



## **Friends of Anastasia General Meeting – Thursday August 14, 2025 – 6pm Water Sports Classroom**

**President: Rich Gallik – Present**

**Secretary: Louise Gallik – Present**

**Vice President: Position OPEN**

**Treasurer: Katrina Denny – Present**

**Board Members - Present – Theresa Nguyen, Mary Boutte, Cathie Forier, Ann Sokol, Bridget Blake, Andris Duffy**

**Board Members (absent) – Jessica Glenn**

**Park – Michael Watkins – Michelle Schenck**

**Membership- Robert Edwards**

**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. To provide an environment which benefits our community and all visitors.**

**Minutes from June 12, 2025 were approved. There was no July Meeting.**

### **President's comments-**

- a. Thank you to all who attend our Monthly Board Meetings. We appreciate your ideas and volunteer enthusiasm. We have an information table monthly at the Amp Saturday Market on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month and at other events throughout the year. Our volunteers share information about FOA membership, monthly nature hikes, our goals to enhance the Park and cultural and natural resources of Anastasia State Park. Our Event Coordinator Jessica Glenn advises us of event dates and insures we have volunteers to staff them.**

**b. Ann Sokol resigned from the Vice President's position effective December 31, 2024. She will remain on the Board and continue as Membership Chairman. WE ARE IN NEED OF A NEW VICE PRESIDENT!!!!. We should have an additional board member who should be assisting and learning the responsibilities of the CSO and necessary protocols pertaining to the Department of Environmental Protection.**

**c. OUR ADA PLAYGROUND IS COMPLETE. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held May 30<sup>th</sup> to officially gift the playground to Anastasia State Park and announce it is OPEN. We wish to thank all of those who donated to our fundraiser and honor those volunteers who worked tirelessly to raise funds. A video of the ceremony was made by Beaver Toyota, one of our large donors. What a wonderful way to document the day and remember the hard work involved. We had many attend the ceremony and share in the festivities. Our playground was also spotlighted on the Florida State Parks Foundation website during July for Americans with Disabilities Month.**

**d. Anastasia State Park was ranked #3 of our State Park beaches.**

**e. Update:**

- a. 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 each year. As per the CSO Volunteer Agreement we follow the CSO Handbook rules.**
- b. Our Friends of Anastasia State Recreation Area Insurance for August 1, 2025 through August 1, 2026 has been renewed through Herbie Wiles for \$1,360.55.**
- c. Michelle has purchased a telescope eyepiece replacement for \$275.00. This will be used by the Audubon Society for the birders.**
- d. The pump grinder and valve for the Ranger Station restroom was replaced. Now installed \$3,831.37.**
- e. We purchased a replacement for the old Simplex double sided push button knob locksets at gate entry points from our vendor Village Lock & Key for \$1,500.00.**
- f. Mary purchased a cart large enough to haul table, chairs, tent, et al to event sites. The cost was \$181.04.**
- g. The Board discussed the source of our CSO funding. We are thankful for our major donors through the Amphitheater, J-J Grey and Billy Strings. We rely on Friends memberships, receipts from Endless Summer Run & the Silent Auction and our popular turtle stickers.**
- h. Michelle reports we had over 55 turtle nests this year= 1000 hatchlings, most loggerheads.**
- i. Michael reports the State Park has hired a new Ranger. Welcome aboard.**

**Financial Report – I sent the Board a copy of the Financial report. Our bank balance is \$98,584.00. The Board voted and Approved the report for June & July. There is \$47,251.11 remaining in the ADA Playground Fund. These funds will be used solely for future maintenance/improvements. We have created a spreadsheet for expenses related to the playground. \$1,500.00 was used for sidewalks and \$43.97 for supplies related to ribbon cutting ceremony. Thank you Katrina for all you do.**

**Membership Report- 260 total. Life 64, Corp & Nonprofit 11 Regular (185). Thank you to Ann for management of the membership roster.**

**Bridget- the Turtle Nester Program – Remember to protect our Sea Turtles through participation in the Program:**

**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. Nesting has begun and will be active for 4 more months.**

**This year Endless Summer Run will be held on Saturday - November 15, 2025. Package Pick-up November 14, 2025. As always there will be a fantastic new design for the race shirt and bag. Proceeds will be shared with our race partners Don's Friends---- Runners have started signing up and many businesses have become sponsors. Our Silent Auction also runs during Packet Pick-up and during the Run on Saturday.**

**An organization Meeting for ESR will be held in the near future.**

**Bruce Cathcart will become contributor/ Publisher of our Facebook Page. Thanks to Cecile and her company for managing our Website and posting minutes.**

**Dates to remember**

**Amp Market Saturday August 23 –8:00 to 13:30.**

**District Review Monday August 25,2025 –10:30 at Park Admin Office**

**September 6—Ravine Gardens “Readings Event”**

**September 16—Night Market at Amp.**

**Next Meeting September 11, 2025 in the Water Sports Classroom.**

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