

## Florida Department of Environmental Protection

## CITIZEN SUPPORT ORGANIZATION 2017 REPORT

(pursuant to Florida Statute 20.058)

Citizen Support Organization (CSO) Name: Friends of the Island Parks, Inc.

Mailing Address: 1 Causeway Blvd., Dunedin, FL 34698

Telephone Number: 727.738.2903 Website Address (if applicable): www.island parks.org

## **Statutory Authority:**

Section 20.2551, F.S., Citizen support organizations; use of property; audit; public records; partnerships. In summary, the statute specifies the organizational requirements, operational parameters, duties of a CSO to support the Department of Environmental Protection (Department), or individual units of the Department, use of Department property, audit requirements, public records requirements, and authorizes public-private partnerships to enhance lands managed by the Department.

Section 258.015, F.S., Citizen support organizations; use of property; audit. In summary, the statute defines a CSO, requires authorization by the Division of Recreation and Parks, and specifies the use of property. This statute authorizes the Partnerships in Parks (PIP) program for state parks, the program's operational parameters, CSO's operational parameters, and donor recognition.

## **Brief Description of the CSO's Mission:**

To provide financial and volunteer resources to support the mission of Honeymoon Island and Caladesi Island State Parks.

## **Brief Description of the CSO's Results Obtained:**

During 2016 the Friends of the Island Parks purchased special mulch for the Accessible Playground, purchased an ATV for HISP, purchased a weather station for the RCNC, and purchased web access for the RCNC. Raised additional funds for our on-going campaign for Caladesi Discovery Center. We have earmarked over \$300,000.00 for this project. We continued H.O.S.P. salary support for OPS position. We funded the Volunteer Appreciation Event for Honeymoon and Caladesi Island volunteers and continued support of the LIFE Program.

## Brief Description of the CSO's Plans for Next Three Fiscal Years:

The primary focus of the organization over the next three years is to continue to raise the funds needed to build the Caladesi Discovery Center. The Friends will continue to address the emerging needs of the Parks, maintain their commitment to H.O.S.P. salary support for an OPS position and raise funds/provide ongoing support for the LIFE Program.

## Friends of the Island Parks, Inc. Code of Ethics - Adopted August 19 2014

#### **PREAMBLE**

- (1) It is essential to the proper conduct and operation of the Friends of the Island Parks, Inc. (herein "Friends") that its board members, officers and employees be independent and impartial and that their position not be used for private gain. Therefore, the Florida Legislature in Section 112.3251, Florida Statute (Fla. Stat.), requires that the law protect against any conflict of interest and establish standards for the conduct of CSO board members, officers and employees in situations where conflicts may exist.
- (2) It is hereby declared to be the policy of the state that no Friends board member, officer, or employee shall have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or incur any obligation of any nature which is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his or her duties for the Friends. To implement this policy and strengthen the faith and confidence of the people in Citizen Support Organizations, there is enacted a code of ethics setting forth standards of conduct required of the Friends of the Island Parks, Inc. board members, officers, and employees in the performance of their official duties.

## **STANDARDS**

The following standards of conduct are enumerated in Chapter 112, Fla. Stat., and are required by Section 112.3251, Fla. Stat., to be observed by Friends board members, officers, and employees.

## 1. Prohibition of Solicitation or Acceptance of Gifts

No Friends board member, officer, or employee shall solicit or accept anything of value to the recipient, including a gift, loan, reward, promise of future employment, favor, or service, based upon any understanding that the vote, official action, or judgment of the Friends board member, officer, or employee would be influenced thereby.

# 2. Prohibition of Accepting Compensation Given to Influence a Vote

No Friends board member, officer, or employee shall accept any compensation, payment, or thing of value when the person knows, or, with reasonable care, should know that it was given to influence a vote or other action in which the Friends board member, officer, or employee was expected to participate in his or her official capacity.

## 3. Salary and Expenses

No Friends board member or officer shall be prohibited from voting on a matter affecting his or her salary, expenses, or other compensation as a Friends board member or officer, as provided by law.

## 4. Prohibition of Misuse of Position

A Friends board member, officer, or employee shall not corruptly use or attempt to use one's official position or any property or resource which may be within one's trust, or perform official duties, to secure a special privilege, benefit, or exemption.

## 5. Prohibition of Misuse of Privileged Information

No Friends board member, officer, or employee shall disclose or use information not available to members of the general public and gained by reason of one's official position for one's own personal gain or benefit or for the personal gain or benefit of any other person or business entity.

