

**Friends of the Elephant Seal  
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**BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Regular Board Meeting: 2:00p.m. at the Cavalier Conference Room  
Board Members, Advisory Board Members, Guests and Visitors

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Elephant seal, a California non-profit corporation was held on Wednesday, October 15, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. at the Cavalier Plaza meeting room located at 250 San Simeon.

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

A motion was made, seconded and passed that: The minutes from the August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2003 Board meeting are approved.

Bill Johnson notified the Board that the elephant seals are here and the season has begun. The office has contacted the docents who were on the October schedule and they have started bluff shifts.

Last season a German couple visiting the Vista Point found a carrier with \$ 430.00 in it. There was no identification with the money. They took the money to the ranger at Hearst Castle and asked that the money be put to good use. FES docent Bob Stephenson was present when the couple spoke to the ranger. He suggested the amount should be donated to FES. After the appropriate waiting period, California State Parks Ranger , Terese Zilke presented FES with a check for \$ 400.00. Letters of thanks have been sent to all who helped make this possible.

Bill Johnson attended the recent MBNMS SAC meeting held at the Cavalier Plaza. A written report was presented to each member. The report updated the SAC members on this past FES season. Ron Massengil, the southern region representative, will be near the end of his term soon. Michele Roest told the Board that that representation needs to be continued. She felt the yearly presentation from FES was important and helped with the awareness of the local issues.

Dominic Santangelo from CCC contacted Bill and requested FES send a letter of support. Dominic has not presented FES with the needed information prior to FES submitting the letter. Bill will contact Dominic and report to the Board when more information is available.

Jim Devine presented the Board with a Balance Sheet and Budget status. A copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. A motion was made, seconded and passed that: The Treasurers Report is approved.

The Training Committee will update the protocol for mentored docents and present it to the Directors. The current docents in training are a great group and the training will be completed on November 1.

Jutta is working on the bluff and membership newsletters. They should be ready for printing soon. Judy Burley noted that the current printer FES is using is not going to be useful when printing the labels for the membership and upcoming greeting cards. The Board felt a new printer should be purchased. They recommended a color, ink jet. Judy will price them and purchase one in time for the current mailings.

The Boardwalk should be finished near the end of the month. There are currently 10 to 11 people working at the site. The platform at the south end is now being completed. The dedication will be on Friday, November 7th at 2:00 p.m. A reception at the Hamlet will follow. There will be room for the attending docents to bring guests, the office will notify those who have asked. The next docent letter will include another note about the dedication.

Judy attended the MBNMS Oceans Fair, along with 7 other FES volunteers. A table with displays was set up. Michele will have funding each year for this event and will advertise and announce the event earlier. FES donated a cap, book and video for the drawing at the event.

The Board voted to have a Fund Raiser in the Spring of 2004. The Board nominated Ann Grossman to be the Fund Raising Chairperson for the event planned next spring. The Board will decide on a date and the venue in the near future so plans can be made. Bill has contacted Marty Cepkauskas about the possibility of using the Hearst Ranch Dairy Barn. Ann also suggested FES sign up for "Adopt Polling Place". 12 volunteers need to attend a 3 hr training class. They will work at a polling site, 2 of them must be there all day. FES would receive \$ 575.00 for the day. Ann will get further information for the Board.

Ann felt the previously mentioned idea of attending the SLO Farmers Market was a good idea. The cost to set up would be \$ 12.00, and could be done once each quarter. An application must be in 10 days prior to the day of the farmers market. It would be an opportunity to sell items, hand out membership forms and recruit new docents. The Board will consider attending after the first of the year.

Ron Massengil has helped FES in receiving a donation of equipment (receivers) for a station placed at Hearst Castle. The system is not operating yet, Bill will inform the board of the status when he is contacted by the company donating the items.

Judy reported on the status of the membership and the Access Program installed. Jackie has been entering date and has just begun to generate the letters to send to the members. The Fall Greeting Card is being designed by docent Kate Shelley using one of Joan Crowers photographs. Ann will help Judy with the project. A previous discussion and decision to purchase a new printer will allow the mailing of 600 to 1000 labels to be done in the office. The Board prefers to receive the membership report each quarter.

Docent Peter Wolf has spoken with Bill about the railing on the Boardwalk. He was concerned that small children might climb under the one railing that has been placed. FES will contact Bill Raiver about the liability issue and CCC about the cost of placing another board on the railing.

Ken Eberle stated that he still has concerns about the fencing at the Vista Point. The Directors informed Ken of the past offer by Caltrans to replacing some of the fencing with a chain link fence. The Board felt the appearance and erosion concerns would prohibit doing the project. Limiting the area of replacement to just near the parking lot will be investigated. Ken will contact Mark Mueller at Caltrans and report to the Board.

Michele announced that a Fund Raising Workshop will be held on Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at the Piedra Blancas Lighthouse. The FES Directors were invited to join the Friends of the Pedras Blancas Lighthouse at this workshop. Mike Rader, the executive Director of Friends of the Hearst Castle will speak at the workshop. Possible other speakers include Dennis Long from the MBNMS and Joan Cobin.

Michele asked the Board if they wanted to continue in the partnership with the MBNMS in the Arroyo Laguna redirection program. FES has the contract with the Hearst Corporation. The MBNMS has provided paid individuals in the past and FES has provided volunteers. Michele has volunteered to do the scheduling this next season. Signing up for the Arroyo Laguna program will be discussed at the current docent training and will be included in the next docent letter. A sign up sheet will be placed in the office and the names will be sent to Michele. Julie McGuigan, of Caltrans has recommended signage at Arroyo Laguna to redirect traffic to the Vista Point 3 site. There would also be a sign at the Castle with the exact mileage to the Vista Point and one other near the Piedras Blancas Lighthouse. The signs will be large, brown with the wording Elephant Seal Viewing Site ,with the sign at Hearst Castle also stating 6.5 miles to VP3.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_, Judy Burley, recording secretary

\_\_\_\_\_, Bill Johnson, President