

Friends of the Dunes Board Meeting Minutes
Humboldt Coastal Nature Center
Tuesday March 4, 2014 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Board members: Mike Van Hattem, Mike Wilson, Mike Dronkers, Bill Weaver, Matt Johnson, Trevor Estlow, Melissa Zielinski, John St. Marie, David Hitchcock

Staff: Emily Walter, Carol Vander Meer

Public: Dennis Mayo, Uri Driscoll, Kim McFarland, Mike Seeber, Lisa Hoover

I. Public input

Dennis stated that he and Uri were interested in the land acquisition, and keeping the discussion open about a trail in what he termed “the Coast Guard Historic Trail” . Uri said he was interested in our financials, David informed him that they were on-line on the Attorney General’s website and Carol informed him that he could make an appointment to view them in the office.

II. Approval of January minutes

The board tabled the approval of the January minutes (there was no meeting in February) since the minutes were not uploaded in the board packet.

III. Board nominations

John St. Marie moved to approve Tom Torma, Kim McFarland, and Mike Seeber to serve on the board, Melissa Zielinski seconded the motion, all approved, motion passed.

Mike Wilson made a motion that he would serve as President for 6 months, if Mike Seeber took on the role of Vice president and would succeed Mike Wilson in six months. David Hitchcock seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

IV. Discussion of issues pertaining to potential land acquisition- CLOSED SESSION

The board was briefed on Stewardship committee and staff recommendations relative to the proposed acquisition. The board directed staff to move forward with their planning recommendations.

V. Discuss and Approve 2014 Budget

After a presentation about the budget by Emily Walter, David Hitchcock moved to approve the budget as presented. Mike Seeber seconded it, the motion passed unanimously.

VI. Land Trusts Durable Collaborations Project

Carol reviewed the questions in decision guide with the board and generally found that board members were open to exploring a number of different collaborative options, but questioned whether full merger was an option given the unique nature of our mission and vision. Carol will report on the results at the next durable collaborations meeting on April

7th at the Nature Center. Carol also recommended that the board review the organizational assessment done by Solid Ground consulting as a part of the durable collaborations project. It is in the March 2014 board packet.

VII. Strategic plan

The board reviewed edits to the strategic plan and recommend that our geographic scope in our second goal be changed from “the North Spit of Humboldt Bay” to coastal environments of northern California.” Kim also suggested clarifying what is “restored” and will work with Carol to clarify that statement.” Lisa also submitted some additions to the land stewardship tasks and suggestion to include collaborative goal in the education section.

VIII. Jan/Feb Director’s report

Carol briefly reviewed her director’s report, highlighting upcoming events including the Get Outside Gear Sale on the 29, and an adopt a highway Rotary clean up on the 29. Carol reminded board members to make their goal of 5 new members. Carol also directed the board to become familiar with the updated Dune FAQ’s on the website. Matt Johnson volunteered to help add additional resources for the further reading list and the board agreed that it would be good to include a list of contributors and their qualifications.

IX. Highlights of upcoming events

- March 22, Get Outside Gear Sale drive through drop-off at Wildberries, 10-3
- March 29, 10-1, Rotary Adopt a Highway- community volunteers welcome
- Get Outside Gear Sale- April 6, 2014
- Earth Day Hoedown- April 19

Adjourn ~9pm