



Friends of Anastasia Annual & General Meeting – Thursday April 11, 2024 – 6pm Water Sports Classroom

President: Rich Gallik – Present

Secretary: Louise Gallik – Present

Vice President: Andris Duffy –Present

Treasurer: Katrina Denny – Present

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

Board Members (absent) – Bridget Blake,

Park – Michelle Schenk & Michael Watkins (absent)

Members- Maureen Long, Robert Edwards, Triss Holland, Karl Holland, Richard Goldman, 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. Our Park was established on March 14, 1949 and is now celebrating 75 years serving our community.

Minutes from March 14, 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.**

b. We have received donations totaling \$129,470.83 as of 4/13/2024.

The Fundraiser and Spirit Night at Jersey Mike's Subs 3/11 through 3/16 netted \$170.00. Other donations were \$500.00 from Embassy Suites and \$1000.00 from Triss & Karl Holland.

Our volunteers have been busy raising awareness of our Park assets as well as fundraising for our ADA Playground at the Seafood Fest and the St Augustine Easter Parade. We also had a table at the Amp Night Market March 26th. Ann and Maureen have visited with St Augustine Beach Mayor Dylan Rumrell, met with Commissioner Henry Dean. There will be a presentation at the Rotary Club and we will be represented at the Bozard Ford Health Fair 4/17.

c. The month of April will be a busy one for our tireless, industrious volunteers as they maintain a booth at Kid's Ocean Day April 18, an educational and environmental learning experience; host a greet and meet table for the three days of the Billy Strings Concert, April 19, 20, 21; attend the Lullaby of the Rivers to celebrate Earth Day April 20 & 21 in Vilano Beach, as well as man our tables at the Saturday Market and Marina Munch.

d. Maureen, Ann, Jessica, Theresa, Michelle, Michael and Brandon attended the Foundation Volunteer Luncheon at Colt Creek State Park March 15.

e.

Cecile Nusbaum has resigned from the Board but will still maintain our website.

f. 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 were officially installed as Board Members during our Annual Meeting. Andris was presented with a certificate acknowledging her years of service as a Park Volunteer. Congratulations everyone.

The grant form for the Delores Barr Weaver Legacy Fund application through the Community Foundation of N E Florida was sent in. Thank you Ann.

g. Our Park Services Specialist Michelle has requested some teaching aids for the many Elementary School Field trips to the Park which also will be used for Kids Ocean Day April 18 from 9am to noon in conjunction with A1A Scenic Highways. Our volunteers Maureen, Theresa, Cathie, Mary, Ann, Jessica and Laurie have also assembled some educational coloring books.

h. 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. The construction of two new Ranger Residences has been delayed as cost factors were underestimated. Friends has been helping the Park replace cables for golf carts, replace tires for Park vehicles and fund other Park needs. The Beach Renourishment Project is still delayed.

Financial Report – Katrina will send statements to the Board. Our bank balance is \$142,758.19. Thank you Katrina for all you do.

The Playground Committee update: Thank you to Maureen and Ann for meeting with various City and County administrators to make them aware of the importance of our new ADA Playground. The plans for the Playground are posted online.

Membership Report – Maureen reports our current Friends Membership continues to grow. We have about 210 members (includes life, corporate, nonprofit and regular). Thank you to Maureen and Ann Sokol for their management of the membership roster.

Bridget- the Turtle Nester Program -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:

Marina Boardwalk Bazaar will be April 26 (4:45pm-8pm)

Amp Market will be April 27 (7:45am-12:30pm).

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

Kids Ocean Day April 18, 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 a new Point of Sale system called PayPal Zettle. Geared toward non-profits offering lower surcharges per transaction.

Our next Board Meeting will be May 9th at 6pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.