

FRIENDS OF LOVERS KEY, INC
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda-Minutes
February 14, 2023 – Board Meeting – 2:00
WDC Outdoor Classroom

Welcome and administrative Business

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

Present: Jim Remis-President
Karen Woodson-VP Operations
Megan Allers-VP Donor Development & Events
Kathryn Klar-Treasurer Chair Governance Committee
Christy Hennessey-Secretary
Tina Tyler-Donor Development Advisor
Katie Moses-Park Manager and State Relations
Tim Horvatic-Building Committee
Louise Kowitch-Education Chair
Sandy Foreman-Events Chair
Mark Generales-Building Committee

Absent: Frank Cassise-Purchasing/Print/Supplies
Jason Dolle-Chair Development Subcommittee

II. Approval of January 10, 2023 Board Minutes

Motion to approve: Mark
Seconded: Kathryn
Discussion: None
Motion approved

Report of the Park Manager

III. Park Managers Report-Katie Moses

- **Update on Park damages and Clean -up:** Dump trucks moving debris off the beach, still have to rake the beach and all sand sifted. Lee Co. has 5 million dollars for beach re-nourishment. Tram bridge is structurally sound for truck use. Hopefully out for bid this week and then three to four weeks to choose who gets the contract. Emergency order project. North entrance fence gets broken into and once the State DOT allows, the north parking lot will be completely closed for bridge construction. Focused on main visitor areas. Should be starting on clearing the waterways. Most trails have been cleared.
- **Plans for reconstruction:** Ranger station will be temporary modular building around March 28, until the station is built. Getting a new cash register. Getting an admin trailer so park offices will be moved in there temporarily. Getting park radios next week. By the end of March should be in a place to accept Park visitors. No phone service yet so the Park calls are forwarded to a cell phone that stays in the office. Electrician starts this next week and will take five to six weeks to completion. The priorities to be first to be put back online are the WDC, Katie's residence and the Ranger shed. The sewer line needs repairs but it is unknown to what extent until the electricity is turned on. No WIFI but using hotspots. Engineers and architects were in the park regarding rebuilding the buildings. Building new elevated restroom at south beach which will be connected to sewer. Kathryn is going to inquire with the Seminole Indians if they will donate a replacement for the Gazebo. State is willing to rebuild it as well. Ranger Station with need to be elevated with taking payments on lower level. A new house is being built to replace the damaged trailer, and possibly as a duplex. Contractors are doing 90% of what is being done. Bait shop is a lower priority. Weekly clean up on Estero Blvd from debris pile.
- **Plans for reopening:** No date yet to reopen. State no longer expects March 1st. Bayside is open. Once beach debris is cleared and removed, sand raked, it will likely be middle to late April. Portable restrooms will be delivered for the WDC and the Tram Station.

- Volunteers-how and when: Todd Richards is ready to go back into business at Bayside. He already has kayak tours lined up. Cleaned up his kayaks. Katie is interviewing a for new volunteer coordinator, and only park volunteers will be considered.
- Other: Two new rangers named "Greg and Greg". One lives in FMB and the other up in Fort Myers. Daily trying to keep people out of the Park. Staff has been coming over from Delnor Wiggins. Big Carlos Pass Bridge is being awarded on February 21st and it could start 30-60 days from then. The whole north Park entrance will be closed. The County Parks and Recreation is considering funding a parking lot and entrance to use a section of the bridge that is being rebuilt, as a fishing pier. Would put in restrooms. This "has not" been proposed to the County yet, though. Much that needed to be repaired and fixed is now going to be replaced by the State.
- Q and A with Board Members: Jim said he and Katie should meet an hour a week to discuss how FOLKS can support the Park. Jim asked who could be in the park because he saw emails about photographers and so forth. Iguanas were being shot there last week and everyone needs to be cleared through Katie before entering the park. Volunteer time has not been getting recorded. The new Volunteer Coordinator will be following up to make sure everyone has recorded their hours.

