

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 February 18th, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. at the Cavalier Plaza meeting room located at 250 San Simeon, California.

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

A motion was made, seconded and passed: The minutes from the January 21st, 2004 Board meeting are approved.

Bill Johnson reported to the Directors that the Arroyo Laguna program is winding down. There are 2 weekends till completion.

The 2004 Environmental Awards Nomination Form from San Luis Obispo County has been completed and given to Michele Roest. Michele will nominate FES. The form is due by March 1, 2004.

The Directors chose the date of Friday, April 2 for the next Docent Potluck. The time will be from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Judy Burley will contact Camp Ocean Pines to see if their facility is available on that date. If that is not possible, then the Cambria Vet's Hall will be contacted. A sign up sheet for food will be placed in the office. The potluck will be mentioned in the next docent letter.

The Camp Ocean Pines Marine Mammal Seminar was successful. As co-sponsors, FES was presented with a check for \$ 500.00. This amount represents the individual memberships for the participants included in their tuition. Ann Grossman and Michele gave a slide show presentation on Friday evening. Ann discussed the FES organization and the VP3 site. The participants were met at the viewing area on Saturday by several FES docents. Dr. LeBoueff gave a presentation on Saturday at the Cambria Vet's Hall. The presentation was open to the public. The Seminar will be held again.

Brent Allen, a Cal Poly student, gave Bill a copy of his report entitled "VISITOR CHARACTERISTICS, VISITATION PATTERNS, AND MOTIVATIONS OF VISITORS VIEWING ELEPHANT SEALS AT PIEDRAS BLANCAS". Bill has reviewed the report and recommended that it be placed in the docent library.

After reading a short manuscript sent to FES from David Brown of Rhode Island, it was decided by the Directors that it was not an item that could be used by the organization. It will be returned to David with a note thanking him.

Jim Devine presented the Treasurers report. A copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. A recent inquiry from Ron Massengil, MBNMS Representative, about the possibility of FES completing an application for funding opportunities in environmental education was discussed by the Board. A copy of the MBNMS announcement is attached hereto and made a part hereof. At this time there is no individual available for grant writing. The Board will discuss locating and funding a grant writer at a future meeting. A motion was made, seconded and passed: The treasurer's report is approved.

Camp KEEP will complete their sessions next week. Ken Eberle has been scheduling the volunteers. It has been difficult to fill the shifts each weekend. The program will need a greater number of volunteers next year.

Mark Mueller from Cal Trans is not optimistic about new fencing at VP3 in the near future. Because of the States budget problems, the fencing will probably be put on hold. Mark will check the areas that need repair. He has provided additional cones at the Vista Point. The temporary solution of tape and cones has helped the situation at the North End.

Ann has received approval from Mary Cepkauskas for FES to again use the Hearst warehouse for the April fundraising event. A band has been hired and Testa has agreed to do the catering. The solicitation letters to the wineries have been mailed. Inserts for the San Luis Obispo, Cambria and Morro Bay Chambers mailings have been printed and will be included in their next monthly issues. The cost of the tickets this year will be \$ 65.00. There will be tickets for 175 guests. Docent Dave Brown will emcee the live auction. A silent auction, a raffle and FES logo items for sale will be additional fundraising efforts at the event. The committee will begin soliciting for items for the auctions.

A booth was set up by FES at the SLO Farmers Market and was attended by Bill and Judy. The effort was not successful. There were few sales and not enough interest in memberships to warrant continued attendance.

Marcie & Kari Liekko and Bill & Pat Johnson participated in a training session for the Adopt a Poll program. Ann has mailed schedules to all of the FES volunteers who will be working at the precinct assigned to FES.

The membership report, a copy of which is attached and made a part hereof, included a suggestion that the membership dues be re-evaluated at the next printing of membership cards. The amounts have not been increased since the memberships were initiated. Judy stated there has been an increase of 129 new and renewed memberships

since the last report in October of 2003. A mailing to expired memberships was included in the November 2003 donation requests.

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

Judy Burley, Recording secretary

Bill Johnson, President
