

**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 March 16, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. at the Cavalier Plaza meeting room located at 250 San Simeon.

Directors present: Bill Johnson, Jim Devine, Ann Grossman, Ken Eberle, Barbara Rice, Carol Bean, Mary Lee Becwar, Joan Crowder, Richard Lee and recording secretary, Judy Burley.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that: The minutes from the Feb. 16, 2005 Board meeting are approved.

The Directors discussed possible uses for the Power Point presentation put together by Kate Shelley. It could be used as an addition when applying for future grants. Mary Lee Becwar suggested using it during the docent training sessions in the fall. Kate Shelley presented the Power Point to the American Cetacean Society in Long Beach. They requested a copy for their use. The Board decided it would be used by FES only. No copies will be given to other organizations requesting one. A motion was made, seconded and passed that: The FES Power Point Presentation will be restricted to usage by FES.

Ann Grossman has revised the Stranded Seal Protocol after information received from Carole Adams. Docents recently found 5 seals in the north end of the parking lot. One of the docents had been trained with the boards by the Marine Mammal Rescue Center in the past. The boards were used and the seals were moved. The Directors will continue to recommend that the Marine Mammal Rescue Center be contacted and the seals should not be moved by FES. This is the current FES Stranded Seal Protocol. A sign will be placed on the boards used for rescue that they not be used by FES docents.

FES has recently received an offer by Dean McCully to get an online membership system up and running for FES. The Directors would like to investigate any costs to FES before establishing the site. Ann will contact Dean and report back to the Board.

FES has been invited to participate in the Atascadero Zoo "Earth Day" and the Cambria Community Centers "Kid O Rama". Both events will be held on Saturday, April 16th. The Board agreed to set up a booth at both events. Judy will send the applications and coordinate the supplies.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that: The Treasurer's Report is accepted as presented. A copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

There have been 103 tickets sold for the Sunset at San Simeon fundraiser. The committee will close the ticket sales at 150. Ann is working with the caterer and Carol Bean is assisting with the decorations. The Silent Auction items have been received and will be stored at Pat Johnson's home. The Directors suggested selling raffle tickets to all docents. A note will be placed in the next docent letter and the raffle tickets will be available in the FES office. Wine solicitations are continuing by Ken Eberle and Ray Hopkins.

The Training Committee met last week. There are currently 3 spring applicants. The committee is in the process of interviewing them. They will receive a full fall packet and will be encouraged to read the material carefully. Phil Adams has agreed to give a talk to the spring applicants at the Vista Point. The 2005 training schedule is now updated. The new docents will be asked to commit to 4 shifts each month.

The spring newsletter is now complete and is in use. Gail Green will be distributing them to the local motels. Darlene Cho is currently working on the next Membership Newsletter.

The next docent meeting will be a pizza dinner at the Cambria Vet's Hall on Wed. March 30th. Ann will contact Woodies for the pizza and Judy will purchase the desserts at Smart and Final. Bill has some beverages on hand and suggested purchasing beer and wine. A final count will be done the week of the event.

Judy will contact Caltrans about providing no solicitations signs for the Vista Point. Vendors are continuing to attempt to set up and sell their items in the parking lot. Judy will also contact State Parks about providing their Please Do Not Feed signage for the Vista Point. The temporary signs do not hold up well.

The office will be updating the docent packs. The emergency numbers and emergency care facilities will be on a laminated sheet for easy access. The dive chart, tag colors and migration chart will also be on an individual laminated sheet. The photo journals will now be used for Joan Crowder's series of elephant seal pictures. For any emergency that does not require a 911 call, the local emergency care facilities phone and address will be available.

There was an increase of about 40 renewal and new FES memberships in 2004. The increase in memberships added \$ 2,500.00 to the income from memberships for the year 2004. Judy suggested a business member campaign to increase their membership numbers. Steve Franz sent out a new business member solicitation letter 2 years ago. Ann and Judy will begin the development of a letter after the April fundraiser.

The April Board meeting will be held on April 20th at 2:00 p.m. at the Cavalier Plaza meeting room. There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Judy Burley, recording secretary

Ann Grossman, President