

Friends of the Dunes Board Meeting Minutes
July 1, 2008, Humboldt Coastal Nature Center, 7-9pm

Board Members: Bill Weaver, John St. Marie, Larry Oetker, Rose Patenaude, David Weinstein, Matt Johnson, Jacqueline Debets, Marjorie Fay, Michelle Forys, Nancy Ihara, Matt Johnson, Roxana Taylor, Mike Seeber

Staff: Carol Vander Meer, Emily Walter, Maggie Stoudnour

Public: None

July Agenda

- I. Introduction of guests present
- II. Approval of minutes
- III. Public input
- IV. Director's report
- V. Education Update
- VI. Land Acquisition Update
- VII. Contractor selection
- VIII. Employee health insurance update
- IX. Financial Report
- X. Planning for the September 6th planning retreat
- XI. Questions regarding committee reports/announcements
- XII. Upcoming events
- XIII. Upcoming agenda items

I. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

None

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

John St. Marie motioned for approval of June minutes, 2nd from Mike Seeber, all present were in favor. Minutes from April were approved as corrected.

III. PUBLIC INPUT

None

IV. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Carol and Matt met with Rollin Richmond to make an ask for the Capital Campaign
- There is now a new Capital Campaign PowerPoint presentation ready to be used
- Beginning to implement public access improvements including new trailhead sign, dogi pottie and soon a porta-pottie
- Still working on new entrance with CalTrans

V. EDUCATION UPDATE

- Bay to Dunes had 1200 kids this Spring (twice the usual amount)
- Ocean Day was a success with 720 kids plus 80 adults
- Education Networking Workshop went well in June with 30 participants plus teachers
- Held first week-long "Coastal Connections" camp in partnership with the HSU Discover Museum. It went well and will most likely happen again next year.
- There are 5 paid docents working at Clam Beach this summer funded by Audubon
- Will be getting \$5000 from CalTrans for docents at Vista Point in the Fall

- Received \$15,000 from EPA grant to update Bay to Dunes manual, pay for small renovations at the Manila satellite office, and fund staff and an educational assistant
- \$20,000 grant from the McLean Foundation is pending to fund more fieldtrip options
- A grant from the Resource Legacy group is pending to fund the coastal naturalist program
- The next Education Committee meeting is July 8th
- Maggie is pregnant and due in January!

VI. LAND ACQUISITION UPDATE

- The State Coastal Conservancy needs a Phase 1 Site Assessment of the new parcels before it can approve funds for purchase. Will be hiring Winzler and Kelly to do assessment.

VII. CONTRACTOR SELECTION

- The building committee along with participating board members unanimously decided to hire Alchemy Construction. An E-vote was conducted with the Board.
- Carol will be meeting the Alchemy construction team the first week of July

VIII. EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE

Tabled until August meeting.

IX. FINANCIAL REPORT

- David helped the board review Pamela's financial report. There is a need to amend particular items, such as the Land Trust to be more in line with where we're at half way through the year.
- Pamela recommends getting an audit every other year. Larry believes FOD should get an audit every year while we have a large income/cash flow, then move to every other year. A vote will be held at the August board meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Maggie, Dave and Michelle will meet to go over merchandise sales planning and strategy.

ACTION ITEM: Carol will re-do the budget.

X. PLANNING FOR THE SEPTEMBER 6TH PLANNING RETREAT

ACTION ITEM: Carol will circulate notes from last year's board retreat to evaluate and help work out this year's agenda.

ACTION ITEM: Carol will contact Tony about being a facilitator and look into getting an HAF grant to pay a facilitator

It was suggested that part of the retreat focus on outlining strategic goals for next years budget.

XI. QUESTIONS REGARDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Jacqueline recommends Carol get feedback from Rotary boards prior to pitching to the clubs.

The Sand Sculpture Festival made ~\$1500

Spectators included 1100 two-leggeds, 60 dogs and 1 horse.

XII. UPCOMING EVENTS

- Volunteer BBQ – August 20th
- Board planning retreat- September 6
- Fundraising Dinner- September 13

XIII. UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

- Vote on getting an audit
- Work on Board retreat agenda
- Dune Escape Update
- Health Care
- Budget Ammendments

Adjourn 8:48pm