Reports of Board Officers

- IV. President's Report.... All of our history paperwork was destroyed in Ian and working to put together information
- CSO State Conference Debrief: FOLKS is so different from the other CSOs. Most are preserving history and we are making history. Florida Park foundations personally knows everybody but us. Katie feels this is because FOLKS has done so much without the State. There are now younger CSOs and Rangers and full of energy.
 - Developing a list of Park needs that Folks can assist in funding internally or externally: Have this ready by the March Board meeting.
 - Off Road Vehicle Crisis: The one FOLKS bought for the Park needs a title which is now in the process. Tractor Supply deliver person neglected to do so. Until then, FOLKS still owns it.
 - Annual Report Filed: Taken care of
 - FOLKS Planning for Reopening and 2024: Some sort of event like a barbeque, have new T-shirts
 - Fundraising/Development Plan for 2023: Raise \$50,000 for Community Room blinds
 - FOLKS Insurance: Have no insurance but they cashed the check. Jim will speak with the State CSO person to see if he can help connect because he is the one who referred him to us.
 - DEP Inspector General Audit: Still going on. Not in any trouble. They want a list of all our members but Colleen did not put into Salsa, any category listed for membership. Megan will look at dollar amounts to determine who paid a member fee. There is a separate board with the names of Life Members. Life Members will now receive an annual punch card for 12 visits.
 - Meeting schedule for EC and Board: We will meet in March and May, not April. In March we will discuss the summer meeting schedule. Executive Committee will meet in April.
 - Advisory Committee Planning: Talking in March, creating an Advisory Committee.
 - Other: Katie is not permitted to speak to the Press without going through the Park Press office. No information on when the Park might open may be put in the press. Jim reported we are in receipt of the final \$23,000 from the County. Manatees are built but there needs to be a redesign because there was a suspended layer that was to look like water but it is a metal plate that blocks the structure from view from above. It is going to be redesigned in plexiglass or safety glass to be able to see through it. As of a week ago, they were on track for installation by July 1st. We need a budget set for the earmarked \$132,000 to spend on the Park. We have already talked about re-landscaping the WDC, Louise needs to give us a list of everything lost for camps during the hurricane. Izzy will be putting together a list and we need to have all this in by the March meeting. Need to purchase the copier and other things. Need shades for the community room and

fundraise for those. Expecting about \$50,000. Tina has a "Big Ass Fan" copy that is one-third of the price. The used Polaris given to the Park broke down and unable to drive the new one because the Park does not have the title work completed. There is an auction coming up next week, where the Park could possibly get two instead of one for the same price. Katie's friend will use his account to pay for it and we will reimburse him.

Motion to authorize up to \$20,000 for Katie to purchase two ATVs: Jim

Seconded: Christy

Motion passed.

V. VP of Operations Report

- FMB Update: Food Trucks and even some restaurants are open. A lot of activity and too many people driving slowly to gawk and take photos, creating back-ups. New Comprehensive Plan is in the works. Amazing progress has been made in FMB. Final clean-up is March 31. Destroyed homes and debris will start receiving fines for not having them demolished. A Director of Finance has been identified for hiring. Interim Town Managers, one very focused on legislative and FEMA funding and other other person is Boots-On-The-Ground day to day. The old way of doing business is no longer.
- 2024 GALA Planning: Canceled this year due to Hurricane Ian. Planning 2024 and Jeannie Cummings is on board and has her retainer. Tina did an amazing job with donations and commitments for 2023, so we need to check back with them. Upcoming GALA dates are February 24, 2024, February 22, 2025, February 21, 2026
- Other: None

VI. VP of Development and Events Report

- New FOLKS Shed Update: Megan needs to contact Rosa with Amazon Sheds in Bonita. She knows permitting and where things can go. Need a 10x20 shed. Need the cost by next meeting. The old nursery site is a possible location.
- Planning for events: Sandy recommended putting together a committee with Megan and Todd, also ten community members. Amanda and the new events person should be added. Maybe do a casino night. Instead of Turtle Trot, have a family event around Mother's Day. We need to reinvent ourselves. November 17th is a possible Beach and Brews date.
- Other: None

VII. Secretary Report:

- Revisions to Members Cards: Christy created the new member card which were emailed to Katie who is sending them to the State.
- New T Shirts Designs: Not getting rid of the old logo T-shirt because people love it, but a new logo will be created to update it. Passed around an idea Jason's marketing person created for a t-shirt.
- WDC Landscaping and Activities Project: Louise has taken over with ideas. The landscape plan is not something to cut back on, we need to do it right. The plant purchases and planting will be taken care of by staff and volunteers.
- Newsletter: Christy will type up the minutes, meet with Katie afterwards in the park and take photos, then type up a newsletter submission to have Katie "ok", then send to Karen M.
- Other: None

VIII. Treasurer's Report

- January Financial Statements: We are in good shape. Have \$132,000 earmarked to spend on the Park
- Nook Inventory: Fourteen shirts are missing. No Lovers Key maps. We will have to write it off, all that is missing. Koreshan State Park uses Square. What we have with Linga will not cross over to Square. For the GALA the fees ended up to about 6%. Need the new Point Of Sale (POS) system by the time the WDC opens.
- Other: None

- IX. Other reports as necessary: The Sammelson Sign on the WDC is in bad shape. Gina Ketchum gave \$100,000 and for the next meeting Tina will bring thank you cards for us to write and Tina will send them one week at a time. Kathryn suggested we do that with our top donors.

Other

- X. Open Board Members discussion about the future: Important to not share our Event Planning with other organizations.

- XI. New Business: None

- XII. Adjournment to Board Social:

Motion to Adjourn: Jim

Seconded: Karen

Meeting adjourned at 4:15pm