

Friends of the Dunes Board Meeting Minutes
September 1, 2009, Humboldt Coastal Nature Center, 7-9pm

Board Members: John St. Marie, Nancy Ihara, Dave Weinstein, Allison Poklemba, Michelle Forsys, Bill Weaver, Matt Johnson

Staff: Carol Vander Meer, Emily Walter

Public: None

August Agenda

- I. Introduction of guests present
- II. Approval of minutes
- III. Public input
- IV. Follow up on August Action Items
- V. Discuss for approval the HCNC exhibit theme statement
- VI. HCNC Project Update
- VII. Planning for Annual Board Retreat
- VIII. Director/Committee Updates
- IX. Upcoming events
- X. Upcoming agenda items

I. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

None

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dave Weinstein motioned for approval of the modified August, 2009 minutes, 2nd from John St. Marie, all present were in favor. Minutes from July 2009 were approved.

III. PUBLIC INPUT

Nancy reports that CALTRANS is looking for external stakeholders / delegates to attend meetings to discuss public use of HWY 255. Nancy is attending as a representative of FOD and Manila Safe Paths Coalition. Nancy would like another FOD representative to attend. The next meeting is September 17th, 10am at CALTRANS room 59. Contact Nancy for more information.

IV. FOLLOW-UP ON ACTION ITEMS

ACTION: Carol will provide copies of the conflict of interest document for all board members to sign. – Carol passed out copies for the board to sign.

ACTION: Carol will contact RCAA to find out how they charge their rates to grants that don't want to pay overhead. – Carol did this.

ACTION: Carol will submit a rate sheet at the September Bd. Mtg. – Done
- The board reviewed the rate sheet. Bill says that it is okay to bill the same person out at different rates depending on the contract or the positions. Bill recommends not listing names but listing positions, as different people can fulfill the same position.

V. DISCUSS FOR APPROVAL OF THE HCNC EXHIBIT THEME STATEMENT
“The Humboldt coast is home to a unique dune ecosystem rich in geologic, natural and cultural history. The health of this dynamic system depends on a commitment to stewardship.”

All at the meeting were in favor of removing the word “dune.” It was suggested to have the education committee review the word “stewardship.”

VI. HCNC PROJECT UPDATE

Benefit Drawing- distribution of tickets, guidelines for collecting donations

We are in the home stretch push. FOD needs an estimated \$200K to get the project done. The latest fundraiser is a drawing. This involves selling tickets to enter to win from three prizes. The drawing will be at the winter holiday party on December 6th. Carol would like all board members to help sell tickets. Contact carol to check tickets out.

ACTION ITEM: All board members need to donate one bottle of wine for the “wine cellar” prize.

200 K fundraising plan

Carol would like to complete fundraising by the end of the year. If the funds are not raised she is looking at getting a bridge loan in order to complete the work.

Dune Escape- volunteer needs, program etc...

The board reviewed the menu. Board members can help get donations, buy/sell tickets and volunteer the day of the event.

Office re-location update

Samoa elementary school is still a possibility.

Project updates: permitting/construction timeline

(REVIEW ACTION): Carol will contact Kash to set up a meeting, if need be, with the structural engineer. - The engineer is working on the project and has been meeting with Jake.

VII. PLANNING FOR OCTOBER 17 BOARD RETREAT

- The retreat will be at the Morris Graves retreat center.
- Carol is worried about scheduling finances into the future. What we’ll need to sustain the new building.
- Dave wants to secure a future revenue stream and wants to see board members involved with a finance committee.
- Bill suggests inviting someone from the HSU Foundation to facilitate or someone who has a background in finances or non-profits. Also, possibly having several people present/help at the first half of the retreat to set the stage for the board during the second half of the day.
- Allison suggests having some materials for board members to review prior to the retreat. Also, she mentioned making timelines with prioritizations of what needs to be completed in what order. And, Allison wonders about how FOD is using media/facebook/blogging etc...
- Matt would like to start the day by reflect on the previous retreat.

VIII. DIRECTOR / COMMITTEE UPDATES

Reviewed director’s report.

XI. UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wine Pour at Garden Gate- September 11
- Spartina Restoration Day- September 26
- Dune Escape- September 26

- Honorary Council meeting- October 1, 5:30-6:30pm at HAF
- Board Retreat October 17

XII. UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

- Finalize board retreat agenda

ADJOURN 8:53 PM