

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
FRIENDS OF THE ELEPHANT SEAL
A California Nonprofit Corporation

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Elephant Seal, A California nonprofit corporation was held on Wed. March 19th, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. at the Cavalier Plaza meeting room located at 250 San Simeon.

Directors Present: Mary Lee Becwar, Ken Dunn, Jerome Passman, Sue Boudreau, Joan Crowder, Dave Dabritz, Kathy Hurrle, Brandt Kehoe, Richard Lee and Judy Burley, recording secretary. Guests present: Ca. State Parks Supervising Ranger, Leander Tamoria.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that: The minutes from the February 2008 Board meeting are approved.

FES was referred to RSVP which is a nonprofit from SLO that provides volunteer information to local seniors. They have a program available to other nonprofits that will provide mileage reimbursement and coverage by a liability and personal accident insurance while they are volunteering. The FES docents would need to join RSVP to obtain the benefits. FES would agree to allow RSVP to use the hours the FES docents volunteer in their grant applications. Judy has contacted the organization and arranged for their Executive Director to speak to the FES Directors at the April Board meeting. The Board would like more information on the ability of FES and RSVP to report the same docent volunteer hours.

The SASS fundraiser in March raised \$ 15,000.00. Richard Lee suggested a gift to the coordinator of the event. He will research the cost of a bowl or vase with the FES logo. He will report to the board at the next meeting.

The recent docent letter included information on the VP3 visitor count. It has increased since last year. Kathy Hurrle will send the office information on the correct procedure for "counting". This information will be added to the next docent letter. The Board would prefer that the database for these numbers be changed from visitor counts to visitor contacts.

Brandt Kehoe has included information on this seasons pup mortality on the FES website. It was suggested that the docents be encouraged to visit the website for the current information posted by Brandt.

The office has received phone calls about the elephant seals found on HWY 1. A discussion followed about the first calls to make when this happens. The organizations that respond are Ca. State Parks, Cal trans, MMC and Brian Hatfield. The Directors would like Judy to call Brian Hatfield to ask if he would agree to be the first call.

Mary Lee Becwar was concerned about the reports about elephant seal harassment at the Piedras Blancas Motel. Leander Tamoria stated that Cal trans will probably hold off on any signage at this time for safety reasons.

Jerome Passman gave each Director a copy of the profit and loss report. A copy of which is attached hereto and made a copy hereof. A motion was made, seconded and passed that: The Treasurers Report is approved.

Kathy Hurre informed the Board that docent Jim Brownell has joined the FES training committee. There are currently 2 spring trainees with a possible 2 more applicants. There will be a meeting on April 4th for the training committee mentors. Kathy suggested that the committee establish a more stringent procedure for applicants chosen. Leander suggested a 6 month follow up and evaluation for each trainee. The trainees should be informed at the beginning of the training that they will be evaluated.

Judy discussed future printing of the membership card and tri fold brochure. A sample of the membership card has been sent to Ca. State Parks for possible printing. Judy will get estimates for the printing of the tri fold. FES will order a smaller quantity of each. At this time the Directors decided the membership amounts should remain the same.

The FES office has been contacted by Drew Wharton about a possible premiere of the DVD, A Seal's Life. Since it has already been shown to local residents at the Camp Ocean Pines presentation this winter, the Board chose to decline organizing the event.

Leander brought the latest example of the sign boards for VP3. He asked that the Directors review them and suggest any changes. The information will need to be sent to Leander or Mike Conley by next Tuesday. The Board will send any suggestions to the office and Judy will forward this information to Mike by the deadline.

The next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday April 16th, 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.

Mary Lee Becwar, President

Judy Burley, Recording Secretary