

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF  
FRIENDS OF THE ELEPHANT SEAL  
A California Non-Profit Corporation

A meeting of the Board of Directors of *Friends of the Elephant Seal*, a California non-profit corporation, was held on January 10, 2001 at 4:00 p.m. at the offices of the corporation located at 250 San Simeon Avenue, Suite 3B, San Simeon, California.

The following Directors were present: Mike Levy, Steve Franz, Kerri Caserio, Ray Easton, Kathryn Karako, Susan McDonald and Ann Grossman. Guests present were: Jim Neil, Yvette Neil and Dick Evans.

Mike Levy, President, called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

Jim Neil was asked to report on the clothing donations from Patagonia Clothing. A list of those donations is attached hereto and made a part of the minutes. Patagonia has offered, to our docents, a "one-time only" 50% corporate discount. Ann Grossman will send a thank you note along with a video and invitation for a personal tour of the seals. The office volunteers will conduct a phone tree to let all the docents know about the offer. Kathryn Karako suggested that we contact other clothing manufacturers for donations. A discussion was held thereon and the Board will think on it. Jim was thanked for his considerable effort on successful results on our behalf.

Kerri Caserio gave the Treasurer's Report. A discussion was held on whether to have monthly reports. The Board decided that that is not needed. The new software, "Quicken", will provide those reports as needed. Kerri resigned, as Treasurer but will remain on the Board. Steve Franz was nominated for the Treasurer's position. A motion was made thereon, seconded and it was unanimously carried that:

RESOLVED: Steve Franz is the new Treasurer for Friend of the Elephant Seal.

Mike Levy gave the President's Report. Mike reported that he spoke with Kathe Tanner about being on the Board. She told Mike that she needs to speak with her editor about it, as a conflict of interest might exist. Mike also spoke with Jamie Fong Wolff of the San Luis Obispo Community Foundation. The Foundation has invited the Board members to a cocktail party honoring their current grant recipients. Kathryn, Susan, Mike, Ray and Steve will attend. Steve Dennis, of the Monterey Bay Aquarium contacted Mike and requested a private tour of the colony. Possibly FES will be invited for a reciprocal tour.

Susan McDonald gave the Staff Report. The sign for the outside signboard should be ready by next week. The San Luis Obispo Community Foundation announced that they would be giving a spring grant. Susan will apply for a grant to cover the costs of a spring docent training. Kathryn Karako reported that she would like to do a small spring training, possibly for not more than 20 trainees. Susan reported on the Hearst Castle Marathon. It seemed to be success, but would probably not provided FES with any monies. Our docents turned out, en masse, and FES was well represented.

Since Steve Franz has been elected Treasurer, he resigned as Secretary of the organization. Ann Grossman was nominated. A motion was made thereon, seconded, and it was unanimously carried that:

RESOLVED: Ann Grossman is the new Secretary of Friends of the Elephant Seal.

The Board reorganization was discussed. Susan will talk with the Manager of the Cambria branch of Heritage Oaks Bank to see if she is interested in the position. The Board should consist of 4 non-docent and 3 docent Board members. A discussion was held on expanding the Board to 9 members. A motion was made in the past on this matter and it was unanimously passed. The by-laws have been amended accordingly.

Ray Easton resigned as Vice President of the Board. Kathryn Karako was nominated for the position. A motion was made thereon, seconded and unanimously passed that:

RESOLVED: Kathryn Karako is the new Vice President of Friends of the Elephant Seal.

Susan McDonald gave an update on the Hearst property situation. A meeting was held with Courtney Brockman, the Hearst Ranch Manager and Roger Lyon, counsel for Hearst Corporation. The signs were approved and will be ordered and put up at Arroyo Laguna, and all vista points south of the designated seal viewing. Both the FES logo and the Hearst Corporation names will be on the signs. FES will be responsible for putting up and maintaining the signs. Extra signs will be made and ordered as needed. There may be a possible trial period of having docents outside the fence at Arroyo Laguna to send people to the proper viewing location. Susan will be having a meeting with Roger Lyon on this matter.

The spring training will be discussed at the next Board meeting with the Board discussing the comments on the training. It was thought that the training will be kept “in-house” and will be one day longer.

Ray Easton suggested that possibly Don Meyers’ daughter, who has worked at Elk Horn Slough, be asked to speak at a docent meeting.

The next docent meeting was discussed. It was thought that possibly we could have it at the Morro Bay Natural History Museum. Ray Easton as asked if he could possibly get a speaker for the docent meeting. The proposed date is Friday, February 23, 2001, 2-4:30 p.m. with dinner following at the Pizza Port in Morro Bay.

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

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ANN GROSSMAN, Secretary

ATTEST:

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MIKE LEVY, President