## 6. Post-Office/Employment Restrictions

A person who has been elected to any Friends board or office or who is employed by the Friends may not personally represent another person or entity for compensation before the governing body of the Friends of which he or she was a board member, officer, or employee for a period of two years after he or she vacates that office or employment position.

## 7. Prohibition of Employees Holding Office

No person may be, at one time, both a Friends employee and a Friends board member at the same time.

## 8. Requirements to Abstain From Voting

A Friends board member or officer shall not vote in official capacity upon any measure which would affect his or her special private gain or loss, or which he or she knows would affect the special gain or any principal by whom the board member or officer is retained. When abstaining, the Friends board member or officer, prior to the vote being taken, shall make every reasonable effort to disclose the nature of his or her interest as a public record in a memorandum filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who shall incorporate the memorandum in the minutes. If it is not possible for the Friends board member or officer to file a memorandum before the vote, the memorandum must be filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting no later than 15 days after the vote.

## 9. Failure to Observe Code of Ethics

Failure of a Friends board member, officer, or employee to observe the Code of Ethics may result in the removal of that person from their position. Further, failure of the Friends to observe the Code of Ethics may result in the Florida Department of Environmental Protection terminating its Agreement with the Friends.

□X Certify the CSO has completed and provided to the Department the organization's most recent Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-N/Annual Financial Statement	



# Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Honeymoon Island Administration 1 Causeway Blvd. Dunedin Fl. 34698 (727)469-5943 Rick Scott Governor

Carlos Lopez-Cantera Lt. Governor

> Ryan E. Matthews Interim Secretary

June 2, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

The Friends of the Island Parks has continued its support of Honeymoon Island State Park and Caladesi Island State Park. Through fundraising activities and volunteer involvement they have been instrumental with many projects throughout the parks.

The Friends once again had a successful Earth Day event and a "Halloween In The Park" event. Other events the Friends have sponsored or co-sponsored are the Rotary Triathlon, Kiwanis Adventure Run, Caladesi Discovery Run and the Sharkbite Challenge Paddling event. Proceeds from these events have been used to assist in the operation of the Nature Center and various projects throughout the park. The Friends purchased a Gator utility vehicle in 2016 for park operations.

The Friends continue moving forward with their plans for an Interpretive Facility at Caladesi Island State Park, and are nearing the halfway point in the funds needed.

The Friends members meetings continue to include many exciting, informative speakers and artists. Membership in the organization has risen to over 500 members.

Many members of the Friends are involved in all aspects of the park volunteer programs, including facility and equipment maintenance, interpretation and restoration of our natural resources. They have taken an active role in the park's Life (Learning In Florida's Environment) program, raising funds and providing volunteers. The Friends are also very involved in off-site interpretation raising awareness of the park and their organization. Members contributed over 10,000 hours of volunteer time this past year.

If you have any questions regarding this please feel free to contact me at 727-469-5943.

Sincerely,

Peter Krulder, Park Manager

Honeymoon Island Administration



Friends of the Island Parks, Inc. 1 Causeway Boulevard Dunedin, Florida 34698

June 23, 2017

Ms. Carol Imbriani Bennett
Park Programs development Specialist
Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreation and Parks
1843 Tamiani Trail
Osprey, FL 34229

Dear Carol,

Enclosed you will find the Friends of the Island Parks 2016 Statement of Accomplishments and Goals; 2016 CSO Report; 2016 Statement of Value of Contributed Services; and Code of Ethics. Also included is a copy of Park Manager Peter Krulder's letter. Our Treasurer, George Skalkeas has supplied us with a copy of IRS approval of Form 8868 for Extension of Time to File Exempt Organization Return for December 31, 2016 Form 990.

During 2016 the focus of FIP's fundraising has remained on three primary objectives. The first objective was to ensure adequate funding for our commitment to H.O.S.P to offset the salary costs for the Nature Center's OPS Ranger position. Our second major focus was on raising funds needed to build the Caladesi Discovery Center. This project is a multi-year endeavor with the kick-off of our fundraising occurring in early 2013. Our third major focus was to continue to build awareness and securing funds for the continuation of the LIFE Program for students at the Dunedin Highland Middle School. In addition to these primary objectives, the Friends continue to support the care and maintenance of the Nature Center and any emerging needs of the parks.

The Friends of the Island Parks is committed to supporting the mission of both Honeymoon and Caladesi Island State Parks. Beside financial support, we are also committed to providing the volunteer resources needed to showcase the recreational and environmental value of our barrier islands. Through events on the islands, monthly programs for our members, volunteer hours and building awareness in the community, we strive to assist park management and staff in preserving and protecting these unique natural resources.

