

**UNB EDUCATION TEAM
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Meeting Date: Thursday, October 18, 2007

Meeting Time : 3:00 to 4:00 PM

Location: Interpretive Center

Attendees: Matt Yurko (Calif. Coastal Commission) Roger Mallett (NBNF)
 Dave Kiff (City of Newport Beach) Rita McCoy (NBNF)
 Amy Stine (City of Newport Beach) Jean Whitaker (NBNF)
 Robin Madrid (DFG) Doug Peterson (Surfrider Foundation)
 Dave Meyer (DFG)

1. Robin reported that the Back Bay Science Center (BBSC) Programs Group met on October 4, 2007 and worked on the layout of the two Teaching Lab classrooms. Dave Kiff has sent the sketches developed in the meeting, along with details such as the sizes of existing aquaria, to Betsey Dougherty (the architect retained by the City) in order to prepare drawings. Because of other project constraints, it will be a month or so before Betsey can work on this.
2. Robin also reported that BBSC construction under the current contract is officially completed and that DFG received the keys on October 17, 2007 allowing them to move in. Gradually over the next few months they will be moving the existing aquaria and other items into the new classrooms. OC Health Care Agency has kindly offered to donate the lab tables in its temporary Water Quality Lab when it moves into the new building. Robin expects to be operational in the new BBSC around January 1, 2007.
3. The official public opening of the BBSC was discussed. It was agreed that this should be an "Estuary Awareness Day" similar to the event of that name held in 2004 and the Ocean Discovery Days held in 2002 and 2003. Roger volunteered the Naturalists to help Robin organize the event. An event planning group would be set up and work in similar fashion to the Cleanup Day Planning Group. There would be a formal ceremony as part of the event, but this would be relatively low-key. There would not be a "gala" type of event as there was for the Interpretive Center in 2000. The date tentatively decided for the Estuary Awareness Day is Saturday May 31, 2008. Alternates are June 7 and May 17. The latter is probably too close to Earth Day, which is the last Sunday in April. Estuary Awareness Day will focus on spotlighting the education programs of all the various entities involved at and around Newport Bay, including Inside the Outdoors, ENC, etc.
4. Roger gave an update on the 2008 Plein Air event. The reception will take place on Friday, July 25 at the Interpretive Center. Both Robin and Bill Reiter have indicated that they are willing to allow their respective facilities to be used for the Saturday/Sunday art show and sale. The artists of the Southern California Plein Air Painters Association (SOCALPAPA) who will be partnering in the event are being asked for input regarding choice of venue. Other joint events for 2008 are Earth Day at the Interpretive Center in April, and Cleanup Day in September. Mini water cleanups may be organized in late winter.
5. The next UNB Education Team Meeting was set for Thursday, January 17 from 2-3:00 pm. If need be a BBSC Programs Group meeting will precede it from 1-2:00 pm. The Edu Team Meeting will focus on planning for the 2008 joint events.

Minutes prepared by Roger Mallett
October 19, 2007