

Newport Bay Naturalists and Friends Board of Directors Meeting

Date: Monday, July 17, 2006

Location: Newport Beach Marriott, Bayview

Members Present: Regina Fodor, President, Tom Mooers, Treasurer, Paul Kuhn, Secretary, Carol Starcevic, Dennis Baker and Jack Keating.

Staff: Roger Mallett, Executive Director, Donna Carroll, Accountant.

Guests: Rita McCoy, Volunteer Coordinator & NBNF Naturalist, Don Millar, NBNF Naturalist, Jean Whitaker, NBNF Naturalist, Richard Watts, NBNF Naturalist, and Connie Bean, NBNF Naturalist

The meeting was called to order by Regina at 6:07 P.M.

The Minutes of the June meeting were approved with some amendments.

Shellmaker Issues - Invited Guests: Some of the meeting guests were invited by the President to discuss their experiences working as volunteers with the DFG staff at Shellmaker Island. The purpose was to develop an independent understanding of the attitudes of these volunteers relating to the effectiveness of the relationship. The guests included Donna Carroll, Don Millar, Rita McCoy and Jean Whittaker. All of the these guests have had at least five years of experience working with John Scholl and have had many opportunities to evaluate the relationship.

The common themes of most of the speakers were organization problems, lack of continuity of programs, irregular hours of operation, time conflicts, inadequate record keeping and lack of bay wide coordination of program calendars. Most agreed the Marine Life Inventory and Fishing for Science programs are satisfactory but noted equipment shortages had occurred. Although all agreed the educational opportunities for students at Shellmaker are plentiful most felt the necessary teamwork with the County Harbors, Beaches and Parks and other parties operating at the Bay is missing.

Executive Director's Report: The report was reviewed and there was general agreement with the recommendations of the Bay Planning Committee. Regina's communication with Terri Stewart was discussed later in the meeting.

Accountant's Report: Donna reported that our latest solicitation letter, sent with *Tracks* to the neighborhoods of Santa Ana Heights, Eastbluff, Westcliff and Dover Shores just about broke even between money spent and collected. Thirty-three new members signed up. A **motion** was made by Jack to curtail funding of activities soliciting memberships

from new neighborhoods until we have our agreements with F & G and HBP in place. The motion was seconded and passed. *Tracks* will now be sent only to our members.

Financial Committee Report: Reviewed and accepted.

Fundraising Committee Report: Regina reported a problem arranging Duffy boats for a summer donor cruise but Tom volunteered a boat for the first cruise. Pam has volunteered the food and beverages and we will try to get Rita McCoy to be the cruise director.

A list of donors to NBNF will appear in the next *Tracks*.

Advocacy Committee: Dennis made a **motion** to allow the name of NBNF to appear on a letter of support for **Proposition M**. The motion was seconded and passed.

Dennis mentioned that future issues for advocacy would be Newport Beach city council candidates; state bond measures involving clean water, and natural habitat parks.

The secretary reminded the Board that the revised bylaws (November, 2005) state in Article II, Section 2. "Policy. The corporation shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate..."

Board Development: No new candidates have been identified. A solicitation for new potential board members will be sent to the naturalists in the next *Clapper Rail*.

Key Board Initiatives: A **motion** by Jack was passed to direct Roger to craft a letter to Tom Mauk (Orange County CEO) explaining what NBNF would like the county to do regarding management of the Interpretive Center and the Nature Preserve.

Regina reported on a phone conversation she had, earlier in the day, with Terri Stewart of DFG. Regina expressed optimism that F&G was interested in cooperating with other lead agencies and NBNF regarding bay management and BBSC staffing and programs. Regina will meet later this week with Terri and others and she hopes that this spirit of cooperation will continue.

Regina made a **motion**, which was seconded and passed that our president will pursue the positive aspects of the DFG conversation and report back to the Board as events occur.

The minutes of the Bay Planning Committee of July 12, 2006 were accepted.

Jack made a **motion**, which was unanimously passed, that the Board of NBNF will not support IRLRT taking a stewardship role at UNB unless the Management Coalition endorses this action.

Media and Community Relations: Carol was congratulated on the excellent article she authored in the Daily Pilot about the activities in UNB. Carol thanked all the contributors to the article and especially Pam, who was the catalyst who made it happen. Roger and Dennis will send Carol articles by July 28th to include in the next column.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul R. Kuhn, M.D., Secretary