank you to all who attend our Monthly Board Meetings. We appreciate your ideas and volunteer enthusiasm. We continue to plan and organize our fundraising efforts for our new wheelchair accessible ground level ADA Playground at the Sea Turtle Pavilion. We have provided information about Anastasia State Park, its many resources, the wildlife and our plans for the new ADA Playground to those visiting our table at Marina Munch Boardwalk Bazaar at English Landing the last Friday of the month, and Amp Saturday Market on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month. Thank you to the members who volunteer their time at these events and create unique ways to educate the community about our goals.**

**b. Katrina and Rich are working on the 2024 Budget. SSL certificate has been renewed.**

**Cecile Nusbaum has resigned from the Board and Theresa Nguyen, Jessica Glenn and Cathie Forier have been nominated and voted in as Board members.**

- c. **Andris reports we will receive a grant of \$2,500.00 from the Junior Service League of St Augustine for the ADA Playground. We will also be working on a grant from the Florida State Park Foundation. We recently sent them updated information about our fundraising progress including a new power point presentation, photos and major sponsors list.**
- d. **Our Park Manager Michael Watkins has given us a list of Park needs. Among them the pump repair, new tires for several Park trucks, golf cart repairs and a load of gravel.**
- e.
- f. **Please remember to enter your volunteer hours on the Florida State Parks website. If you do not have an account set up please contact PSS Michelle Schenck. (904) 461-2035. Also a reminder to update training and sign paperwork on volunteer portal.**

**Financial Report – Katrina will send to the Board. Our bank balance is \$129,607.00. An initial check to GameTime for \$62,399.17 for the playground cleared November 1, 2023. Thank you Katrina for all you do.**

**The Playground Committee update: Thank you to Maureen and Ann for meeting with City of St Augustine City Manager David Birchim. The city will donate \$2,500.00 for the playground. The plans for the Playground are posted online. Ann Sokol wondered if the State Parks Foundation could promote our Playground on their website.**

**Membership Report – Maureen reports our current Friends Membership continues to grow. We have about 229 members (includes life, corporate, nonprofit and regular). Thank you to Maureen and Ann Sokol for their management of the membership roster.**

**Bridget reports the Turtle Nester Program has its first member of 2024 plus 2 memberships purchased at the end of 2023. Turtle Nesting Season begins April 1<sup>st</sup>. Early monitoring begins April 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Endless Summer Run will be held on Saturday - November 23, 2024. Our share of profits from the 2023 Run and Silent Auction was \$10,730.00.**

**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.**

#### **Volunteer Events:**

**Lighthouse 5 K Run February 17, 2024. Arrive at 7am.**

**Marina Boardwalk Bazaar will be February 23 (4:45pm-8pm)**

**Amp Market will be January 24<sup>th</sup> (7:45am-12:30pm).**

**Feel the Wheels- Jr Service League of St Augustine- November 9, 2024 12noon-4pm**

**St Augustine Easter Parade March 30, 2024**

- 1. Annual Meeting still needs to be scheduled - (date to be determined).**
- 2. Next Friends Meeting March 14, 2024 at 6pm.**

**Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.**