

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF FRIENDS OF THE ELEPHANT SEAL

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Elephant Seal (FES) a California non-profit corporation was held on Wed. January 21st, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at the Cavalier Plaza meeting room located at 250 San Simeon.

Directors present: Mary Lee Becwar, Sue Boudreau, Ken Dunn, Kathy Hurre, Jim Brownell, Megg McNamee, Brandt Kehoe and recording secretary, Judy Burley.
Guests: FES Advisor, P.J. Webb and Ca. State Parks Supervising Ranger, Leander Tamoria.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that: The minutes from the November 19th, 2008 FES Board meeting are approved.

Mary Lee Becwar and Ken Dunn discussed the recent suspension of the State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) grant and the impact on future FES planning. Tim Duff from the SCC will be unable to attend any upcoming FES Board meetings. A future conference call between the FES Directors and Tim was suggested at a future time. The FES Directors will continue discussing candidates as possible coordinators for a Strategic Planning session to be held in April, May or June of this year. P.J. Webb suggested contacting Dale Magee, Catalyst Consulting, to inquire about her availability to attend the session and the amount of her fees. Mary Lee will email the Board with Dale Magee's response.

The Docent Appreciation Dinner was well attended last week. The Directors read the thank you card sent by Carole and Phil Adams. Moving the time of the event and starting with appetizers was successful. The Board will continue to acknowledge the docents each year who have been with the organization 10 years.

The Operations Guidelines have been revised. The Board reviewed the additions and suggested the guidelines be sent to each docent along with the Media Protocol update written by Joan Crowder. Joan will maintain the Media information and requests that the office receives from the press.

At the next board meeting, Diana Teetzel will give the Board an update on the progress of the Sunset at San Simeon dinner/dance that will be held on March 28th @ 5:00 p.m.

Megg McNamee gave each Director a copy of the balance sheet and profit & loss comparison. A copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. The FES accountant, Bob Stimmel, has suggested some changes to the accounts to streamline the reporting. Meg, Judy and Bob met this week and will implement the changes. A newer version of QuickBooks will also be installed. The Board also discussed changing the FES membership in PayPal to a business account. Brandt Kehoe will make the addition

of a “donate” button on the website. Prior to the meeting, Judy sent each Director information on opening a business account with Pay Pal. A motion was made, seconded and passed that: Friends of the Elephant Seal upgrade their existing PayPal account to a business account and add a donation section to the FES website.

Kathy Hurrel and the Training Committee will meet with the fall 2008 trainees for an update. They will add a coaching program for these docents as a follow up to their training and recent bluff duty. 3 new winter trainees have joined the program. They will attend the fall training sessions in October.

The Board discussed a guided walk program on the property at VP4. This program would be in-line with our mission. An outline would need to be developed. The Directors agreed to discuss this at a future meeting.

The next FES Board meeting will be held on February 18th at 1:00 in the Cavalier Plaza meeting room. There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. A closed session followed.

Mary Lee Becwar, President FES Board of Directors

Judy Burley, recording secretary