

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

Board Members: Bill Weaver, John St. Marie, Larry Oetker, Mike Wilson, Karen Meynell, Frances Madrone, Rob Kuhnel, Michelle Forys, Pam Zeutenhorst, Rose Patenaude, Tamara Gedik

Staff: Emily Walter, Melinda Booth

Public: Nora Winge, Nancy Ihara, Amy Kocourek, John Stokes

January Agenda

- I. Introduction of guests present
- II. Approval of February minutes
- III. Public input
- IV. Miller Contract
- V. Land Trust Update
- VI. Board Development - elections
- VII. Staff Report
- VIII. Update on becoming an NEC member
- IX. Report on Refuge CCP process
- X. Board Financials
- XI. Announcements
- XII. April Agenda Items

I. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

John Stokes

II. Approval of minutes

Larry motioned for approval of the February minutes, 2nd from Michelle, all present were in favor. Minutes from February were approved.

III. PUBLIC INPUT

- None

IV. MILLER CONTRACT

John Stokes discussed the contract and answered questions from the board.

- The contract is binding to buy the Miller property with an appraisal value of \$165,000 or higher by December 31, 2007.
- Once the contract is signed FOD will put down a \$500 deposit towards the purchase of the property. This is the only loss FOD will incur if the purchase does not go through.
- A grant is covering the cost of the appraisal.

ACTION: Tom Stokes will change the contact on the contract from Lisa Hoover to Carol Vander Meer.

Larry motions to approve the contract and to allow John Stokes and Rondall Snodgrass to negotiate up to a \$1000 deposit, 2nd from Mike, all present in favor. Motion passes.

V. LAND TRUST

- John went to a City of Arcata Greenspace meeting. The group has no interest in bay/coastal dune land.
- FOD should be on the May agenda of the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) meeting where a decision of granting FOD money for acquisition of Miller/Stamps/Bachofer properties will be considered.

ACTION: Carol will follow up to get a set date for the grant review by WCB.

ACTION: Carol will get status of bridge loans.

Feasibility Report Status

- The feasibility study is complete with the review of building/Site Cost Estimates.
- Mike suggests there will most likely be an additional \$150,000 in contingency costs.

VI. BOARD DEVELOPMENT

Elections

Mike nominated Dave Weinstein to the FOD Board, 2nd from Pam, all present were in favor. Nomination passes.

Mike nominated Nancy to the FOD Board, 2nd from Larry, all present were in favor. Nomination passes.

Pam motions to renew John St. Marie, Bill Weaver, and Michelle Forsys for one more year on the board in their current offices, 2nd from Karen, all present were in favor. Nominations pass.

Orientation

ACTION: Karen will help compile board orientation packets including committee chair contacts and yearly calendar of events.

- Nora is working on getting the FOD “board room” website updated with all board committee materials, including items such as the bylaws.
- Larry suggested breaking the orientation process into short sessions at multiple board meetings instead of everything at once.
- Mike suggested having Carol conduct an orientation with new board members previous to their first board meeting to go over basic logistics.

VII. STAFF REPORT

New Staff

- Melinda Booth is the new Development Assistant
- Joline Pire is the new temporary Ocean Day Assistant working with Maggie.

Ma-le'l Dunes Cooperative Management Area Draft Public Access Plan

The first public comment period is over. A new draft with incorporation of public comment will be released in the near future followed by another 30 day comment period.

Technology issues

We would like to trade in a new b/w laser printer (all-in-one) for a color laser (all-in-one) that will cost a net of ~\$200 more. We currently do not have a color printer which is necessary for regular office operations.

We are constantly dealing with computer problems, mainly due to age of the computers. Several grants are being approached. We may need to fork out money prior to receiving grants.

Education & Restoration Highlights

- HAF granted \$5000 to the education program.
- The 29th Annual Lupine Bash was a success with over 55 participants.

VIII. UPDATE ON BECOMING AN NEC MEMBER

ACTION: Ron will meet with NEC board members from other organizations to get their opinion about being on the NEC board.

IX. REPORT ON REFUGE CCP PROCESS

Larry attended a CCP public meeting. He believes now is a good time to get your voice heard concerning the management of the refuge. It is best to submit comments by March 15th but there is no deadline for submission. The actual draft plan is not anticipated until the summer of '08.

ACTION: Larry will contact Carol about creating a letter from FOD concerning the CCP.

X. BOARD FINANCIALS

See Handouts

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Michelle is looking for volunteers for the Dune Escape Dinner
- Rose mentioned the rip/rapping of the Mad River to stop the erosion of Mad River Bluff that will be done in the very near future with no public comment or permit process due the labeling of the project under emergency status. Mitigation will be considered after the fact.

XII. MARCH AGENDA ITEMS

- New Board Member Orientation (45min)
- Board Meeting Space
- Establishing a new Conservation Committee
- Bridge Loan Update
- Land Trust Update
- Board Financials

ADJOURN 8:51pm