

Friends of Governor Nelson State Park

Annual Report - 2024 Activities

ACTIVITY

Weekly	Tuesday Volunteer Work Days Prairie restoration, prairie burn, eradicate invasives, promote native species, collect prairie seeds, spread prairie seeds, cut, pile and burn dead trees, etc.
Monthly	Board Meetings Board meetings were held monthly and included Park Manager, Mike Ring
Feb - Jul 2024	Friends of Governor Nelson State Park formed Created and filed bylaws, Articles of Incorporation, 501(c)(3) status confirmed, DNR Friends Agreement signed, created Board of Directors, etc.
Apr - Aug 2024	Website, PO Box and Marketing Materials Created online presence via www.friendsofgovnelson.org , PO Box rented, printed and disbursed membership brochures, created a banner, coordinated press releases to local news papers, followed up on website inquiries, sent Thank You notes to members and donors, etc.
April 2024	Earth Day Friends volunteers supported Park Manager, Mike Ring, in prepping the Park for planting 100's of bare root trees, spreading mulch, removing invasives, etc.
July 2024	Fishing without Boundaries Planned to staff a table near boat launch to introduce our Friends Group to those attending the event; unfortunately, high water canceled the event
Aug - Dec 2024	Hogan House Restoration Contractors reviewed the site for restoration estimates; volunteers cleaned the interior and exterior to understand the base of restoration needed; architect provided line drawing brochure for fund raising; fund raising efforts began; communications to raise funds via emails, networking and neighborhood events; etc.
Oct 2024	Candlelight Hike Park Manager, Mike Ring, and the Friends co-sponsored the annual Candlelight hike from the beach to the Hogan House; 100+ general public attendees visited the Hogan House area; wood was supplied for a fire pit so visitors could make free s'mores and enjoy hot cider; marketing materials were given to visitors regarding the Hogan House restoration
Nov 2024	Knowles - Nelson Grant Submitted For the Hogan House restoration, \$20,000 was raised in cash along with \$8,500 in-kind donations; Knowles-Nelson grant was submitted for \$20,000 to match the Friends' fundraising efforts to restore the Hogan House