

FRIENDS OF THE ELEPHANT SEAL

P.O. Box 490  
Cambria, Ca. 93428  
805 924-1628

Minutes: Board Meeting, October 16, 2002

Present:

Board Members: Bill Johnson, Steve Franz, Jim Devine, Barbara Rice, Jutta Jacobs, and  
Judy Burley

Advisory Board: Susan McDonald

President, Bill Johnson, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

A closed session was called before the general meeting.

President, Bill Johnson, called the general meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. The minutes of the general meeting held September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2002 were approved as read, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part thereof.

President's report:

1. Regarding the status of the Boardwalk, Bill stated he has made contacts to acquire a minor use permit. Bruce Bonifas from the California Conservation Core will be the builder. He will provide a detailed design to be included with the permit request. The permit will include the North and South ends of the Vista Point. Susan McDonald will give Bill the phone number of an aide to deal with directly. Bill will contact the aide next week. Regina Orr has given Bill a copy of past requests to use as a guide. Susan stated Caltrans might be willing to do the environmental report as an in-kind donation.

2. Bill met with Donna Meyers in Salinas to discuss the possibility of assisting FES with future grant requests. He provided her with information about FES, the budget, and the 5-yr. Plan. He also extended an invitation to her to attend our graduation ceremonies on November 16<sup>th</sup>. Her services will be provided to FES at no cost. Susan will contact her about the application for the Whale's Tail Grant. Steve Franz updated the Directors on the Outreach Grant. \$ 4,500.00 of this grant is for the purchase of equipment for the outreach program. Steve will begin researching the cost of the new equipment. Bill has spoken with John Hofschroer who said the past billings for the Outreach Grant have been acceptable.

Treasurer's report:

Steve's term is up the end of Dec. 2002. FES needs to recruit a replacement as soon as possible to allow Steve to train them. Steve has served FES in 2 areas. The first maintains the Treasures duties. The second is heading any fund raising efforts. The possibility of splitting the duties was discussed. The Fund Raising Committee Chairman to report to the Board will be decided a later date. Steve will bring the matter up at the next Fund Raising Committee meeting. The Treasurer would be the chairperson of the Finance Committee. Jim Devine was nominated as Treasurer; chairman of the Finance Committee. A motion was made, seconded and passed that:

RESOLUTION: Jim Devine will become Treasure of the Finance Committee.

#### Committee Reports:

1. Jim Devine reported to the board that 14 trainees attended the first training session. The first day went well. Kathryn Karako gave the Elephant Seal presentation. The afternoon session included a showing of the Elephant Seal Video. The mentoring has begun this past Monday. Bill will invite Kathy Tanner from the Cambrian to attend the 5<sup>th</sup> graduation of FES docents. It is hoped the event would be included in articles in Countywide newspapers.
2. The Directors have received the Short-Term plan from Bill previously. Bill will need to use it with future contacts and fund raising. The Board will review the plan and vote at the next Board Meeting.
3. The Fund Raising Committee meets the 30<sup>th</sup> of October regarding next year's events. The fund raising mailing sent to local realtors has been expanded to include realtors in the Morro Bay, Cayucos and Los Osos areas. The letter will go out this month. The FES Christmas cards will be sent out the end of November. Included will be a request for donations. Achievement House will be contacted to print and mail them.
4. Jutta Jacobs will contact Achievement House to review the estimates for the newsletters. The single sheet newsletters for use by the docents on the bluff will be ready next week.
5. The date is set for the docent appreciation dinner on Friday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> at the Vet's Hall between 5:30 and 9:30. Steve has an estimate from Linn's for a BBQ to include chicken and country style ribs served buffet style. The estimate would include dinner and a cake for \$ 8.40 per person. Steve will check with Linn's to see if any beverages are included. An additional .50c would be included if a tri tip is substituted for the ribs. The \$ 8.42 includes tax. Volunteers will be needed to set up and tear down. Each docent invitation will include a guest. The Board will be responsible for the labor, because the event is something the Board does for the docents. Mike Levy is the chairperson for the 5<sup>th</sup> docent appreciation dinner. Other items to be discussed later include; table decorations, possibility of a raffle, entertainment. Bill suggested a pin to be given to the docents to commemorate the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Sue Aldridge was suggested to help with the pin design. A plaque for retiring Director Barbara Hernandez should be ordered soon. The docent hour pins need to be ordered by the end of Oct. Judy will compute the hours to date next week.

Special guests to be included are Roy Torres, Michele Roest, John Hofschroer, Mike Hanchett, members of the Advisory Board and Shirley Bianchi. A possible sequence of presentations was discussed. First, an introduction, then the pins given for hours

along with the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary pin, followed by recognition and “stand-up” of committee’s and outreach docents. The last presentation would be of “special people” who have contributed in great way. The docents discussed were Gail Green Sharry Muller, Joan Glassey, and Don Meyers. The Directors will present a list at the next Board meeting.

6. Recruiting of a docent to manage and increase the FES membership is continuing.
7. The Outreach programs are continuing with their current coordinators. The slide show is the program that needs a new coordinator. New equipment needs to be purchased and a training of volunteers needs to be implemented. Carol Bean was suggested as a good candidate.
8. A fax has been sent recently to Marty Cepkauskas last which included the contract with Camp Keep. John Fairweather of Camp Keep will begin tours in late November. Judy needs to post a sign to the docents in the office stating: any school buses, which may show up at the VP3 from Bakersfield, do not need any special tours.
9. The Directors agreed Jutta should contact Nancy Carr about becoming a member of the FES Board. The Board has 6 members at present, with 1 member leaving the first of next year. FES is authorized to have 9 Directors serving on the Board. At a previous Executive Meeting, the idea of an open invitation to all FES docents to become Board members was discussed. Jutta was concerned about the problem of rejection some of the interested docents might have. Susan also felt opening the search up to all docents could be a problem. Bill stated the search for members outside of the docents was continuing. A motion to open the Board member positions to all docents of FES was made. A vote was taken and the open solicitation to docents was not approved. New docent rosters will be mailed to the Directors, so they may nominate docents to be approached by the Board to become members.

Open Discussion: FES has been asked by the New Dawn Center to donate an item to be included in a raffle to be held at their annual fundraiser this November 23. Docent Sharry Muller would be willing to lead a family on a private tour of the bluff. A certificate will be sent which will include a private for 6 people. Judy will complete the request form.

Susan McDonald suggested FES become a member of the Land Conservancy. She stated this is not an advocacy group. They do not speak for or against any projects. Networking with them could have positive results for FES. Susan will provide the office with an application. The Directors discussed the organization and concluded that FES should join. A motion was made, seconded and passed that:

RESOLUTION: FES will become a member of the Land Conservancy.

Jutta mentioned to the Board that the signage at the Vista Point was in need of repair. Judy has contacted Cal trans in the past with no results. Susan suggested contacting Aileen Loe from Cal trans to ask for her help. There are more problems at this time with “holes” at the site. Bob Carr from Cal trans heads the landscaping and will be contacted by the office.

The next general Board meeting will be held at the Cavalier Plaza meeting room on November 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. There will be a closed session meeting before the General meeting at 2:00 p.m. The Board will also meet on November 13 at 10:00 a.m. at the FES office for the Docent Appreciation Dinner Committee meeting.

There being no other business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:54.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Burley

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Judy Burley, Office Coordinator

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Bill Johnson, President

