

**Newport Bay Naturalists and Friends
Board Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2005**

Members Present: Regina Fodor, Jack Keating, Dennis Baker, Carol Starcevic and Tom Mooers.

Staff: Roger Mallett

1. The **meeting called to order** by Vice President Regina Fodor at 6:42 p.m.
2. The **September 15, 2005 minutes** were approved by the Board.
3. The **Treasurer's Report** was presented by Tom Mooers. There are still some issues to be resolved with respect to restricted funds, primarily those that are part of the Interpretive Center Capital Campaign. Previous board discussions on this matter were recapped and are summarized here. The agreements with the Capital Campaign donors are silent with respect to the interest earned on these donations, as well as on the allocation of a percentage of the donation to NBNF for administration and accounting of the funds. The only recent Capital Campaign donation was from Boand, where we did set a 10% administration fee. We previously decided that NBNF would not go back to original donors to impose a 10% or other administration fee retroactively. Also we have never promised any of those donors that interest would accrue to each donor account. Therefore the following was motioned, seconded and approved:

Motion: Interest earned on money held in or pledged to the Capital Campaign Fund as of this date may be used in an unrestricted manner in lieu of a management fee.

Before any new Capital Campaign funds are solicited for either the IC or the BBSC, we will re-study the issues of donor recognition, fund administration and interest earned, and have a consistent and coherent package of information to provide to prospects/donors. Roger will take the lead on this. Tom will take on review of any agreements from the perspective of liabilities assumed by us.

4. The **Accountant's Report** was previously emailed to the Board by Donna.
5. The **Fundraising Committee Report** was presented by Regina Fodor. Two dates (Monday 2/27/06 and Monday 3/6/06) have been short-listed for the 2006 corporate luncheon. The Irvine Company will endorse, but will not pay for the luncheon. NBNF will seek to have the catering done at reduced or no cost through an in-kind donation from one of the local hotels. Jack will approach Pam Ryan of the Marriott Suites regarding this. Regina will convene a Fundraising Committee meeting to establish and assign tasks associated with luncheon planning, invitations, etc. A letter to 'save the date' will be sent out in early November. New prospects should be added to the invite list with a separate mailing to them with info package. Donna or Roger will send an Excel spreadsheet of last year's invitees to all board members. Regina would like each board member to add 3-5 good candidates for corporate membership to the list. Regina would also like all board members to let her know of a speaker they would suggest to speak for 20 minutes at the luncheon.
6. The **Advocacy Report** was presented by Dennis Baker. Dennis indicated that a Conference Committee will be established shortly to reconcile the different dollar amounts allocated to the UNB "dredging" project in 2006 federal budget by the House and Senate. Senator Feinstein has called on all interested parties to lobby the committee to help ensure that the Senate allocation of \$7 million is kept. Dennis will draft a letter on behalf of NBNF. Dennis also reported on the Newport Bay Watershed Management Committee the previous day. Not as much progress has been made in addressing issues as he had hoped.

The biggest issue to come before the Executive Committee next week is sediment – the sources of and what will be done to prevent inflow. Dennis also noted that the State Water Quality Board has allocated \$200,000 to the Regional Board, earmarked for addressing Newport Bay watershed issues.

7. There was no **Nominating Committee Report**.

8. The **Executive Director's Report** was previously emailed to the Board by Roger. Roger will send the ED Report and attachments such as the 6-month cash flow in separate emails instead of in a single zip file.

9. A **Key Initiative/Back Bay Science Center Report** was presented by Jack Keating. Five qualified bids have been received for the “contractor at risk” contract which is for construction of the BBSC excluding the steel frame, and the admin building shell. They are in the range \$5 - \$5.4 million. The contractor working on the new city hall excused himself leaving four bids. The evaluation team has selected Barnhart from San Diego. The plan is to submit the contract to the NB City Council in December 2005 for approval. Two bids have been received for the steel frame – one for \$904,000 and one for \$449,000. The lower bid may be in error. The evaluation team and the “contractor at risk” are trying to resolve the discrepancies.

10. A **Key Initiative/SoCalPapa Report** was presented by Carol Starcevic. An interview with key participants aired on Channel 30 during October 3 to October 14. Great press coverage was provided by the Daily Pilot, with articles and/or photos on October 6, 10, 14 and 16.

11. A **Key Initiative/Robinson Memorial Report** was presented by Jack Keating. Jack introduced Ralph Clock, an Eastbluff resident who has agreed to spearhead the construction of the memorial, including fund raising of approximately \$40,000 to complete it. Ralph discussed options such as in-kind donations of surveying, engineering, etc. time to reduce the cash cost. Jay Robinson has promised some financial support. How donors could/should be recognized needs to be addressed. A low-key listing below the Robinson Appreciation Plaque would be appropriate. Ralph needs to work with Ron to downsize the seating and add a bike rack. A drinking fountain would be desirable, but the water would have to be piped over from the other side of the street. This is too expensive for us. However Dennis will ask Dave Kiff if the City will do this. Otherwise a bottled water station would be an option.

12. **New Business** was introduced by Jack Keating. The Restoration Team will meet 11/7/05. A key agenda item will be the Big Canyon project. Bids have been received for Phase II (detailed design) and a contract for about \$700,000 is about to be issued. Coordination with the Corps “dredging” project is a key issue.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Minutes recorded by Roger Mallett on behalf of Wendy Hirdler, Secretary