

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 the Friends of the Elephant Seal, a California Non-Profit Corporation was held on August 14, 2002 at 2:00 p.m. at the Cavalier Plaza meeting room located at 250 San Simeon, California.

The following Directors were present: Bill Johnson, Barbara Hernandez, Steve Franz, Jutta Jacobs, Kathryn Karako, Mike Levy, Jim Devine. Also, present were Judy Burley, recording secretary and guest Michelle Roest.

Before calling the meeting to order, Michelle Roest from the MBNMS updated the Directors on the September 7<sup>th</sup> Celebration. The month long festivities begin with the San Simeon Anniversary Celebration. Michelle gave the Board posters announcing the events and asked that they be placed in the FES office and given to any docents or businesses that would be able to display them also. A copy of which is attached hereto and made a part thereof. The Board agreed to display the posters. Michelle also extended an invitation to the FES docents to attend a wine and cheese tasting before the showing of the Living Edens film at the National Geographic Theater. The invitation was extended in appreciation for the past support of MBNMS by FES.

President Mike Levy called the meeting to order. Mike introduced Jim Devine as a new Board of FES Director. This will be Mikes last meeting as president of the organization. He will continue volunteering at VP3 and in any other capacity that would be asked by FES. Because of family illness, Mike has been unable to keep in touch with other Directors. The meeting was turned over to Steve Franz at this time.

Steve announced the postponement of the fundraiser in October. The Dinner Dance will be held in April of 2003 at the Hearst venue. The committee will continue to plan the event.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that:

RESOLVED: The minutes of the July 17, 2002 meeting are approved.

Item #4 and #8 were pulled from the consent agenda by the board.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that:

RESOLVED: The staff report is approved.

Jutta Jacobs asked if there are increased numbers of visitors to VP3 why is the membership not increasing. Kathryn Karako stated the policy of Cal Trans does not allow for solicitation of memberships at the bluffs. Mike felt the docents

should be able to mention to visitors that by joining the organization would be a way to support it. This should not be a "hard sell" by the docents. Jutta asked that the next docent training include a segment making docents aware that this approach done in the correct manner would be allowed. Kathryn felt everyone has a comfort level about solicitation and this should be noted. Jim Devine noted there is an increase in memberships this year. Kathryn stated the training committee would outreach to local newspapers. The Cambrian will have a future article about FES. Docent attendee Cheryl Giegle suggested an ad in the Cambrian and Tribune appealing for community support. A membership form could also be included in the Cambrian article.

Bill Johnson requested an update on past docent, Steve Johnson. Kathryn explained to docent attendees that this is an ongoing problem and what has transpired in the past. Jutta inquired if Cal Trans could be asked to help with this situation. Kathryn has a meeting set up with Steve Johnson on Monday, August 19. The meeting is at 11:30 a.m. The Board members were asked to also attend. Mike and Jutta agreed to be there also.

No vote was taken on these issues.

Steve gave each Director a Treasurers Report. A copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. Bill asked about the grants. Steve stated no changes could be made without approval from the County.

Steve introduced the 2 new Board Members. Barbara Rice has agreed to join the FES Board. Ken Pyburn is continuing to consider.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that:

RESOLVED: Barbara Rice was approved to become a Director of the Board of the Friends of the Elephant Seal.

A motion was made to extend Mikes term on the FES Board for another 2 years. Mike expressed appreciation and will be glad to stay on. Bill Johnson was nominated to fill the vacancy of the President of the FES Board.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that:

RESOLVED: Mike will continue as a Director of the Board of the Friends of the Elephant Seal for another 2 year term. Bill accepts the position of President of the Board of the Friends of the Elephant Seal.

The revised budget discussion is tabled because there has been a partial postponement of the fundraising events until the spring of 2003.

The discussion of Keep Cambria Pines and the VP 4 Guided Walk program were tabled. The tour of the site was not conducted before the Board Meeting.

At this time, Kathryn stated to the Directors her resignation would be effective and that her last day as Executive Director would be August 20, 2002. There was a motion to accept. The Directors and the audience held an open discussion in attendance. Kathryn was questioned as to why she felt she was not the person to lead the organization. Her background and knowledge of the animals was noted. Kathryn felt it is counter productive to comment on her decision to resign. The group expressed appreciation to Kathryn for all her hard work. A suggestion was made to change to organization from a private non-profit to a public non-profit. It was felt by some in attendance that the group might profit from becoming public. Jutta suggested contacting Bill Raiver, the attorney by FES to explain the benefits of both types of non-profits. The Directors will notify docent Dave Dabritz of any Board Meetings with a discussion of public versus private non-profit issues on the Agenda. Steve will include this issue on the next Agenda. An attendee asked for the 3 people who control the organization. These names may be found in the articles of incorporation, which are available in the FES office. It was noted that a mediation process might help in future similar circumstances. A vote to go to closed session was passed. The discussion of this matter was closed anyone other that the Directors at this point.

A motion was made, seconded an passed that:

RESOLVED: The Directors of the Board of the Friends of the Elephant Seal accept the resignation of Executive Director, Kathryn Karako.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at 3:25 p.m. The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday August 21 at 2:00 p.m. at the Cavalier Plaza meeting room.

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JUDY BURLEY, Secretary

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MIKE LEVY, President