Sincerely,

Diane Hood

President, Friends of the Island Parks, Inc.

# Citizen Support Organization Statement on Value of Contributed Services 2016

This statement reports on services provided to the Citizen Support Organization (CSO) from park staff support and in-kind support for the past fiscal year. The statement is part of the CSO's Annual Financial Report described in Chapter 5: Section 7 of the 2014 CSO Handbook. The primary purpose of the Annual Financial Report is to provide a summary of the most relevant information to the Department and Division, and to meet the common interests of donors, members, creditors, and others who provide resources to the not for profit organization.

This Value of Contributed Services for a park is provided to the CSO by the park or District through the Park Programs Development Specialist. Note, the Division of Recreation and Parks operates on a cash-based method of accounting.

Park Name: Honeymoon and Caladesi Island State Parks

1 Causeway Blvd.
Dunedin, FL 34698
Name of the CSO: _Friends of the Island Parks, Inc.
A summary of contributed services from the period of 1/1/2016 through 12/31/2016 is as follows:
Park Staff Support The total number of hours contributed in staff support services converted to a monetary amoun
The park contributed a total of \$2,349.71 in staff support services to the CSO.
Park Facilities Support  The total amount of water, electric, and utility expenses used to support CSO events, concessions, etc.
The CSO received a total of \$ 0 in park facilities support.
In-Kind Support The CSO receives additional services outside of the park staff contributed hours called in-kind services. In-kind services are a type of charitable giving in which, instead of money, a person contributes some kind of service, good, or commodity. Examples are professional services of a lawyer, accountant, or any professional or the estimated value of a good or commodity.
The CSO received a total of \$ 0 in in-kind support services.

## **List of Program Services**

Federal charitable 501(c)(3) organizations are required to report total expenses and revenue for each program service. According to the IRS, a program service is any activity by the organization which accomplishes its charitable purposes.

For *each* program service provide a description, total expense, and total revenue. For *each* program service description, clearly and concisely describe the accomplishments through specific measurements such as visitors served, days of an event, number of sessions or events held, publications issued, etc. (add pages as appropriate).

Program Service Description: The Friends of the Island Parks, Inc. main focus is the support of Caladesi and Honeymoon Island State Parks through grants, general park promotion, sponsoring specific activities (Island EarthDays, Rotary Centennial Nature Center (RCNC), etc.) promoting park usage, nature preservation within the park, etc. Friends contributed \$27,693.00 to the Florida Park Service through H.O.S.P. program to defray funding for the RCNC training coordinator position for calendar year 2016.

Total Expense \$27,693.00 Total Revenue \$0.00

Program Service Description: <u>Island Earth Days</u>. Visitors have the opportunity to learn about the ecology of the island, methods to protect the environment, enjoy nature and the Honeymoon <u>Island State Park</u>, and have a taste of Florida's original coast, to see many types of wildlife that depends on these ecosystems and to learn about these islands that need to be protected.

Total Expense \$5,710.00 Total Revenue \$28,026.00

Program Service Description: The Rotary Centennial Nature Center (RCNC) at Honeymoon Island State Park offers a variety of public ecology exhibits and educational nature tours. The Nature Center will educate visitors about Honeymoon and Caladesi Islands and the Gulf barrier islands' environment and ecology. The RCNC is/acts as a visitor and information center for the Park. It includes a gift shop. Volunteers logged in over 6,000 hours at the RCNC during 2016. Contributed \$1,225.00 for a Volunteer Appreciation Event; \$265.00 for a Weather Station; \$642.00 for RCNC Web Access; \$390.00 for special playground mulch; and \$10,445.00 for an ATV.

Total Expense \$12,967.00 Total Revenue \$98,896.00

Program Service Description:	
Total Expense \$0.00	

# Citizen Support Organization Statement of Accomplishments and Goals 2016

Name of the CSO Friends of the Island Parks, Inc.

Address 1 Causeway Blvd.

