

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. June 16, 2010 at 1 p.m. at the Cavalier Plaza meeting room located at 250 San Simeon Ave.

Directors Present: Brandt Kehoe, Sandra Kehoe, Megg McNamee, Kathy Hurrle, Jim Brownell  
Non-voting attending: Judy Burley, Marcella Boteilho, Joan Crowder, recording secretary

Marcella Boteilho, who has been hired as FES office manager, was introduced.

The minutes of the April meeting were approved.

Brandt Kehoe, president, suggested that FES host a celebration when the boardwalk at the north viewing site is completed, tentatively in October. That may also be an opportunity to celebrate the one millionth visitor. Jim Brownell offered to pursue the plan and enlist the help of George Larson, who was not present.

Brandt Kehoe reported that he had given an interpretive presentation to the California Conservation Crew that is working on the new boardwalk.

A request for interpretive talks at San Simeon State Park has been received from State Parks. Jim Brownell and Ramona and Jim Voge will follow up.

The Cambria Nursery and Harmony Cellars fundraiser for FES on June 26 will include live music and chair massage. Admission is \$5 with proceeds going to FES. Admission will include a raffle ticket for items provided by the nursery, winery and FES. Megg McNamee will put together a bag of FES items. Bob Wilkins will man a table.

Megg McNamee presented the treasurer's report. She noted that income from the tubes and donation table has boosted the bottom line of FES income. Judy Burley reported that Adopt-a-Poll and in-kind contributions have also helped. Megg and Judy agreed that PayPal was difficult to deal with and Judy suggested that FES quit using it. She will explore getting an 800 number to help with ordering.

Kathy Hurrle gave a report on the training committee. Eleven prospective docents have been interviewed, including the six who completed spring training. She reported that a committee had recommended restructuring the mentoring process to put more emphasis on the mentor-trainee interaction. It was suggested that the mentor focus on the trainee on mentoring days rather than just docenting while the trainee observes. More docents will be needed on mentoring days for this reason. An outreach program for mentors will be designed to explain the new system.

Judy Burley reported that new jackets had come in and she will organize distribution to those whose jackets are worn out or faded.

Ideas for a docent meeting in July were discussed. It was suggested that Phil Adams talk about new information about the seals and/or Tom Parsons talk about sharks. July 31 was the tentative date.

Judy mentioned the need for some new office equipment, and board members will look into what is needed and available.

Judy reported on the progress in spending grant money and the need for more accurate recording of in-kind donations.

Megg McNamee reported on a meeting of the fundraising committee. Ideas had been suggested for changing the fundraiser. Charmaine Coimbra had suggested a soup, wine, cheese and olive tasting. The wineries and restaurants would pay to participate and admission would be paid at the gate. Music or a concert could be included. The idea of changing the date to summer was discussed.

The board voted to extend Megg McNamee's term on the board for another year. It will extend to July 2011.

Kathe Hurre suggested that talks at the Vets' Hall could be coordinated with the Light Station and/or Discover Center

A closed session was held to discuss possible candidates to fill Kathe Hurre's position on the board when her term expires in July. There is also another vacancy on the board. It was decided that Brandt Kehoe would ask Donovan Marley and Tim Postiff if they were interested in being on the board.

The next board meeting will be held at 1 p.m. July 21, 2010.

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Brandt Kehoe, president

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Joan Crowder, recording secretary