

MINTUES 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 December 17, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. at the Cavalier Plaza meeting room located at 250 San Simeon Ave., San Simeon, California.

The following Directors were present: Bill Johnson, Ken Eberle, Jutta Jacobs, Ann Grossman, Barbara Rice, Jim Devine and recording secretary, Judy Burley.

Guest Mark Miebeyer from Camp Ocean Pines was present to discuss a marine mammal seminar they are sponsoring on Feb.6-8, 2004. A letter from Chris Cameron, Director of Camp Ocean Pines was presented to each Board Member. A copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. They are planning on registering from 10 to 30 participants. They would like FES to become a co-sponsor of the event. The Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary will also be a co-sponsor. All attendees of the seminar will be registered with a \$ 15.00 membership to FES. Dr. Burney Le Boeuf will be the guest speaker. FES will provide a slide show presentation, set up a display table at the Cambria Vets Hall at the free lecture by Dr. Le Boeuf; and provide docents at VP3 when the groups from the seminar are present. The participants will visit the FES Visitor Center after viewing the seals at Piedras Blancas. More information regarding the schedule and the number of registrants will follow. It was moved and seconded and passed that: Friends of the Elephant Seal co-sponsor the marine mammal seminar held at Camp Ocean Pines on Feb. 6-8, 2004.

Bill Johnson reported on the success of the recent docent appreciation dinner. A special award was given to FES member Geoff and Susie West. Gail and Shirley Green were on hand to receive the first annual Don Meyers award.

The bluff at the North End of VP3 is very steep and its condition has worsened. Bill will speak with Bruce Bonifas of CCC about the solution to the problem. A committee will be formed after January to explore funding for the project. Short term solutions include: 1. Using caution tape to direct visitors; 2. Docents may ask visitors not to go down if it is not safe; 3. On days of treacherous weather, the gate may be kept closed; 4. Possible signage to warn visitors of the danger; 5. Alert the Hearst Corp. that the danger is increasing and that there is a potential for injury; 6. FES cannot impede surfers and kayakers from access; 7. Direct the Bus Tours and School Groups to the South End of VP3; 8. Inform the docents of the methods that will help to provide safe viewing by visitors. A decision was made to have Ken Eberle obtain the caution tape. The docent letter will include information on procedures when the weather is severe or if seals move

up the ramp at VP3. The letter will also include a note about directing visitors who appear to be at risk to the South End. Bill Johnson will contact Marty Cepkauskas. Further discussion will continue at the next Board Meeting.

The 1 year warranty on the Dell computer has expired. A motion was made, seconded and passed that: FES will not purchase the 3 year warranty extension on the Dell computer at a cost of \$ 229.00.

Kathryn Karako has contacted Bill about permission to use the male skull and e-seal books from the office for her presentation on Friday evenings to the guests at the Cavalier. The Directors agreed to allow the use by Kathryn.

The new edition of the Elephant Seal books will be out in 3 to 4 weeks. FES will not be wholesaling the books. The books will be purchased by FES from Central Coast Books.

A motion was made, seconded and passed: To accept the Treasurers Report; a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Judy Burley reported that the Thanksgiving Card Mailing donations have begun to arrive in the office. The initial cost of approximately \$1,000.00 has been recouped. Judy will report to the Board at the next meeting with an update.

FES has the schedule for Camp KEEP. The program will continue through March. Ken Eberle will arrange for the docents to meet the groups.

Ann Grossman announced that the new Coordinators of the School Group Program will be Richard Lee and Shirley Poulson Lee. Ann is contacting docents to become the captains. Each captain will be responsible for 1 week each month. Joan Glassey and Sharry Muller will meet with Ann, Richard and Shirley to update them on the current procedures

Ken has contacted Mark Mueller of Caltrans about the new fencing. Mark will begin the necessary paperwork and submit the project. Ken will keep the Directors updated on the progress. Judy will contact Caltrans for additional cones to be used at VP3.

Bill stated the date for the Arroyo Laguna information meeting will be January 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The new trainees will view a shift in action. Each shift will be composed of 1 FES volunteer and 1 paid person.

The next meeting will be held at the Cavalier Meeting Room on January 21, 2004 at 2:00 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m. A closed session followed.

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Judy Burley, Recording Secretary

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Bill Johnson, President