

FRIENDS OF LOVERS KEY, INC.
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
May 13, 2025 - 12:00 PM EST
Welcome and Discovery Center and VIA Zoom

Call to Order / Roll call: 12:00pm

Present: Jim Remis
Katie Moses
John Wesley Nash
Jason Dolle
Karen Woodson
Tina Tyler
Carmen Moch
Kathryn Klar
Christy Hennessey (Zoom)
Frank Cassise (Zoom)

Absent: Tim Horvatich
Miranda Murphy

Approval of March 11, 2025, board meeting minutes

- Motion to approve: John
- Seconded: Karen
- Discussion: John's name had already been corrected to John 'Wesley' Nash
- Motion Approved

Park Managers Report -see Detailed Supplemental Agenda

Brief Update on Projects in Process

- Window tinting: Entire WDC windows are completed
- Park Internet: Waiting on the state for Starlink to be installed and will be the first for Florida State Parks. We will be in the DEP network. Lovers Key has been without Internet 2 ½ years since Hurricane Ian on September 28, 2022. Requesting there be a press release.
- Summer Camps and Scholarships: one scholarship, planning and registrations going well.
- Donor Board: Katie created the screen images and just need to merge information. Not listed by donor level, just by name in alphabetical order.
- Fans: Tina has a contact through Dan's Fan City to hang fans not purchased through them. We are holding off on ordering the fans until we know when the park will have electricity again, after Hurricanes Helene and Milton. We will be ready at a later date to approve four 84" fans at \$539.95 each for ground level of WDC

- Internet Merchandise sales – update: The test of Printify has been initiated. Sales have come in without advertising. Need to post on Facebook and Newsletter. In short, to explain how Printify works (thank you JWN for the simplification) ... **If you order something on Amazon, you don't sign a document, or check a box agreeing to their terms & conditions. By using their website, you have agreed to their terms & condition. Printify is no different.**
- FOLK Tax Return: Has been filed.
- CSO Legislative Report: Included the Strategic Plan, all four pages. Signed and submitted.
- Other: None

Detailed Discussion of Strategic Activities in Progress:

- Fort Myers Beach Living and sponsorships: Feature Katie with a full spread.
 - Motion to approve advertising in *Fort Myers Beach Living* for 6 months at a cost of \$1,000: Karen
 - Seconded: Kathryn
 - Discussion: the magazine will be on Estero Island for all visitors to see
 - Motion approved.
- Strategic planning/project manager update: John and Christy have been filling it out. Tina will be meeting with each project lead. Karen and Tina went over the strategic plan to assign leads. The work is being done; it just needs to be posted in the strategic plan docs.
- Advisory Committee: Tina has been meeting with them. Most will stay on. Possibly get a board member from the group. Planning an entire advisory board gathering September 16, 2025. Jim cannot be here, but will have a video presentation.
- WDC anniversary celebration: Beauty and the Beach "Havana Nights" will have a nod to our 5th anniversary. A separate entity, fundraising tool during the Gala.
- Gala planning starts in August, but we need to get ahead of it with auction items: Karen has two possible board candidates who may be joining our Gala committee.
- Brainstorming for sponsors of Gala, auction items: With development a hot topic in FMB, we will steer clear of developers for sponsors. Jim saw a Havana hotel in Key West and other ideas were thrown out for auction items to seek.
- Review of April FOLK Financial Statements: We had \$125,000 earmarked for a truck for the rangers and no longer buying that. As such, have it to distribute to more needy projects. We need a larger percentage of smaller donors due to state park criteria.

Need more fundraising projects. Kathy Nash reported \$5,070 has been raised so far Adopt-A-Nest. Nine of them are repeat sponsors. Kathy will be on Beach Talk Radio in 2 weeks.

- Legacy Events and Events Going Forward: We need an Events person.
- Other :

Meeting adjourned: 2:35pm

Next Meetings

Executive Committee

- June 3 – Zoom-12:00

Board Meetings 2025

- August 12 – 12:00-WDC and Zoom
- October 14 – 12:00- WDC and Zoom
- December 9-12:00-WDC and Zoom

FRIENDS OF LOVERS KEY, INC. Park Management Agenda Supplement

Management Updates:

- Park Updates:
 - Mid-Beach Pedestrian Bridge (Katie): Working on constructing the railings and hope to be completed by the end of summer.
 - Park Summary Notes (Katie): The request for electricity after Hurricanes Helene and Milton has been approved by the state.
 - Resource Management Projects upcoming (Katie):
 - Hurricane Season Preparations (WDC Storage Room items) (Katie): There is a state park plan which will have a test run in the near future. Trucks and trailers will come from another park to pick up park equipment in harms way during a hurricane threat. Empty the storage under the WDC and all will be taken off site to higher ground.
- New Staff Members Updates (Katie)
 - Cody & Savannah: new rangers hired and the park is now fully staffed.

