

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 July 27, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. at the Cavalier Plaza meeting room located at 250 San Simeon.

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

Guest Michele Roest from the MBNMS and Nick Franco from California State Parks were present. Michele presented the Directors with information regarding the NOAA California Signage Plan. A copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. A tentative amount has been designated for the replacement of the informational signage at VP3. The MBNMS has hired a graphic designer for placement of uniform informational signage in the Sanctuary. FES will review the existing signs. A list of the proposed signage FES would prefer will be presented to Michele. This preliminary list will be presented to Michele by August 9<sup>th</sup>. The information will be interpretive. Warning and regulatory signs will be provided by California State Parks. The actual text of the signage will need to be provided to the Sanctuary by the end of August.

Nick informed the Board that the state budget has passed and there will be 7 new positions allocated. FES will be contacted by the Interpretive Ranger who will be handling the education for the 13 miles of coast line. There will be one ranger who will be the single point of contact for FES. There may be funding available for completion of the boardwalk at the north end of VP3. There will be meetings this fall for public input.

Cal Trans has the scenic easement at VP3. Nick suggested FES contact Cal Trans regarding placement of trash cans, public restrooms, etc. at the Vista Point. The Board will discuss these issues at a later date. Nick will be included on the list of individuals who receive upcoming agendas by email.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that: The minutes from the June 15, 2005 Board meeting are approved as corrected.

The Board agreed to meet on Wednesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> in the FES office to discuss the changes to be made to the interpretive signs at VP3. Ann will confirm the date by email to the Board.

Ann will attend the SAC meeting on Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup> in Cambria. She will give statistics on FES fundraising, docent activities, the school group and outreach programs, newsletter, counts for visitors to the bluff and docent hours recorded.

Jim Devine presented the Directors with a financial report. A copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. FES will begin a campaign to increase the number of memberships by local businesses.

The Training Committee will hold a meeting on August 16<sup>th</sup>. Mary Lee Becwar announced that committee member Bob Grosse will be on the Dave Congleton radio show to discuss FES and the upcoming training session. Joan Crowder's article ran in the Cambrian. Joan will continue to submit articles about the FES training until the end of September. The Board will be introduced to the docent trainees at the first training session on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Ann will contact Supervisor Shirley Bianchi with the names of the trainees just prior to the interviews.

The Newsletter Committee will have the bluff newsletter ready in October. Joan told the Directors the Committee will complete the bluff and membership newsletter at the same time.

Ken Eberle attended the Conservation Working Group Cambria Meeting on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Ken stated it was a diverse group. He introduced himself and answered questions about FES and the seals. Many of the attendee's were from San Francisco. The group met to wrap up the identification of issues for the SAC meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> of August.

Judy will investigate the email recently received from PayPal. The online membership has not been initiated; however the email states an account has been opened. She will report to the Board at a later date.

Kate Shelley has suggested the equipment for the power point presentation be purchased at Best Buy. She has done a cost comparison. Ann will begin purchase of the items Kate has recommended. The amount is estimated at \$ 1,600.00 for the notebook- technical items and \$ 1,000.00 for the projector. The funds for the purchase will be entered under the Toyota Donation that FES received. A motion was made, seconded and passed that: FES purchase equipment for the power point presentation.

Judy gave the Board an estimate of \$4.00 to \$5.00 for each docent pin. The pins were designed by Kate Shelley and will be purchased at Lighthouse Litho. They will be given to each docent at the appreciation dinner. Judy will forward a request for a donation from SLO County Community Project Grant to cover the cost of the pins. Ken will contact Kit Hansen to ask if the Bronco Chorus is available to perform at the docent appreciation dinner.

The August Board meeting will be held on August 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.; a closed session will follow the meeting. There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

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Judy Burley, recording secretary

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Ann Grossman, President

