

Friends of the Dunes Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 5, 2009, 7-9 pm
At the Humboldt Coastal Nature Center, 220 Stamps Lane

Board Members: Bill Weaver, John St. Marie, Tamara Gedik, Nancy Ihara, Marj Fay, Mike Wilson, Allison Poklemba, Matt Johnson

Staff: Carol Vander Meer, Emily Walter, Maggie Stoudnour

Public: Yvonne Everett, Bethany Bierdman, Marysol Smith, Trevor Scoggins, Brian Bushnell

I. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS PRESENT

Carol introduced Bethany Bierdman, Marysol Smith, Trevor Scoggins and Brian Bushnell. They are part of an HSU Senior Natural Resources Planning Practicum Class taught by Dr. Yvonne Everett.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mike Wilson motioned for approval of the April, 2009 minutes, 2nd from Michelle Forys, all present were in favor. Minutes from April, 2009 were approved.

III. PUBLIC INPUT

Maggie made quick note that Bay to Dunes is full this spring and that there are already 700 kids signed up for Ocean Day. She also showed the board the new Sand Sculpture Festival T-shirts.

IV. FOLLOW-UP ON MARCH ACTION ITEMS

- Carol will contact Don Beers about trail grant funding and how much time he is willing to donate. Don is willing to donate his time. He gave Carol a list of what he needs to help and they are planning to meet soon
- Carol will send E-Newsletter with information about the trail planning process. Emily set up a constant contact email list for trails planning updates.
- Follow-up Letter to Uri and Kary. This letter went out and is in the board room trail planning folder.

V. PRESENTATION OF DRAFT MASTER PLAN BY HSU PLANNING STUDENTS

Students gave PowerPoint Presentation of their Plan. The board was impressed with the presentation and the draft policies manual.

VII. TRAILS PLANNING

- In the website board room there is a trail planning folder for all correspondence and documented public comment.
- Tamara would like to collect analysis to support decisions for trails planning
- Mike would like to see further discussion occur at June Board Meeting with a vote to approve with changes then
- HOT Topics to look into and discuss:
 - o Horses, dogs, hours of operation, garbage containers that ravens can't get into, access for those with mobility limitations

- Daylight Hours – Nancy would like access to the beach at night. Mike mentions this policy could affect insurance policies
- Mike would like to see the language that FOD “reserves the right to remove anyone they see fit” somewhere in the policies
- The trail policies need to include some trails pedestrian only. Not just some trails equestrian only
- Suggested language for what is allowed on the property “including but not limited to” with bullets and specifics. General consensus seemed to not want a list of what is not allowed. Or the language could be “the following are permitted uses”
- Nancy would like to see a policy to educate public about appropriate trail use

ACTION ITEM : Staff and the Facilities committee will create a precise policy draft and distributed to Board via email in the next couple of weeks and board members are to comment and discuss via email.

VIII. HCNC PROJECT UPDATE

Capital Campaign

- Marj has volunteered to follow-up on Sand Sculpture festival sponsors.
- Carol is hopeful to start construction as early as August.

Updated cost estimates and construction schedule

- The Danco cost estimate is 1.7 million > time to bring the cost down to reality
- Carol expects to have 1.2 million in hand shortly
- Jake will be at next Facilities Cmt. Mtg. on May 8th to look at where costs can be cut
- What is the board willing to cut? How much willing to spend?
- Worries were expressed by some board members about radiant floor heating

ACTION ITEM: Carol will create a list of potential grants and other funding sources and a detailed accounting of where FOD is to date in terms of fundraising.

IX. APPROVAL OF PROPOSED FEE STRUCTURE FOR SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Nancy moved to approve the fee structure, 2nd from Marj, all present were in favor. Motion passed.

X. UPCOMING EVENTS

- Ocean Day- June 4
- Sand Sculpture Festival- June 14
- Volunteer BBQ- August 19
- Dune Escape- September 26

XI. UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

- Trail Use planning
- HCNC Project Update

-Adjourn ~9:07pm