



**Florida Department of Environmental Protection
CITIZEN SUPPORT ORGANIZATION
2021 LEGISLATIVE REPORT
(pursuant to Section 20.058 Florida Statutes)**

Citizen Support Organization (CSO) Name: Friends of Pensacola State Parks, Inc.

Mailing Address: 12301 Gulf Beach Hwy, Pensacola, FL 32507

Telephone Number: 850-492-1595

Website Address (*required if applicable*): www.FriendsofPensacolaStateParks.org

Check to confirm your Code of Ethics is posted conspicuously on your website.

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.

YOUR MISSION AND LAST CALENDAR YEAR'S PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

CSO's Mission: The Friends of Pensacola State Parks, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to generating support for Big Lagoon, Perdido Key, and Tarkiln Bayou Preserve State Parks. The focus of the organization is to provide assistance and seek funds for park needs. The scope of activities includes, but is not restricted to: supporting the park and staff in their activities, special projects, and park operations; along with educational/interpretive programming, and other activities that foster an understanding and appreciation for nature and the environment.

Describe Last Calendar Year's Results Obtained: There were a lot of challenges in 2020 for the panhandle. First was the restrictions placed because of Covid-19, second was the destruction caused by hurricane Sally in September 2020. Covid restrictions forced us to cancel all our fund-raising events, the hurricane damaged the park so badly that all we could do was to help clean up after that.

In spite of the limitations, our CSO managed to:

1. Replace the old leaf blowers with four new (and sturdier) ones.
2. Purchase trail mapping software for ranger.
3. Purchase Volunteer T-shirts for park volunteers.
4. Purchase a new slide for the west beach playground.
5. Conduct weekly cleanups with area volunteers to clean up the park after hurricane Sally. The biggest benefit was starting to use our presence on Facebook and NextDoor.com to reach out to the community more. We have increased our membership and the community's awareness that we exist and need their help.

Our income was about 1/3 the income from 2019, while our operating expenses were very similar. The fact that we continued to operate for the park is a testament to the diligent job that the CSO board has done to ensure that we have the reserves to continue to support the park in spite of having very limited income.

Describe the CSO's Plans for the Next Three Calendar Years:

We are currently examining the possibility of purchasing and running the kayak rentals in the park soon. If we do purchase the rental business, we should be able to increase our income significantly over the next several years. 2021 will be the break-even year while the following years will provide an opportunity for growth.

Early in 2020, the CSO redefined our future plans, facilitated by Tom Linley from F. The remainder of 2020 and Covid thwarted those plans, but as things return to normal operations, we intend to revisit those plans and delve into areas that the CSO has not addressed in the past.

Our recent cleanup efforts should continue to bring awareness and volunteers into the parks; continuing to increase membership, volunteerism and contributions from the public. The park has been asking for golf carts to replace the old, poorly-running carts currently used in the park. The CSO would like to purchase new carts, but knowing our financial limitations, we continue looking for grants and used carts in good condition.

CSO's LAST CALENDAR YEAR STATISTICS:

Total Number of CSO General Membership: 52

Total Number of Board of Directors: 5

Total Volunteer Hours for the Board of Directors (*Hours from VSys. Work with your parks' volunteer manager*):

Hours for members/board: 308 Hours

For CSO cleanups post Sally: 125

PARK & CSO RELATIONSHIP:

Over the past year, our relationship with the park rangers and management continues to improve.

I can't say enough good things about our park manager. Because of the continued exposure we get with the rangers by doing our cleanups, we have developed a fantastic working relationship with all of them. The park is welcome to recommend any need they may have of the CSO for funding or volunteer support. If we are able to accommodate, we usually do. Some of their requests are more difficult to track down, but eventually we come to an agreement to not pursue it or we deliver. (Above mentioned golf carts are a great example, the CSO is working to find a way to provide used golf carts to the park.)

Park Manager's Comments on the CSO & Park Relationship and Support:

The relationship between the Park and Friends benefitted this year from increased communication and better planning for park needs. This is especially important as we navigated through the pandemic and significant impacts from Hurricane Sally in 2020. We are looking forward to working with the Friends of Pensacola State Parks, Inc. in the upcoming year to accomplish even more of the planned annual project goals.

