

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

A meeting of the Board of Directors of Friends of the Elephant Seal (FES), a California non-profit corporation, was held on Wed. Sept. 15, 2010 at 1 p.m. at the Cavalier Plaza meeting room located at 250 San Simeon Ave.

Directors present: Jim Brownell, Ken Dunn, Brandt Kehoe, Sandra Kehoe, George Larson, Megg McNamee, Ken Dunn, Donovan Marley and Tim Postiff and recording secretary Joan Crowder and office manager Marcella Boteilho.

The minutes of the Aug. 18, 2010 board meeting were corrected for a typo and accepted.

Brandt Kehoe reported that the walkway at the north end is 70 percent complete and expected to be finished by the end of October.

He has a meeting scheduled with Doug Barker and Tom Edick (information technology) of State Parks regarding the webcam. It has been proposed that they do the installation. If so, it would give us a resident maintenance person. It was suggested that monitors be put at the Hearst Castle Visitor Center, the Morro Bay Natural History Museum and the Coastal Discovery Center. Brandt said that, when we install the system, we may have to pay \$500 to the original designer.

Brandt is trying to get in touch with Donna Schaff to invite her to speak about the Humboldt squid at the October 30 docent meeting.

Marcella Boteilho reported for Michele Roest, who could not attend the meeting. Michele attended the event to honor nominees for the Community Impact Award. The award will be announced at a banquet on December 2 at the Monarch Club in Nipomo.

Donovan Marley reported on plans for a FES membership drive. He is exploring ideas for increasing membership and will meet with Marcella and Diana Teetzal on October 1 to use new software to determine how to restructure the membership system.

Megg McNamee deferred the treasurer's report to Marcella Boteilho who explained that she is revising bookkeeping methods, especially as they involve including sales tax on the donation table and SASS income.

Tim Postiff reported that there are 19 or 20 trainees for the fall session so far and Marcella said more applications are coming in.

George Larson reminded the board of the mentoring meeting Sept. 18 to discuss new methods of mentoring and announced that another meeting might be set up for mentors who were unable to attend that meeting.

Docents and others from the Discovery Center, State Parks, and the light station have been invited to attend training sessions.

Tim announced that two new educational items have been added to the docent packs. One identifies plants and snakes, and the other converts elephant seal facts to metric values. A third piece on the MPA and Marine Sanctuary will also be added.

He reported that the training materials were ready. The black and white portion printed by MBNMS and color by Megg McNamee.

Brandt said he will add the Coastal Discovery Center to the FES partners list on the newsletter.

Charmaine Coimbra, head of the fundraising committee, gave a detailed report on considerations for rethinking the annual fundraising event, suggesting changing the venue, the date and the nature of the event, and making it more affordable for FES members. She will meet with Megg McNamee, Mary Lee Becwar and perhaps others to pursue some ideas. They will form an exploratory committee to consider the options and details. The Cayucos Party Barn was suggested as a possible venue, as well as wineries.

The board discussed how to honor Kathy Hurrell for her service on the board and especially as chairman of the training committee. It was suggested that she be invited to speak at the Oct.30 docent event and be honored at that time.

Marcella reported that the new FES brochure was in the final stages and would soon be ready. She also said she is still working on the possibilities of using Tech Soup.

Megg McNamee announced that the keypad lock has been received and she is working on the details of using it—what code to use, etc.

The next board meeting will be held on Wed. Oct. 20, 2010.

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BRANDT KEHOE, president

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Joan Crowder, recording secretary