Friends of the Dunes Board Meeting Minutes
August 5, 2008, Humboldt Coastal Nature Center, 7-9pm

Board Members: Bill Weaver, John St. Marie, Rose Patenaude, David Weinstein, Matt Johnson, Jacqueline Debets, Marjorie Fay, Nancy Ihara, Matt Johnson, Mike Seeber, Mike Wilson

Staff: Carol Vander Meer, Emily Walter, Cathy Larripa

Public: Tony LaBanca

August Agenda
I. Introduction of guests present
II. Approval of minutes
III. Public input
IV. Director’s Update
V. Capital Campaign
VI. Health Insurance Selection
VII. Finances
VIII. Board Retreat Planning
IX. Questions regarding committee reports/announcements
X. Upcoming events
XI. Upcoming agenda items

I. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS
Tony LaBanca – will be facilitating board retreat in September

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Jacqueline motioned for approval of July minutes, 2nd from Matt, all present were in favor. Minutes from July were approved.

III. PUBLIC INPUT
None

IV. DIRECTOR’S REPORT
Watson/Bachofer acquisition
Received completed Phase I site assessments with no issues of concern. Will close in approximately 3 weeks.

Contractor Status
Carol is meeting with Alchemy on the 6th to complete the AIA contract. Alchemy will be working with Kash during pre-construction phase – not to exceed $7,500.

Public access improvements update
Porta-pottie, doggi-pot, and entrance sign now in place. Trail markers will be installed soon, as well as a bike rack.

Manila Restoration issues
The purpose of restoration is in question by MCSD interim manager.
ACTION: Carol will put a Manila walk date on MCSD board agenda and invite their board to tour the Manila Dunes.

ACTION: Carol will construct a letter for Su Corbaley to get the Coastal Conservancy involved.

MLPA
FOD has been asked by the Resources Legacy Fund Foundation to submit a grant request for $48,000 to support the Coastal Naturalist program. One condition of the grant is that FOD incorporate non partisan information about MLPA. FOD would not be advocating for a MLPA.

V. CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PRESENTATION
- Dave presented the Capital Campaign outreach PowerPoint.
- Name Droppers Round Table is 5:30-6:30pm at HCNC on Aug. 14th.

VI. HEALTH INSURANCE SELECTION
- Might not be ready for a small group account.
- Looking at Health Savings plan instead

ACTION: Lisa will look into LTA group insurance offerings.

VII. FINANCES
- Dave reviewed Pamela’s financial report. Reiterated that FOD needs to work on incoming cash flow, a common problem with growing non-profits.
- FOD audit and taxes (2007) will be completed for $3000

*John approves Richard Hutchenson as FOD auditor, 2nd from Dave, all present were in favor. Richard Hutchenson is approved to audit and do 2007 taxes for FOD.*

Major changes to the budget:
- removed Ma-le’l implementation funds (postponed 2009)
- removed $75,000 from NAWCA grant that was denied
- Moved $750,000 from Coastal Conservancy to 2009
- Raised Capital Campaign costs by $9,000

*Mike motions to approve the amended 2008 budget, 2nd from Rose, all present were in favor. Motions to approve budget passed.*

VIII. BOARD RETREAT PLANNING
Brainstorming ideas for retreat:
- How we can partner with other organizations?
- What does it mean to be a gateway to the dunes?
- How do we integrate our property with neighboring properties?
- Look at trail maps to help brainstorm
- Discuss open space districts
- Budget for general operational costs
- Endowment goals?

ACTION: Carol will circulate board retreat ideas via e-mail
IX. QUESTIONS REGARDING COMMITTEE REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Land Trust Report – merging 2 properties (Watson & HCNC/Stamps)
- This will allow to place parking area on Watson property.
- Only negative is that it will no longer be possible to build a single family home on Watson property
- HBMWD has accepted final easement resolution from FOD and will vote at next meeting in August.

X. UPCOMING EVENTS
- Name Droppers round table – August 14th, HCNC, 5:30pm
- Volunteer BBQ & Potluck – August 20th, HCNC, 6-9pm
- Board Planning Retreat - September 6
- Dune Escape Fundraising Dinner - September 13
- Official Capital Campaign kick-off – October 10th, HCNC
- Field Trip day with the Coastal Conservancy – Sept. 24th

ACTION: Carol will check with Su about media and # people that can attend

XI. UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS
- Committee accomplishments

ACTION: All committees should submit a list of 3-5 accomplishments, goals, and possible issues/obstacles prior to next board meeting

- Vote on HBMWD/update

Adjourn 8:58pm