

Friends of the Dunes Board Meeting Minutes
Humboldt Coastal Nature Center
Tuesday, July 2, 2013 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Board Members: Michael van Hattem, Trevor Estlow, Bill Weaver, John St. Marie, Susan Penn, Marji Fay, Matt Johnson, Dave Hitchcock, Tamara Gedik, and Carol Vander Meer

Staff: Carol Vander Meer

Public: Uri Driscoll, Dennis Mayo

I. Public Input

Introduction of Guests: Uri Driscoll and Dennis Mayo

II. Approval of Minutes

Trail Plan(s) briefly discussed as well as action items from previous June meeting. A consensus was not reached, Board undecided on whether to send a letter now or later to BLM. Bill thought a letter was in process from Lisa Hoover (Stewardship Committee). Current plan is to draft a letter and discuss. Uri asked where FOD was with our thoughts on the new trail, Bill explained BLM's NEPA process and that we would comment at the appropriate point in the process. It will likely be several months.

John motioned to accept June minutes, 2nd from Susan, all in favor. Motion Passed.

III. Review of Dashboard

- -Carol reviewed the dashboard in Emily's absence.
- -A couple of Capstones received. John recommended a poster or outside sign explaining Capstones, which may lead to additional Capstone purchases.
- -NOCA grant was not received; Coastal Conservancy recommended re-organizing submittal.
- -Funding received from CA Coastal Conservancy for "Get Outside and Explore"- inland school bus funding - generally bringing kids/families to coast.
- -Nature Center attendance has increased.
- -Sand Sculpture Festival well attended (perfect weather)

IV. BLM Trails Planning Follow-up

- -Separate study session proposed by Bill for new members. Matt emphasized that the entire Board must discuss the trails plan and new proposal since there are many new members of the Board.
- -Carol thought once BLM had done some analysis we could review, various ways for access, and several different strategies.
- -Uri asked if there was resistance to the proposal by FOD Board; Bill explained the Board's current position (current trails plan; undecided on revisions, see above). Uri does not think parallel trails are comparable, and mentioned a "big unnecessary battle."
- -Tamara asked if we have to re-open the trail plan each time someone proposes, builds, and approves a trail. Matt said we should at least consider their effects on HCNC.

- -Dennis said foredune trails were there, idea of connectivity is important and should be considered.
- -Bill encouraged everyone to read or reread the HCNC trails plan.
- -Dennis would like to be invited along in the field if a site visit happens, “to avoid unnecessary headache.”

V. Director’s Report: Carol covered her report.

VI. Development Director Fundraising Strategy:

Carol is spread too thin and would like to focus on grants; she discussed more capstones and greater board involvement. Bill recommended separating functional tasks of the ED vs. Development Director; Fundraising Strategy to create an outline of job description Carol will review and describe possible duties of development Director versus ED.

VII. MCSD: Covered in Director’s Report

VIII. Board Term’s and Elected Positions

Three year term, annual one year renewal, Carol went through when BOD members started. We are looking to review and vote on Board positions.

IX. Committee Reports: Susan mentioned the earrings in the gift shop donated by Tomas.

X. Upcoming Events: Wine by the Sea – October 5th

- Need one or two leaders for Wine by the Sea
- Carol would like to have a small donor appreciation event during the week in the evening
- Membership Drive September 9-14, Mike Dronkers will lead

XI. Upcoming Agenda Items:

- Provide duty statement/director current thoughts
- Board Terms/positions
- Report of chair of Wine by the Sea Committee
- Set date for donor appreciation
- Informal walk end of August

Adjourn 1930

Action Items:

Trail Plan needs to be reviewed by all Board Members

Need help staffing Nature Center, especially on Sundays

Need Development Director job description

Need one or two leaders for Wine by the Sea