



Friends of Anastasia General Meeting – Thursday February 12, 2026 – 6pm Water Sports Classroom

President: Rich Gallik – Present

Secretary: Louise Gallik – Present

Vice President: Mary Boutte - Absent

Treasurer: Katrina Denny – Present

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

Board Members (absent) – Bridget Blake

Park – Michelle Schenck

Membership- Robert Edwards, Richard Goldman, Bruce Cathcart, Donna Boling

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.

There was no November Meeting because of Endless Summer Run/ Silent Auction preparations that week. In December we enjoyed a Pot Luck Dinner to close our busy year.

President’s comments-

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 4th Saturday of the month and at other events throughout the year. Our volunteers share information about FOA membership, monthly nature hikes, bird walks, our goals to enhance the Park and the cultural and natural resources of Anastasia State Park.

In January our V. P. Mary Boutte called our meeting to order in Rich's absence. Attending were Theresa Nguyen, Cathie Forier, Robert Edwards and Park Manager Michael Watkins. Many issues were discussed but because there was no quorum some had to be tabled until February. Some purchases were included in the Park Services Maintenance budget and could be funded like fill dirt for the campgrounds \$4,140.00, \$42.53 for supplies for Amber and \$1,217.93 for repairs at Ag Pro. Volunteer uniforms and a Camp Host Meeting lunch were also paid. A total of \$6,170.67 was spent. Other expenses will be discussed at the February Meeting.

Michael handed out a draft of the Annual Program Plan for Citizen Support Organizations.

Rich opened the February Meeting by thanking those volunteers who helped with the First Day Beach Cleanup on January 1st. 40 pounds of refuse and debris were collected. Also Park Services Specialist Michelle took 65 nature lovers on the First Day Hike. There was a suggestion that beach clean ups be held more often and concentrate on areas in less accessible locations.

Thank you also to Michael Watkins and Michelle Schenck for submitting the 2026 Annual Program Plan and the Division of Corporation Annual Report.

PARK UPDATE:

Michelle noted that one of the Camp Host washers needed repair. A repairman will be sent out. Michelle also requested a new ADA Beach Sand Cruiser Wheelchair to make the beach more accessible. Approximate cost \$2,795.00. The Board unanimously approved this request.

Also there is a need for several more battery operated Stihl leaf blowers. Also in discussion were bat boxes and/or Bat Program, ADA Playground landscaping (would come out of ADA Playground Fund), a 6-seat ATV Polaris. Bruce suggested we look into a grant for this. He will research.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Katrina reports on January 31, 2026 we had \$120,864.71 in our Friends account.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. Playground: THANKS TO ALL – The ADA Playground fund is still at \$47,217.46 (We keep track of funds spent on a spreadsheet – no additional charges since August).**
- b. Membership Report: 213 (Regular 146, Life 64, Corp & Nonprofit 3) – Thank you Ann for doing membership!**
- c. Volunteers: Thank you to all volunteers.**
- d. Endless Summer Run: Our profit from the Run was \$14,682.76**
- e. Turtle Program 2025: - Bridget- Turtle Season is over until Spring..**

- f. Andris discussed several possible new projects for Friends. One would be the upgrading of Hilltop Pavilion. Upon discussion this was proven to be too costly. The other project, to be called Dream Circle or Gopher Tortoise Circle, a gathering place for educational talks, campfires, meetings. This site would complete the area to the left of the Sea Turtle Playground and would consist of benches placed in a circle made from composite materials. This would require approval from the State Park and would need to be researched by a committee. We would also need to consider funding. Would the State help fund or would we need to ask for donations from the public? We unanimously voted to approve and proceed with this project.
- g. Bruce Cathcart was recognized as our outstanding District 3 Resource Volunteer. Congratulations.

NEW BUSINESS:

Amp Market Saturday February 28th ** 8 – 12:30

Kids Ocean Day April 17th- more information coming. Will need volunteers.

NEXT MEETING – March 12th, 2026, 6pm. Watersports Classroom

OTHER BUSINESS:

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm