



**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 Talbot Islands State Parks, Inc.

Mailing Address: 12157 Heckscher Dr, Jacksonville, FL 32226

Telephone Number: 904-277-4352

Website Address (*required if applicable*): talbotislands.com

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: *To support, through fundraising and volunteer activities, the seven state parks that make up Talbot Islands State Parks.*

Describe Last Calendar Year's Results Obtained:

In 2020, we completed the purchase of a 2020 pickup truck. We were unable to hold any events due to COVID19 restrictions. However, we were able to carry out the first annual Talbot Tidewater Challenge which was a fishing tournament conducted virtually. As with most first-year fundraising events, we succeeded in gaining experience and some community visibility but did not succeed in raising funds.

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

We intend to reestablish the events that have traditionally been done, such as the Grand Site clean-ups and bird walks at Spoonbill Pond. In addition, we would like to carry out clean ups in a number of our Parks. Trash accumulations have grown during the pandemic and the volunteer normal volunteer clean ups need to be re-instated.

We will continue to fund three more years of field work by University of North Florida on the Mocama sites on Big Talbot Island.

We plan to begin a series we will call Fridays with Friends – these events will be small fundraisers and will be open to the public for music and food. We expect the first to be held in November/December of 2021.

The 2nd Annual Talbot Tidewater Challenge is our goal for the fall.

CSO's LAST CALENDAR YEAR STATISTICS:

Total Number of CSO General Membership: 53

Total Number of Board of Directors: 6

Total Volunteer Hours for the Board of Directors (*Hours from VSys. Work with your parks' volunteer manager*): 749

PARK & CSO RELATIONSHIP:

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

The Friends of Talbot Islands State Parks (FOTISP) have had a great year despite the pandemic. FOTISP are doing well in supporting the parks through outreach and volunteer manpower. The BOD was able to fulfill many of the objectives on their annual plan and have continued to hold board meetings throughout the pandemic by using virtual platforms, consistent meetings have enabled the board to continue planning for the 2nd annual Talbot Tidewater Challenge and discuss other opportunities to support the park. The relationship between the park and the CSO remains strong, and the park is excited about the direction our new President will take the CSO. We are looking forward to expanding the BOD and the volunteers within the CSO and hope to provide new opportunities for park visitors in the coming year.

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

Our CSO has had excellent relationships and support from all of the Park staff. We do find ourselves constrained, however, by the lack of staff availability for certain functions. This is a condition felt particularly in times of tight budgets. When able, the staff is consistently supportive of CSO efforts and do all they can to support us.

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

Program Service Expenses are costs related to providing your organization's programs or services in accordance with

Building improvement, construction or renovations	\$
Cultural resources (e.g., historic structure restoration/ renovation)	\$
Natural resources (e.g., native plants, natural lands restoration)	\$
Maintenance equipment (e.g., mowers, chippers, blowers, chainsaws)	\$
Other facilities and landscape maintenance	\$
Vehicles (e.g., trucks/cars, UTVs, golf carts, accessible devices, etc.)	\$20,508
Amenities (e.g., water fountains, benches, picnic tables, recreational equipment, kiosks etc.)	\$
Park employees or volunteers support (e.g., interns, training, uniforms, awards, or recognition)	\$ 28
Big ticket visitor center exhibits or interpretation updates	\$
Park exhibits, displays, signage	\$
Park publications, brochures, maps, etc.	\$
Programing/interpretation support material purchases	\$
Other program services	\$ 260
Total Program Service Expenses	\$20,796

Total Operating Expenses (Overhead including fees, memberships, postage, rent, utilities, etc.) **\$ 8,017**



Visitor Services Revenue

Park gift shops, craft stores and concession sales	\$
Merchandise sales (e.g., plants, firewood, ice, t-shirts, hats, etc.)	\$ 5,146
Programs and Special Events (e.g., fundraising workshops, seasonal events, concerts, etc.)	\$ 450
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	\$ 2,808
Total Visitor Services Revenue	\$ 8,404
Net Assets	\$(20,410)

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	Signature	Date
CSO President	Roz Pfetter 	4-27-21
Park Manager	Michelle Waterman 	4-27-21

- 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.

Code of Ethics (June 2014)

PREAMBLE

(1) It is essential to the proper conduct and operation of Friends of Talbot Islands State Parks (herein "CSO") 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 CSO board member, officer, or employee shall have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or incur any obligation of any nature which is insubstantial conflict with the proper discharge of his or her duties for the CSO. 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 Friends of Talbot Islands State Parks 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 CSO board members, officers, and employees.

1. Prohibition of Solicitation or Acceptance of Gifts

No CSO 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 CSO board member, officer, or employee would be influenced thereby.

2. Prohibition of Accepting Compensation Given to Influence a Vote

No CSO 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 CSO board member, officer, or employee was expected to participate in his or her official capacity.

3. Salary and Expenses

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

4. Prohibition of Misuse of Position

A CSO 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 CSO 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 CSO board or office or who is employed by a CSO may not personally represent another person or entity for compensation before the governing body of the CSO 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 CSO employee and a CSO board member at the same time.

8. Requirements to Abstain From Voting

A CSO 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 CSO 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 CSO 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 CSO Code of Ethics

Failure of a CSO 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 CSO to observe the Code of Ethics may result in the Florida Department of Environmental Protection terminating its Agreement with the CSO.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

for Tax-Exempt Organization not Required to File Form 990 or 990-EZ

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 available

 Terminated for Business Gross receipts are normally \$50,000 or lessC Name of Organization: FRIENDS OF TALBOT ISLANDSSTATE PARKS INCPO Box 16982, FERNANDINABEACH, FL, US, 32036

D Employee Identification

Number 59-3467037

E Website:

Friends of Talbot Islands State Parks, Inc.F Name of Principal Officer: Margaret Bellucci12157 Heckscher Drive,Jacksonville, FL, US, 32226

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 their contents may become material in the administration of any 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.

Note: This image is provided for your records only. Do Not mail this page to the IRS. The IRS will not accept this filing via paper. You must file your Form 990-N (e-Postcard) electronically.