CSO President's Comments on the CSO & Park Relationship and Support:

The relationship with the park rangers and manager is excellent. The only area for improvement I can see is that the CSO needs to be more responsive to the park's needs. This stems from lack of membership involvement in CSO activities. We will continue to work on increasing membership and community involvement in CSO activities. Hopefully this will increase our membership and volunteerism.

SUMMARIZE FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FOR LAST CALENDAR YEAR, SPECIFIC PARK(S) SUPPORT:

Program Service Expenses

Building improvement, construction or renovations	0
Cultural resources (e.g., historic structure restoration/ renovation)	0
Natural resources (e.g., native plants, natural lands restoration)	0
Maintenance equipment (e.g., mowers, chippers, blowers, chainsaws)	871
Other facilities and landscape maintenance	0
Vehicles (e.g., trucks/cars, UTVs, golf carts, accessible devices, etc.)	0
Amenities (e.g., water fountains, benches, picnic tables, recreational equipment, kiosks etc.)	916
Park employees or volunteers support (e.g., interns, training, uniforms, awards, or	437
Big ticket visitor center exhibits or interpretation updates	0
Park exhibits, displays, signage	0
Park publications, brochures, maps, etc.	0
Programing/interpretation support material purchases	130
Other program services	0
Total Program Service Expenses	2354
 Total Operating Expenses (Overhead including fees, memberships, postage, rent, utilities, etc.)	 2205
Total expenses, Operation and program support	4559



Visitor Services Revenue

Park gift shops, craft stores and concession sales	\$
Merchandise sales (e.g., plants, firewood, ice, t-shirts, hats, etc.)	\$1875
Programs and Special Events (e.g., fundraising workshops, seasonal events, concerts, etc.)	\$
Vending (e.g., drink machines, penny press, laundry, Wifi, etc.)	\$
Rentals (e.g., bikes, canoe, kayak, SUPs, etc.)	\$
In-park donation boxes	\$
Other visitor services revenue (other donations, Amazon smile, Investments)	\$1788
Total Visitor Services	\$3663
Net Assets	\$43,717

CSO AUDIT:

Total of Last Calendar Year's Expenses (including grants) \$

Section 215.981(2), Florida Statute requires an independent CPA audit using Government Audit Standards ([U.S. GAO Yellow Book](#)) when the CSOs annual expenses are \$300,000 including grants. The audit is **due by September 1** (9 months after the CSO's calendar year ends) to the Florida Auditor General and to the Department.

This information is complete to the best of my knowledge pursuant to Section 20.058 Florida Statutes			
Title	Name	Signature	Date
CSO President	Victoria B Haney		5/13/21
Park Manager	Kiersten Wilson	 Kiersten Wilson <small>Kiersten Wilson Park Manager III Signed by: 5d4d5e73-4b77-4487-9e13-1d650675f28a</small>	05/14/2021

CSO's Code of Ethics is attached

CSO has attached the most recent Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-N Receipt. All IRS Form 990's must be *complete* with Part III Program Service and *all* appropriate Schedules (A, O and others as appropriate). If filing an IRS extension, attach the IRS 8868 receipt and the most recent 990 and schedules.

Information on .

Do not send to IRS.

Form **990-N**

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Electronic Notice (e-Postcard)

for Tax- exempt Organization not Required to File Form 990 or 990- Z

OMB No. 1545-2085

2020

Open to Public Inspection

A For the **2020** calendar year, or tax year beginning **2020-01-01** and ending **2020-12-31**

B Check if applicable

Terminated for Business

Gross receipts are normal \$50,000 or less

C Name of Organization: **FRIENDS OF PENSACOLA STATE PARKS INC**
12301 Gulf Beach Hwy, PENSACOLA, FL, US, 32507

D Employee Identification Number **59-3224820**

Website:

friendsofpensacolastateparks.com

F Name of Principal Officer: **VICTORIA B HANLEY**
5573 PONTAVERA RD, PENSACOLA, FL, US, 32507

Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice: We ask for the information on this form to carry out the Internal Revenue laws of the United States. You are required to give us the information. We need it to ensure that you are complying with these laws.

The organization is not required to provide information requested on a form that is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act unless the form displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a form or its instructions must be retained as long as the contents may become material in the administration of an Internal Revenue law. The rules governing the confidentiality of the Form 990-N is covered in code section 6104.

The time needed to complete and file this form and related schedules will vary depending on the individual circumstances. The estimated average times is 15 minutes.

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