

Newport Bay Naturalists and Friends Board of Directors Meeting

Date: October 18, 2006

Location: Newport Beach Marriott, Bayview

Members Present: Tom Mooers, Treasurer; Carol Starcevic; Jack Keating; and Dennis Baker.

Staff: Roger Mallett, Executive Director.

Guests: None

The Meeting was called to order at 6:08 P.M. by the Treasurer.

The Minutes of the September Board meeting were approved.

Carol reported on the monthly **NBNF column in the Daily Pilot**. The most recent article appeared in the October 4 edition and publicized the Plein Air Art Show and Sale. It was agreed that Carol would email a reminder to Board members and others a week or so before each coming due date in order to get input.

The Executive Director's Report was discussed. The report indicated that the Newport Beach City Council held a Study Session on October 10 to address the issues raised in he September 7, 2006 letter from the Board to the City Council. Several NBNF representatives spoke urging the city to take a more active role in the operation of the Back Bay Science Center. The City Council is receptive to this. However no action is expected until after the Council elections in November. Assistant City Manager Dave Kiff will continue to work with DFG to have a full time DFG Reserve Manager at UNB, and to move forward with BBSC tenant improvements and curriculum development.

Roger reported that the **Accountant's Report for September** was not available yet. Donna had just this week returned from vacation and had been busy with the accounting for the Plein Air Art Show and Sale. Roger referred everyone to the Plein Air Sales comparison Donna emailed to the Board on October 17, 2006.

Tom gave the **Financial Committee Report**. He indicated that the committee had been working on a revised Capital Campaign Agreement with the County for the Peter and Mary Muth Interpretive Center. The Laguna Canyon Foundation does not have a signed agreement with the County for the Nix Center either. Tom will discuss this further with Mary Fergraus next month, with a view to the two organizations resolving common issues jointly.

Discussion took place regarding the success of the **fundraising** electric boat cruises that have taken place courtesy of Tom and Pam. It appears that renewed or increased support will be forthcoming as a result. Suggestions for other fundraising avenues were made. These included advertising, Advisory Board appreciation and involvement and Board

development focusing in this area. Dennis indicated that he had talked to two people who had the right background for this and who were potentially interested in joining the Board.

Dennis made a **motion that NBNF contribute \$250 to be a co-sponsor of the Coastal Commission Reception** scheduled for Thursday, November 16th, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Huntington Beach Waterfront Hilton Hotel. Passed.

Dennis reported that there is nothing new on the **horse arena**. We are being informed of developments as they occur. The Cooperative Agreement between the City and County goes before the County Board of Supervisors next week. A last-minute rider addresses the ability of the City to control a trail in the Santa Ana Heights Redevelopment Area.

Jack reported on the status of the **Robinson “Memorial”**. We are still waiting on the Coastal Commission permit needed for revised site design. It is on the calendar for the December Commission meeting. Prior to then an updated Biological Assessment needs to be submitted because the Commission staff considers the 2004 Assessment to be too old. Jack estimates the updated Biological Assessment will cost in the order of \$500. Jack will provide a more detailed report at the next Board meeting.

Jack reported on the status of the **Big Canyon Project**. Work has just started on the 12-month second phase, which includes detailed design and Coastal Commission permitting. The first stakeholder meeting was recently held which was attended by Jim Cokas and Rik Katzmeier of NBNF.

Other advocacy issues discussed were the **County Harbors, Beaches and Parks Strategic Plan** development process and its impact on the UNB Comprehensive Resource Management Plan and future West Side projects. The Advocacy Committee will need to establish rapport with the incoming County Supervisors and help educate them about the importance of UNB.

Jack mentioned a discussion document from the Irvine Ranch Land Reserve Trust addressing **public/private partnerships** that he had forwarded to the Board. Jack asked for this to be put on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Mallett
Executive Director