

**SUMMARY OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2013 MEETING
FORT ORD NATIONAL MONUMENT SUPPORT GROUP
6:00 PM-7:30 PM, Oldemeyer Center, Seaside**

- I. **Welcome** – Henrietta and Kay welcomed the group)

- II. **Group announcements**
 - A. MORCA-- Trail Work 3rd Saturday (9/21); TAKMBD October 5
 - B. MCSARD—CERT disaster training 9/13-15
 - C. US Army—Munitions Cleanup sites tour Sept 21
 - D. Eco-Hostel Open House Sept 14, 11-2 pm; Kay provided fliers
 - E. Others—Gordon Smith gave an overview of Measure M and K status

- III. **BLM announcements**
 - A. Public Lands Day on October 26—Eric Morgan described activities and noted BLM was still in planning mode. PG&E is donating \$2,000 via Conservation Lands Foundation and FORT Friends for food and entertainment for volunteers. Kay suggested selling FONM T-Shirts despite the fact that free T-shirts maybe given away.
 - B. BLM video on FONM—various group representatives were interviewed about what is special about FONM. Footage will also be used for a video describing FONM, State Parks and Coastal National Monument—central coast beauty.
 - C. Other events and activities on FONM—Eric described land transfers in progress from FORA to County, which could mean some of the “no trespassing” signs could be coming down. Still a lot of work and uncertainty regarding access to the FONM from Seaside/Marina area (see August summary). Based on Army sampling, there could be major munitions work west of Hennickson’s Ranch Road (T67, 68, 90, 91), which could include multi-month closures.

- IV. **Updates from Jane Haines**
 - A. FORA eco-tourism committee and future CSUMB colloquium—Jane described an event likely in December 2013 where experts from outside the area will lecture on economic development/base reuse, blight removal financing, National Monuments incorporated into city/county planning, and related topics will offer insights from a long-range viewpoint (similar to TED talks). Hopefully all FORA members will send their planning staff.
 - B. Signage plan—Jane met with Eric Morgan on August 16 and learned a lot. She gave Eric a draft sign plan that she prepared based on her research and interests (military History, DeAnza Trail and rare plants). The plan focused more on guiding principles rather than details. However, she was discouraged about the lengthy time it takes to implement plans due to funding issues and bureaucracy.
 - C. Other—The signage plan led to a discussion about need for welcoming trailhead signage at 8th and Gigling and Jerry Smith. Supervisor Parker is

interested in this too. Another idea is an Interagency visitor center at Imjin entrance off of Highway 1, and possible sponsorship by developer of that area. Dave Pacheco, Ralph Lauer and Kay Cline expressed interest in meeting the developer (Danny Blakewell) to discuss this concept. Funding is always a big issue. Eric sees some sort of public-private partnership as most likely. He notes the California Welcome Center in Salinas is a private building with public lease and paid/volunteer staffers.

V. FORT Friends Grant Application to Conservation Lands Foundation

- A. FONM Coalition concept hosted by FORTF – Henrietta noted that in previous meetings, no one seemed interested in starting a new separate group, and that the informal coalition concept seemed to have most support as many are involved in their own groups. The coalition concept would focus only on FONM; the FORTF website would have a master calendar of events and volunteer opportunities. The grant includes an outreach plan, fundraising, printed materials, etc. Eric Morgan felt successful fundraising needs to identify a specific concrete project that achieves common goals or benefits shared by many groups, businesses and individuals. He used the Tahoe Rim Trail as an example

VI Specific tasks are noted in the summary above.

VII. Next meeting Thu October 10 at 6 pm at Oldemeyer Center—