



Friends of Anastasia Meeting – Thursday March 14, 2024 – 6pm 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, Bridget Blake, Mary Boutte

Board Members (absent) –

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

Members- Maureen Long, Robert Edwards, Paul Dixon, Cindy Wasserbauer, Megan Swift

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 February 8, 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. Our Playground Fund continues to grow thanks to generous contributions from our community. We still have an information table at Marina Munch Boardwalk Bazaar at English Landing the last Friday of the month, and Amp Saturday Market on the 4th 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.

We have received a donation from Island Prep School and hope to establish a working relationship educating their students about Anastasia State Park and its resources.

b. Other fundraising includes Spirit Night at Jersey Mike's Subs, St Augustine Beach location March 16 from 4-8pm. News Flash!! We raised over \$1000.00 at this event.

c. Katrina and Rich are working on the 2024 Budget as well as other business.

Cecile Nusbaum has resigned from the Board and Theresa Nguyen, Jessica Glenn and Cathie Forier have been nominated and voted in as Board members. Ann Sokol will become our new Vice President. They will be officially installed as Board Members at our next Board Meeting April 11th.

d. 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. Ann will also submit an ADA 2024 Foundation Project Report by March 27th.

e. Our Park Services Specialist Michelle has requested some teaching aids for Elementary School Field trips to the Park which also will be used for Kids Ocean Day at the Park April 19 from 9am to noon. She also mentioned the Beach Renourishment Project scheduled for February/March has been delayed. Hopefully to be completed before Turtle Season begins in April

f.

g. 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 \$131,937.57. 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 plans for the Playground are posted online.

Membership Report – Maureen reports our current Friends Membership continues to grow. We have about 226 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. There are three levels of participation:

Individual/Family \$50.00

Small Business Corporate \$100.00

Large Business Corporate \$250.00

Please see Friends of Anastasia website for details. Help educate, conserve and monitor endangered sea turtles through this Program.

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:

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Marina Boardwalk Bazaar will be March 29(4:45pm-8pm)

Amp Market will be March 23 (7:45am-12:30pm).

Tuesday Night Market at the Amp March 26, 4:30 to 8pm

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

St Augustine Easter Parade- March 30, 2024. Set up before 7am. Parade begins 7:30 at the Old Jail and continues south to Visitor Information Center. Ends around 11:30am

Kids Ocean Day April 19, 2024 9am to noon at Hilltop Picnic Area

TurtleTown USA Beach Cleanup May 11, multiple sites throughout the county including Anastasia State Park.

New Business- Maureen discussed buying a new Point of Sale system called PayPal Zettle. Geared toward non-profits offering lower surcharges per transaction.

- 1. An abbreviated Annual Meeting will be scheduled during our April Friends Meeting April 11th.**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.