

Friends of the Dunes Board Meeting Minutes
April 5, 2011, 7-9 pm, Samoa Women's Club, 115 Rideout Street Samoa

Board Members: Trevor Estlow, Mike Tout, Susan Penn, Mike Seeber, Tamara Gedik, Allison Poklemba, Pamela Bell, Bill Weaver, Michelle Forys, John St. Marie, Matt Johnson

Public: None

Staff: Emily Walter, Carol Vander Meer

April Agenda

- I. Introduction of guests present
- II. Approval of March minutes
- III. Public input
- IV. Introductions and welcome new board members
- V. HCNC update
- VI. Understanding Coastal Dunes Public Forum
- VII. Marketing/Fundraising Report
- VIII. Financial report
- IX. Directors report
- X. Questions on committee reports
- XI. Upcoming agenda items

I. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

None

II. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY MINUTES

Michelle Forys motioned for approval of the March 2011 minutes as modified, 2nd from Mike Tout, all in favor. Motion passed.

III. PUBLIC INPUT

None

IV. INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Pamela Bell and Susan Penn were introduced to the board as new board members.

ACTION: Carol will create a new dropbox folder with information about board responsibilities and general board materials.

V. HCNC UPDATE

- The windows are in! Completion date for Phase 1A is April 25th. The restrooms should be done in two weeks and available for Bay to Dunes fieldtrips.
- Still waiting to hear if we got the NEF grant to complete Phase II. It could still be a few of weeks before we find out. Currently \$200,000 short for Phase I. Looking for ways to cut costs in current Phase.
- May 21st will be the official dedication of the Humboldt Coastal Nature Center. It will start at 10am... more details to come.
- A few FOD board members and staff met with BLM staff to discuss trails at HCNC and how they connect with BLM Ma-le'l South Trails. FOD will continue to monitor trail use and revisit trails planning in the fall.

VI. UNDERSTANDING COASTAL DUNES PUBLIC FORUM

The Humboldt Dunes Cooperative is holding a Public forum on Friday, April 8th, 6-8pm at the Manila Community Center. Patrick Hesp, a coastal geomorphologist, and professor at Louisiana University will be sitting on the panel.

VII. MARKETING/FUNDRAISING REPORT

- The Beach Ball fundraiser event was a success and we made a profit of about \$2200. Overall, a good chunk of money was made for a minimal effort. This should be an annual event.
- Allison Poklemba suggests having some type of outdoor gear swap fundraiser, preferably in June or early summer, when families are kicking off their vacation fun.
- The Sand Sculpture Festival is important for raising money for the Bay to Dunes program. It costs \$200 to fund a bus, and thus that is how much sponsorships for the festival are this year. Big Brothers and Big Sisters will be collaborating with the festival and in charge of the food booth at the event. Mike Seeber, Mike Tout, Allison Poklemba, John St. Marie, had previously volunteered to be on a SSF subcommittee. Tamara suggested having some type of membership pledge drive at the festival, so that even if folks don't have cash on them, they can pay later.

ACTION: Mike Seeber volunteered to be in charge of the Sand Sculpture Festival cmt.

ACTION: All board members should attempt to get one \$200 bus sponsor. Carol will email all board members with the information they need to solicit donations.

VIII. FINANCIAL REPORT

- The board reviewed Bobbie's financial reports. Carol has a question about the Nature Center being listed as an asset even though FOD can't sell the Nature Center. Pamela noted that it should be looked at as permanently restricted assets and it should be discussed with an auditor.
- Carol talked about needing to update the way our finances are organized and got a small technical assistance grant from the McLean foundation to help us develop a better system for tracking our finances.

IX. DIRECTORS REPORT

The board reviewed Carol's list of job duties and discussed areas that Carol can use the boards help in. Carol also discussed possibly hiring a part time development staff position to help with grant writing and general fund development.

Mike Tout motioned to explore the opportunity to hire Linda Serrano to work 10-15 hours/week for up to 6 months to help with fundraising, 2nd from Mike Seeber, all in favor. Motion passed.

Bill suggests the fundraising committee meet with Linda Serrano and decide where it will be best for her to focus her attention as far as grant writing or general development and fundraising.

ACTION: Bill and John will help with repairing the road at HCNC.

X. QUESTIONS ON COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

XI. UPCOMING EVENTS

Understanding Coastal Dunes- April 8, 6-8pm, Manila Community Center
May 21, 10am- HCNC Supporter appreciation event

ADJOURN 9:02 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: May 3, 2011