

Friends of the Dunes Board Meeting Minutes
May 6, 2008, Humboldt Coastal Nature Center, 7-9pm

Board Members: Bill Weaver, John St. Marie, Larry Oetker, Rose Patenaude, Mike Wilson, David Weinstein, Matt Johnson, Jacqueline Debets, Marjorie Fay

Staff: Carol Vander Meer, Emily Walter, Cathy Larripa

Public: Kash Boodjeh

May Agenda

- I. Introduction of guests present
- II. Approval of minutes
- III. Public input
- IV. Discussion of the opportunities for design/build approach to the HCNC project
- V. Approve resolutions Resolution 08-01 and 08-02 authorizing Friends of the Dunes to enter into a grant agreement with Wildlife Conservation Board for funds to purchase the Watson and Bachofer Property.
- VI. Discuss the possibility of entering into a contract with the Coastal Conservancy to do community education/outreach about Spartina
- VII. Approve a contract with California State Parks to conduct volunteer restoration days at Little river state beach
- VIII. Approve grant application to the McLean foundation for \$25,000 towards a major element in the construction/renovation of the HCNC
- IX. Discuss board responsibilities for organizing the annual volunteer appreciation BBQ
Resolution to authorize Carol to be the signatory on contract with NRCS program
- X. Health Insurance-discuss the board commitment to providing some level of health insurance to employees Questions regarding committee reports
- XI. Financial Report
- XII. Questions regarding committee reports/announcements
- XIII. Upcoming events
- XIV. Upcoming agenda items

I. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Kash Boodjeh, architect

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mike Wilson motioned for approval of April minutes, 2nd from Matt Johnson, all present were in favor. Minutes from April were approved.

III. PUBLIC INPUT

None

IV. DISCUSSION OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR DESIGN/BUILD APPROACH TO HCNC PROJECT

The main discussion revolved around looking at the pros and cons between moving forward with a design/build approach, or going out to bid for construction of HCNC.

Design/Build

PRO

- Requires less FOD management/staff time
- Builder is available during final design of documents and FOD will have input on early decisions
- Able to do pricing/costs sooner
- A design/build contractor can provide estimates and a sub contract report
- FOD could request specific sub contractors
- FOD gets to design the contract
- FOD can ask for the ability to have continuous bids as contract moves forward
- Will give the FOD building committee needed information sooner

CON

- FOD has less control/input of who is being contracted

Going to Bid

PRO

- More staff control of who is contracted
- Low cost

CON

- More staff time for oversight
- Bidder could find holes in design and later raise costs

Kash Boodjeh, architect for the HCNC project, says he will be involved in the construction process which ever direction FOD chooses to proceed. Kash will be putting a full set of plans together that will work with build/design or bid.

The board agrees that we should start doing homework and to evaluate contractors we are interested in. Some names that were mentioned were David Kitchen, Steve Bohner, Alchemy Construction, Vander Moulin, and Mayan.

Mike Wilson motioned to move forward with the Design/Build process and have the building committee start the process of selecting a contractor for a design/build project by first soliciting qualifications from three to four contractors, using a request for qualifications letter created by himself and Carol and then have the building committee make a recommendation to the board based on qualifications at the June Board meeting. 2nd from Jacqueline. Eight were in favor, Larry Oetker was in decent, noting his view that the original AIA contract stated that we would go out to bid for a contractor.

V. APPROVE RESOLUTIONS RESOLUTION 08-01 AND 08-02 AUTHORIZING FRIENDS OF THE DUNES TO ENTER INTO A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD FOR FUNDS TO PURCHASE THE WATSON AND BACHOFER PROPERTY.

Correction to the 08-01 contract: The grant should be up to \$360,000.

Larry motioned to approve resolution 08-01 as amended, and resolution 08-02, 2nd from Mike Wilson, all present were in favor. Motion passed.

VI. DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE COASTAL CONSERVANCY TO DO COMMUNITY EDUCATION/OUTREACH ABOUT SPARTINA

The California State Coastal Conservancy approached FOD for outreach implementation of an upcoming bay-wide Spartina project. The outreach phase has now been postponed for one year.

VII. APPROVE A CONTRACT WITH CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS TO CONDUCT VOLUNTEER RESTORATION DAYS AT LITTLE RIVER STATE BEACH

The contract consists of \$5,000 dollars to be spent over two years, to coordinate a total of eight volunteer restoration days. FOD will not be able to invoice until the contract is complete.

Jacqueline Debets motioned to approve the contract with California State Parks to conduct volunteer restoration days at Little River State Beach, 2nd from Mike Wilson, all present were in favor.

VIII. APPROVE GRANT APPLICATION TO THE MCLEAN FOUNDATION FOR \$25,000 TOWARDS THE CONSTRUCTION/RENOVATION OF HCNC

- The application is due on May 30th and will cover expenses of some portion of the HCNC construction process.
- Cathy asks all board members and staff to commit to supporting the capital campaign with a pledge or donation by May 15th. It is very important to show board support within the grant application.

Rose Patenaude motioned to approve the grant application to the McLean Foundation for \$25,000, 2nd from Mike Wilson, all present were in favor.

IX. DISCUSS BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ORGANIZING THE ANNUAL VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BBQ RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE CAROL TO BE THE SIGNATORY ON CONTRACT WITH NRCS PROGRAM

Marj Fay volunteered to head up the BBQ committee. David Weinstein will help.

X. HEALTH INSURANCE-DISCUSS THE BOARD COMMITMENT TO PROVIDING SOME LEVEL OF HEALTH INSURANCE TO EMPLOYEES QUESTIONS REGARDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

The board is in support of getting employees health insurance.

ACTION: Carol should propose a price/cost of the insurance to the board for approval.

XI. FINANCIAL REPORT

- The board reviewed Pamela's financial report.
- Cathy reported that the Capital Campaign is about to start major asks.

XII. QUESTIONS REGARDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

XIII. UPCOMING EVENTS

- HSU Trail head opening- May 10, 1pm
- Honorary Council Gathering- May 15th, 5:30-6:30
- Sand Sculpture Festival- June 29th
- Fundraising Dinner- September 13 (Looking for theme suggestions)

XIV. UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

- Health Insurance
- Building contractors

Adjourn 9:02pm