• Park Funding Requests- (\$6,126 requested \$0 budgeted)

Ranger Station Marketing TV (Katie) \$1,800

Sea Turtle & Shorebird Nesting Supplies (Katie) \$552

Ranger Requests (Katie) Clip-on Thermacells and slushy machine \$1,147.20

WDC Kitchen Cabinet Locks (Katie) \$226

WDC Garden Butterfly House (Katie) more than \$699 because it will rust

Pull Behind Weed Trimmer (Katie) \$1,700

- Motion to approve \$7,000 from the unused \$125,000 in the budget, to fund the Park Ranger Requests: Kathryn
- Seconded: Karen
- Motion approved

•2025 Funded Project updates:

Main Entrance Landscaping/ Refresh (Katie, Christy)

Main Restroom Shower Area Landscaping/ Refresh (Katie, Christy) (\$10,000 budgeted for both projects – Duramen proposals \$33,360)

- Motion to approve \$33,600 for the park landscape project: Christy
- Seconded: John
- Discussion: we will wait on the interior ponds after being advised how to proceed and secure grants to fund it. To get the equipment back in there to clean out the hurricane damaged ponds, there was some clearing, exposing the ponds. Taking advantage of the view, trails are being moved over there and benches will eventually be installed. There was \$5,000 donated by the Bonita Woman's Club and Katie will pursue Bonita Bay for a donation.
- Motion approved

Parking Lot Post & Rope Project (Katie) (\$5,000 budgeted)

- Motion to approve \$5,000 for posts and rope for the parking lot after removal of the parking blocks are removed: Kathryn
- Seconded: Jason
- Discussion: Kathryn is going to see if Gavin's Ace Hardware will donate the posts.
- Motion approved.

Black Island Trailhead Signage/ Maps (Katie) (Moved to 2026): We will be needing electricity over that way for some sort of pavilion

Shop Solar & Carport (Katie) (Stillwell Deposit – Future direction): Miranda continues to research solar for the shop. The companies tend towards residential in the requirements and none so far have been a good fit. John recommended we wait until technology catches up.

Trail Cameras (Katie) (\$800 budgeted)

- Motion for \$800 for trail cameras which have been installed: Jim
- Seconded: John
- Discussion: They will not be public but rather for the rangers to monitor wildlife in the park.
- Motion approved.

Enclosed Trailer (Katie) (\$5,500 budgeted)

- Motion to purchase a new enclosed trailer \$9,000: Christy
- Seconded: Jim
- Discussion: Used trailers when you see them for sale, are gone almost immediately. A new trailer will be purchased.
- Motion approved.

Expense for the Park

	2024 Actual	2025 Budget
6281 <u>Landscaping</u>		
Landscaping	63,501.34	75,000.00
Truck and Trailer		125,000.00
WDC Dishwasher		10,000.00
Cargo Trailer		5,500.00
Window Tinting		15,000.00
	63,501.34	230,500.00
6283 <u>Donated Supplies, Equipment, Furniture</u>		
Washer and Dryer 1	2,257.76	
Washer and Dryer 2	1,490.98	
Everglades Blower	9,264.37	
Dog Watering Station	6,949.45	
Taxidermy Projects	3,000.95	5,000.00
Interpretive Supplies		25,000.00
Park Equipment		25,000.00
Shop Furniture and Appliances		10,000.00
Star Link Internet Installation		17,500.00
	22,963.51	82,500.00
New <u>Future Looking Projects:</u>		
Solar Powered Golf Cart Carports		15,000.00
Black Island Trailhead Sign Improvements		10,000.00
Storm Storage Shop Shelves		3,000.00
Trail Cams		800.00
Parking Lot 1 Enhancements		3,000.00
Parking Lot 2 Enhancements		2,000.00
Shark Bike Rack		4,250.00
Front Entrance and Tram Stop Landscaping Improvements		10,000.00
Junior Ranger Program		5,000.00
		53,050.00