

Friends of the Dunes Board Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2007, Humboldt Area Foundation, 7-9pm

Board Members: Bill Weaver, John St. Marie, Larry Oetker, Mike Wilson, Karen Meynell, Frances Madrone, Rob Kuhnel

Staff: Carol Vander Meer, Emily Walter

Public: Nora Winge, Dave Weinstein, Nancy Ihara, Kash Boodjeh, Amy Kocourek

January Agenda

- I. Introduction of guests present
- II. Approval of January minutes
- III. Public input
- IV. Stamps Project – Kash Boodjeh
- V. Land Trust Update
- VI. Update on becoming a NEC member
- VII. Ma-le’l Dunes Cooperative Management Area
- VIII. Board Financials
- IX. Election of new Treasurer
- X. Board Development
- XI. Announcements
- XII. March Agenda Items
- XIII. Closed Session: Evaluation of Executive Director

I. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Dave Weinstein & Nancy Ihara are potential FOD board members.
Kash Boodjeh is the architect for the Stamps house.
Amy is a representative of the Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

An “s” needs to be added to Frances Madrone’s name under Roman numeral II.

John motioned for approval of January minutes as corrected, 2nd from Karen, all present were in favor. Minutes from January were approved.

III. PUBLIC INPUT

None

IV. STAMPS PROJECT (Kash Boodjeh presenting)

Good news:

The structure of the Stamps house is okay. Kash personally feels that this house is the perfect fit as a visitor center and office for FOD.

Suggestions:

- Plaster is peeling off inside walls due to bad moisture management and rusting wire mesh. The plaster and mesh should be removed and a stain should be applied.

- Lowering the floor of the building and adding radiant heat flooring will help with space, heating, and moisture issues.
- Better road access would be an improvement.

V. LAND TRUST

Conceptual Area Plan (See Map):

- The Map depicts the larger scope of dune conservation on the north spit, showing parcels adjacent to the Stamps property that could possibly be purchased for conservation in the future.

Miller Update

- Rondall Snodgrass (Environmental Consultant) is currently looking for conservation buyers to purchase the Miller property (23.4 acres). FOD is planning on entering into a contract for purchase of the property. A board vote on this is expected via email.

Feasibility Study Status

- All elements of the study are complete except an estimated cost of the initial moving in and opening of the building to the public.

ACTION: Mike and Carol will create a Scope of Work for Kash so that he can make estimates of costs to move into the building.

Community Campaign update

- Campaign solicitation letters were sent out the first week of February.
- Currently working on putting together house parties to get major donors.

VI. BECOME NEC MEMBER?

Carol investigated to see if there is a formally written scope of responsibilities for organization NEC board members. There currently are none.

ACTION: Ron will look into speaking with other NEC organization board members to get their feedback on what it entails to be a board member.

VII. MA-LE'L DUNES COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT AREA

Public information Meeting

- A public meeting will be held at the Manila Community Center on Feb. 8, 2007 to review the Ma-le'l Dunes Draft Public Access Plan. FOD is being contracted to implement the meeting.
- There will be a 30-day comment period starting Feb. 2.
- The complete plan is available on the FOD website.

Status of Project Management Contract

- If the Draft Public Access Plan is agreed upon the Coastal Conservancy Board could approve FOD as the project Manager at their March 8th meeting. This would include \$175,000 of implementation funds for Phase I, as listed in the access plan.
- Completion of Phase I will help get Ma-le'l north open to the public.
- Pamela Bell (FOD Bookkeeper) and Emily Walter are both interested in working on implementing Phase I as a team.

VIII. BOARD FINANCIALS

See Hand-outs

IX. ELECTION OF NEW TREASURER & SECRETARY

Larry resigned from his position as Secretary.

Mike nominated Larry Oetker to be the FOD Treasurer. 2nd from Frances, all present were in favor.

Mike nominated Frances Madrone to be the FOD Secretary. 2nd from John, all present were in favor.

X. BOARD DEVELOPMENT

- Ron Kuhnel, voted on the board at January's board meeting, is in attendance. Two potentially interested board members are in attendance and are planning on submitting applications. Still looking for 1-2 more potential members.
- A vote of new board members will happen at the March meeting.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- There was one well attended Sand Sculpture Festival meeting in January and a second will be held Feb. 9th, 12:30 at Mosgos in Arcata.
- The 29th Annual Lupine Bash will be held at the Lanphere Dunes on Feb. 24th.
- Job announcement for FOD Development Assistant has been distributed.
- The Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge is currently in the beginning stages of its Comprehensive Conservation Plan. The first public meeting to gather public input for this plan will be held Feb. 15, 5:30-8pm, Student Union Building at College of the Redwoods, and also on Feb. 17th, 2:30-5pm in the conference room at the HAF.

ACTION: Larry has volunteered to attend one of these meetings as an FOD representative.

XII. MARCH AGENDA ITEMS

- Elections
- Ma-le'i Project Management Update
- Land Trust Update
- Larry Update on HBNWR CCP public meeting
- Discussion of the need of a conservation committee

XIII. CLOSED SESSION: EVALUATION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

XIV. OPEN SESSION: EVALUATION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The board recommends moving Carol to the 3rd year wage scale for the position of ED

Carol commented on needed improvements

- Database management
- New Computer
- Larger office space in the near future

ADJOURN
9:13pm