



**Meeting Notes**  
**Dunes Collaborative**  
**Thursday July 9, 2009**

9:00am to Noon

Dunes Center

1055 Guadalupe Street, Guadalupe, CA 93434

Co-Chairs: Bob Hill [bobh@lcslo.org](mailto:bobh@lcslo.org) and

Rey Monge [RMONG@parks.ca.gov](mailto:RMONG@parks.ca.gov)

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**1. Introductions/Opening remarks**

a. In attendance:

- (1) Bob Hill, Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County (Co-Chair)
- (2) Rey Monge, ODSVRA (Co-Chair)
- (3) Ronnie Glick, ODSVRA
- (4) Dan McElhinney, Dunes Center
- (5) Christina Bird-Holenda, Dunes Center
- (6) Melissa Boggs, Restoration Subcommittee/OSPR
- (7) John Jostes, Facilitator
- (8) Jamie King, Center for Natural Lands Management, on the phone

**2. Review of Meeting Notes from June 11<sup>th</sup> Dunes Collaborative Meeting**

- a. Last month's meeting did not approve April's meeting notes (there was no May meeting). Review of Meeting Notes from June 11, 2009: Of those present, only one Collaborative member was in attendance at the June meeting; therefore, no action was taken on the meeting notes. The adoption of the meeting notes was deferred to action via e-mail distribution and consent on the part of those present at the June meeting.

**Action Item:** June 11<sup>th</sup> meeting notes awaiting emailed approval.

**Action Item:** April meeting notes were approved via email.

**3. Dunes Collaborative Mailing List**

- a. The group discussed, in detail, the purpose of the mailing/distribution list and what/how it should function as well as who should be on it. Four specific objectives were identified:
- (1) The group determined that posting the draft meeting agendas, and finalized meeting notes on the Collaborative's website would be the most efficient approach to distributing relevant information to the broadest set of interested parties.
  - (2) The group determined that draft meeting notes would be distributed, via e-mail to formal Collaborative members and those representatives present at the meeting in question.
  - (3) The group provided for one additional review of the existing mailing list by collaborative members, with the intent of scaling back the list to individuals who were engaged or interested in the work of the Collaborative. Dan McElhinney committed to sending the individuals on the existing mailing list a

notice that agendas and meeting notes would be posted on the website and further requesting that they indicate if they still would like to receive announcements of monthly meetings with agendas attached.

- (4) Dan McElhinney offered to write up a paragraph describing who would be sent what types of information prior to and following Collaborative meetings (from the objectives noted above).

#### **4. Dunes Collaborative Website** (addition to the agenda)

Dan McElhinney announced that the Dunes Center Website ([www.dunescenter.org](http://www.dunescenter.org)) was ready to be formally placed into action within the next several days and said the Dunes Center is currently hosting the Collaborative's website ([www.dunescollaborative.org](http://www.dunescollaborative.org)) as well and is committed to continue to do so. There was some discussion of the purpose of the Collaborative's website in light of previous discussions that had taken place at the Retreat earlier this year and within the Fund Raising Subcommittee.

- (1) Communication and resources for Collaborative members (agendas, meeting notes, needs lists, relevant documents).
- (2) Marketing to the broader community (who are we, what do we do, what we are currently doing).
- (3) Resources for the community (library links, work products, reports).

#### **5. Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) Projects**

- a. The group discussed whether or not to submit written comments to the Water Board for its July 10<sup>th</sup> meeting in Watsonville the following day. There was a wide ranging discussion of the merits and liabilities of submitting comments and/or requesting a continuance until a meeting could be held closer to the Guadalupe/San Luis Obispo area. Melissa Boggs indicated that it was her position as a member of the Restoration Subcommittee, that any communication to the Board by the Collaborative would be construed as a commentary of the Restoration Subcommittee as well, and that the restoration Subcommittee had indicated to the Executive Director and his staff that it would not be taking a position on either of the two projects under review. There was a divergence of opinion by members of the Collaborative regarding this position. One perspective was in general alignment with the perspective offered by Melissa Boggs. The other perspective was that the Collaborative should continue to pursue a recommendation that the funds be expended on projects within the dunes system or, at the very least within the watersheds of the dunes. In the end, no consensus emerged, and the Collaborative took no action to submit comments.

**Action Item:** At the conclusion the Collaborative asked Bob Hill, acting as co-chair, to communicate with Michael Thomas of the Regional Board a desire on the part of the Collaborative to continue discussions of potential projects within the dunes and/or its watershed, should the contingencies associated with the acquisition of Cherry Canyon property not be met.

#### **6. Upcoming Task Force and Subcommittee Dates and Discussion Topics:**

- a. **Restoration Task Force:** Bob Hill reported that efforts were being made to schedule a Restoration Task Force Meeting sometime in late July or early August

to begin discussing limited projects for submittal as a part of the overall 2010 Project package. He indicated that either he or Daniel Bohlman would notify interested parties as soon as a date had been set.

- b. **Visitor Serving Task Force**—Thursday July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 at 9am at the Dunes Center
- c. **Writing Subcommittee:** John Jostes reviewed his approach to convening the Writing Subcommittee to produce a product by the September or October meeting of the Collaborative. He outlined a six step process which entailed:
  - (1) Redistributing the 2009 Revised Work Plan, soliciting written comments from the Subcommittee within a 2-3 week time frame
  - (2) Consolidation of questions and comments into a updated version for review by the Subcommittee in early August
  - (3) Individual contacts with members of the Writing Subcommittee to address notable concerns
  - (4) Convening a face-to-face meeting of the Writing Subcommittee in late August to revise and finalize a proposed final version for full review by the Collaborative
  - (5) Placement of the proposed final version on the September Agenda of the Collaborative
  - (6) Final adoption of the 2009 Work Plan at the October Collaborative Meeting for inclusion in the proposed package of 2010 Project Proposals

**Action Item:** The Collaborative concurred that the six-step approach and timeline was one that should be implemented. This work plan should be updated annually and be added to the restoration plan which should be updated every five years.

- d. **Fundraising Subcommittee:** Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 1:30pm at the Dunes Center to discuss **Mitigation Banking Project** proposal to the Army Corp of Engineers in regards to the Santa Maria Flood Control Levee strengthening project.

## 7. Other Information, Announcements, and Updates

- a. ODSVRA has filled all supervisor positions.
- b. Brochure project: Ronnie Glick announced that we will have a printed proof very soon.
- c. Bob Hill announced that NOAA has granted the California Conservation Corps \$1.5 dollars and they Land Conservancy may be able to use their services at no cost thanks to this grant.
- d. John Jostes just returned from a conference in Denver on climate change and the role of mediators and facilitators in response. John is working on writing a paper called “the Greening of Regional Decision Making” and will use the Dunes Collaborative model to demonstrate how local agencies, nonprofits, and governments can work together in a collaborative way to accomplish things they wouldn’t normally do or even be expected to do. This is an effort to remake the model from towards collaboration and away from confrontation/competition.

- 8. **Adjourn—Next Meeting:** Tentatively August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009 from 9am-12pm at the Dunes Center