Dunedin, FL 34698

Estimated Total Volunteer Hours (For Reporting Year) Total Membership 520

**Total Volunteer Hours: 11,230** 

## **List of CSO Board Members**

Diane Hood	2206 Snead Ave.	Dunedin, FL 34698	drhood3@gmail.com	President
Ray Dabkowski	624 Magnolia St.	Dunedin, FL 34698	raydab@gmail.com	Vice President
George Skalkeas	2878 Deer Hound Way	Palm Harbor, FL 34683	grgskalkeas@gmail.com	Treasurer
Barbara L. Ross	236 San Salvador Dr.	Dunedin, FL 34698	barbaralynnross@rogers.c	com Secretary
Jean Barnes	12400 Park Blvd.	Seminole, FL 33772	jeanbarnes@aol.com	
Wayne Case	739 Scotland St.	Dunedin, FL 34698	wfcase4@icloud.com	
Brian Crockatt	236 San Salvador Dr.	Dunedin, FL 34698	bcrockatt@sympatico.ca	
Stephen Dugay	110 Curlew Rd., Lot 8	Dunedin, FL 34698	stephendugay@yahoo.com	<u>n</u>
Barbara Greenfie	eld 1003 Osprey Court	Dunedin, FL 34698	2greenfieldbarbara@gmai	il.com
<b>Bob Meadows</b>	508 Haverhill Lane	Safety Harbor, FL 34695	rtmeadows1212@gmail.c	<u>om</u>
Nicolas Rinaldi	3834 Grayton Dr.	New Port Richey, FL3465	52 rinaldi.nicholasg@gmail	.com

## **Summary of Accomplishments**

## Direct Contributions for 2015 - \$46,048.00

Purchased special mulch for Accessible Playground
Contribution to H.O.S.P. Program for RCNC OPS Position
Contribution for two display cabinets for RCNC
Funded volunteer appreciation event for Honeymoon and Caladesi Island volunteers
Continue LIFE Program support
Purchased an ATV, weather station, web access

## **Events Held in 2016**

Kiwanis Adventure Run Caladesi Discovery Race Shark Bite Challenge paddling event Island EarthDays Rotary Triathlon Halloween in the Park National Public Lands Day

## **Long Term Goals**

Continued fundraising efforts for the Caladesi Discovery Center

## Summary of Goals or Priorities for the Upcoming Fiscal Year 2017

Ongoing fundraising efforts for Caladesi Discovery Center Ongoing fundraising efforts for L.I.F.E. Program



# Florida Department of Environmental Protection

# CSO ANNUAL PROGRAM PLAN

Required Signatures: Adobe Sign	ature
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Name of CSO:	Friends of the Island Parks	
	,	
	2017	

For CSO Fiscal Year: 2017

	Description of Annual Projects	Resources Needed	Sources of Resources	Agency Approval Needed Y/N
1	Kiwanis Adventure Run 1/08/17	Event venue, logistics and staffing	Park, FIP members, volunteers	Y
2	Shark Bite Challenge paddling event 4/08/17 & 4/09/17	Event venue, logistics, and staffing	Park, FIP members, volunteers	Y
3	Island Earth Days, 4/22/17 &4/23/17	Event venue, logistics, and staffing	Park, FIP members, volunteers	Y
4	Rotary Triathlon, 6/11/17	Event venue, logistics, and staffing	Park, FIP members, volunteers	Y
5	Caladesi Discovery Center fundraising	Event venue, logistics, and staffing	Park, FIP members, volunteers	Y
6	Native Plant Garden	Staffing, logistics	FIP members, volunteers	Y
7	Monthly member's meetings	Event venue,	FIP Members,	Y
8	Funding OPS Staff member	Funding	FIP Members	Y
9	Community outreach	Staffing	FIP members	Y
10	National Public Lands Day	Staffing, venue	FIP members, volunteers	Y
11	Halloween in the Park	Event venue, logistics, and staffing	Park, FIP members, volunteers	Y
12	Support LIFE Program	Staffing, venue, funding	FIP members, volunteers, staff	N

Submitted by CSO President:	Date: (2   13   16
Park Manager Approval: 1 Laker	Date: 12/13/16

DRP-052 (Effective 11-05-2013)

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Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Ogden UT 84201

Notice	CP211A
Tax period	December 31, 2016
Notice date	May 29, 2017
Employer ID number	27-0001681
To contact us	Phone 1-877-829-5500
	FAX 801-620-5555

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FRIENDS OF THE ISLAND PARKS INC % STEPHANIE BERGERON 1 CAUSEWAY BLVD DUNEDIN FL 34698-8561



181464

Important information about your December 31, 2016 Form 990

# We approved your Form 8868, Application for Extension of Time To File an Exempt Organization Return

We approved the Form 8868 for your December 31, 2016 Form 990.

Your new due date is November 15, 2017.

## What you need to do

File your December 31, 2016 Form 990 by November 15, 2017. We encourage you to use electronic filing—the fastest and easiest way to file.

Visit www.irs.gov/charities to learn about approved e-File providers, what types of returns can be filed electronically, and whether you are required to file electronically.

## Additional information

- Visit www.irs.gov/cp211a
- For tax forms, instructions, and publications, visit www.irs.gov or call 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676).
- Keep this notice for your records.

If you need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact us.