

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
FRIENDS OF THE ELEPHANT SELA  
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 Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. at the Cavalier Plaza meeting room located a 250 San Simeon.

Directors present: Joan Crowder, Mary Lee Becwar, Richard Lee, Ken Dunn, Dave Dabritz, Sue Boudreau, Brandt Kehoe and recording secretary, Judy Burley. Also present: Ca. State Parks Ranger, Leander Tamoria and Public Information Officer for Ca. State Parks, Dan Eller.

Dan Eller spoke to the Directors about the role the media can play in getting the FES mission statement out to the public without addressing issues that do not pertain to educating the public about elephant seals. This conversation directly relates to the elephant seals that have been found recently on or near Highway 1. Leander and the Directors agreed that a statement should be released to the docents advising them on what they can do when someone from the media approaches them at the viewing area. Recently there have been more docents contacted in this way. The media is bypassing the office and going directly to the bluff to interview the docent on duty that day. Mary Lee will put together the statement and it will be issued to the docents. The docents will be directed to contact Leander Tamoria at 927-2166 when they feel there is a need. FES should be thinking of the media as a conduit to getting our message out. Dan also suggested that FES follow each interview with a thank you to the reporter or news organization. The FES media packet should be updated.

Treasurer, Jerome Passman could not attend the meeting. He did provide the Directors with an estimate on the previously discussed mileage reimbursement for the docents. The reimbursement will be included on the agenda for the next board meeting.

Richard Lee spoke to the Board about the Sunset at San Simeon fundraiser which will be held on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Items for auction are still coming in; however the committee will continue soliciting local businesses.

Judy Burley gave the Directors a copy of the FES Committee Roster which contained the chairperson's name and roster of volunteers. The Committee Chairs will ask for volunteers from the docent roster as needed. The Power Point Outreach Program is in need of new members. A note was put in the docent letter asking for help. A request has been made by a few organizations that would require traveling. FES will be able to provide a docent for the recent requests from Malibu and Pismo Beach. The requests will be evaluated as they are received. There will be training in the future for the power point program. It will also be a review for the current FES presenters also.

The billing forms for the State Coastal Conservancy are in place. The billing will be done at the end of each quarter. Each Committee with a designated amount to be billed to the grant should monitor the amounts as presented at the Board meetings to keep their purchases allowed near the amount allotted by CCC.

The next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. at the Cavalier lower conference room. There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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Mary Lee Becwar, President

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Judy Burley, Recording Secretary