

**UNB MANAGEMENT COALITION
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Draft 8/9/06

Meeting Date: Friday, August 4, 2006

Meeting Time : 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: Interpretive Center

Attendees:	Eben Schwartz (CCC)	Leslie Ray (HBP)
	Dave Kiff (CNB)	Sue Stoffel (HBP)
	Brian Shelton (DFG)	Ray Mahallati (HCA)
	Terri Stewart (DFG)	Jack Keating (NBNF)
	Parker Hancock (HBP)	Roger Mallett (NBNF) – Chair
	Sue McIntire (HBP)	Susan Brodeur (WCRD)

1. The minutes of the April 20, 2006 meeting were approved.
2. Brian Shelton was congratulated on his new position at the DFG Region 3 office in Napa. Although still transitioning, he officially left his current position on June 22, 2006. Terri has to wait out a DFG mandatory four-month salary savings period before she can refill his position here at UNB. This date is October 22, 2006.
3. Terri reported that she has received the first few chapters of the UNB Ecological Reserve Land Management Plan (LMP) from ERA, the consulting company preparing this document, and has sent back comments. The scoping meeting has been skipped. The intention is to issue a draft of the entire LMP for public review and hold public meetings in October 2006. The LMP would then be finalized in November/December 2006. There has been some slippage on the project as a result of problems getting all the pertinent information to ERA. Terri will try to accelerate the LMP public review draft, since this will be helpful in scoping the preparation of the Comprehensive Resource Management Plan (CRMP) for all of Upper Newport Bay.
4. Dave reported that no further action has been taken on the CRMP since the last Management Coalition (MC) meeting on April 20, 2006, since authorization to fund this is tied to the approval of the City/County Master Cooperative Agreement (MCA). See below. Jack reported on the alternate approach to development of the CRMP that NBNF has proposed. This approach addresses the CRMP in phases and focuses in the first phase on reaching consensus between the various stakeholders as to what the major Resource Management goals should be, and how the CRMP should be structured so that it can be implemented to achieve those goals. Detailed scientific studies of the type proposed by ERA would be conducted as needed in a later phase. NBNF has provided a suggested Scope of Work for the first phase to the City. Dave has not yet shared this with DFG and HBP.
5. Dave reported that the City/County MCA is close to being finalized. It now includes language as suggested by NBNF that City resources will be used to supplement, not supplant County resources at UNB. It is anticipated that the MCA will go before the City Council in late August and the County Board of Supervisors in early September.
6. Dave and Terri reported that they have not worked on the top-level City-DFG agreement in the past couple of months, but have been focusing instead on the Lease Agreement and the Operating Agreement called for in the BBSC Cooperative Agreement. The latter will be issued as a discussion draft for review by DFG, HCA and the City in the next 7-10 days. Bob Burnham is writing it on behalf of the City. Dave has not seen it yet. Both documents are urgently needed.

7. Jack reported on the recommendations made by the Restoration Team at its last meeting with respect to projects that should continue rather than wait on the development of the CRMP. The following projects should continue:

1. The 6-acre West Bay Project.
2. The Big Canyon Project
3. The Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) Project
4. The Vista Point Project
5. The South Shellmaker Demonstration Marsh Project
6. The Eastbluff Park Erosion Project
7. The various ROOTS Projects

The larger West Bay Project (previously known as the Boardwalk Project) should wait until the development of the CRMP.

8. Susan Brodeur reported on the Army Corps of Engineers Project (Dredging Project). The contractor has found that it has not been getting the production it expected with the hydraulic dredge and is awaiting delivery of a clamshell dredge to supplement efforts. They will be working around the “hotdog” Tern Island next. Susan thanked the City for funding and providing floating signs that the ACOE will install to mark the channel during construction. Discussion took place regarding the information kiosks to be placed around the Bay as part of the Dredging Project. It was agreed that Parker will pick one of the three kiosk designs included in the UNB Site Element Design Guidelines for use at all UNB Ecological Reserve and Nature Preserve locations, based on minimizing long-term maintenance/replacement costs. Dave will reissue the UNB Public Use Map once more for review. This shows proposed kiosk locations. The map can then be given to the ACOE for printing and installation in the kiosks. Susan mentioned that the ACOE is still working on a feasibility study to create additional mudflat at 23rd Street in lieu of at the Newport Aquatic Center. The ACOE will want the local sponsor to help pay the additional design costs. Some but all of the 23rd Street dredge spoils are due to be removed in February 2007, so this needs to be resolved soon so that the additional work can be done while the equipment is there. Susan also explained that with the current level of state/local funding, federal fiscal year 2005/6 funding and likely reprogramming of other ACOE funds in fiscal year 2006/7, the project can continue until at least July 2007. To avoid having to demobilize and then remobilize later, additional funding needs to be lined up by February 2007.

9. Roger reported on the monthly column on Upper Newport Bay that NBNF is now writing as a result of the efforts of Pam Ryan and Carol Starcevic (two NBNF Board members). It is published either the first or second Wednesday of each month. The intent is to grab the reader’s interest in a topic such as the ospreys, and provide a message (such as keeping dogs on leash). Now that the column is established Roger indicated that NBNF would like to plan out what the content and messages should be for the next six months or so. Brian and others suggested the following issues to educate people about:

1. Over watering of gardens, etc.
2. Off-trail use
3. Littering
4. Landscaping with invasive plants
5. Light and noise pollution
6. Releasing animals into the wild
7. Problem animals and human behaviors attracting them
8. After hours use (sunset to sunrise)
9. Homeless people on trails
10. Kids using almost-real soft pellet guns

Roger indicated that Carol will contact MC members to get input to the column. Anyone with suggestions should contact either Roger or Carol. Deadline to Carol is the 24th of the month prior to publication.

10. Dave reported that it is not feasible, because of political campaign restrictions, to send a letter to local residents from the Mayor or Supervisors reminding them of the need to be good environmental citizens at UNB. However the intended message (as discussed at the last MC meeting) will be incorporated in the next City Manager's newsletter. Rules applicable to both the Ecological Reserve and Nature Preserve will be included. Dave will download from newportbay.org.
11. Discussion took place regarding Predator Management. Terri and Brian sought input regarding contractors that HBP has used and/or is using to set, bait and empty traps. Parker will research and provide information to Terri.
12. Discussion took place regarding a palm tree below that a resident believes harbors rats. If the resident wishes to fund its removal, DFG will provide a permit to do so. Conditions would be that it is done outside the March-September breeding season and that the structure is replaced with a suitable native tree such as elderberry.
13. The next MC meeting was set for Thursday, November 2, from 10:00 to noon at the Interpretive Center.

Minutes prepared by Roger Mallett
August 9, 2006