

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 June 18, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. at the Cavalier Plaza meeting room located at 250 San Simeon.

Directors present: Bill Johnson, Barbara Rice, Jim Devine, Jutta Jacobs and recording secretary Judy Burley. Guests present: Joan Glassey, Ann Grossman

A motion was made, seconded and passed that: The minutes from the May 28, 2003 Board meeting are approved.

Ann Grossman agreed to join the FES Board of Directors. A motion was made, seconded and passed that: Ann Grossman become a member of the FES Board of Directors.

The by-laws of FES state a Director may serve 2 consecutive terms. Jutta Jacobs and Bill Johnson agreed to a second term. A motion was made, seconded and passed that: Bill Johnson and Jutta Jacobs serve a second term as Directors of the FES Board.

Bill reported on the status of the boardwalk. Samples of the material to be used are in the FES office and the docents are voting on their choice of the color. FES has a contract with the County with instructions on billing. The County approved the project on June 6th. There is an appeal period for the County and the Coastal Commission. There should be no problems. In the interim, Bruce Bonifas of CCC is proceeding with the project. The start date is projected for early August. FES will be planning the opening ceremony.

The FES brochure is at Lighthouse Litho and the Board will review the proof when it is ready. Chuck will contact FES.

Jim Devine gave each Director a copy of the balance sheet and the budget. A copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. The membership dues are lagging at present. Judy Burley noted that during the period of transition to the new database and membership coordinator, time had elapsed with no entries. The new system is now in place. A motion was made, seconded and passed that: The Treasurers Report is approved.

There are six new docents who were mentored recently that will be active on the bluff. Jim advised the Board that the new docents will attend the fall training sessions. The training committee will meet in August to decide on the advertising and speakers.

Jutta will do a comparison of the cost of printing the newsletters. She will contact Lighthouse Litho, Achievement House and Silent Partners for the estimates. The comparison will be presented to the Board at a later date. The Board may explore a donor to underwrite the cost of the newsletters in the future.

BLM is ready to open the Piedras Blancas Lighthouse for weekend tours. The inaugural tour will be on June 28th. Supervisor Shirley Bianchi contacted FES to attend the June 28th tour. There will be room for 15 FES members. The Directors will attend. A list of docent hours will be provided to Bill. He will contact the docents with the most hours volunteered and proceed down the list until the space is filled.

The membership mailing list agenda is omitted until the next meeting.

Mark Mueller of Caltrans contacted FES about replacing some of the fencing at VP3 with a cyclone fence. He was asking for permission to do so. The Board decided to decline the offer. Ann thought signage may help with the problem of visitors climbing on and damaging the current fence. The signage could also include a disclaimer about injury if a fall happened while climbing on the fence. Bill will suggest to Mark that signage be placed at the Vista Point. A motion was made, seconded and passed that: FES declines the offer by Caltrans to replace the current fencing with a cyclone fence.

Sign up sheets are in the office for the Docent Pot Luck on July 21 at Camp Ocean Pines. Bill will contact Chris Cameron for permission to serve beer and wine at the event. The Board will provide beer, wine, soda and water. The utensils, plates and napkins will also be provided by the Board. Each docent may bring a guest. Car pooling is suggested because of limited parking. Ann will print postcards for the event which will be mailed to the docents. A motion was made, seconded and passed that: The cost of the supplies for the Docent Pot Luck is covered by the FES budget.

Jutta urged everyone to keep updated on the Hearst Conservation Plan. Because Vista Point 3 may be involved, she felt FES should be kept current on the developments.

Jutta suggested the Board find a source to pay the salary of an Executive Director. Paying the salary for the first year, followed by the Director funding the following years through fundraising was discussed. The Board felt the budget would not cover the cost at this time. The Board suggested forming a committee to explore the cost of an Executive Director and ways to provide the funding. Contacting other non-profits to research this would be beneficial.

Ron Massengill and Michele Roest were suggested as people to contact regarding the cost of hiring a grant writer for FES. Future grant researching will be discussed at a future meeting.

Joan Glassey informed the Board that the Joint Management Action Plan is available for review at the library. FES is mentioned in the report.

An evaluation of Camp Keep will be done and reported at a future Board Meeting. There was a one year contract between FES and Camp Keep. This was the inaugural year and they would like to continue in the future.

The next meeting of the FES Board of Directors will be August 16th at 3:00 p.m. at the Cavalier Plaza meeting room located at 250 San Simeon.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 4:50.

Judy Burley, Recording Secretary

Bill Johnson, President