



MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

165 FOREST AVENUE • PACIFIC GROVE, CALIFORNIA 93950-2612 • (408) 648-3116 FAX (408) 375-9863

Date: 9 May 1997

To: Don Dean
Shirley Elgenholm
Bernie Ferrara
Paul Finnegan
Bruce Handy
Ron Kettlewell
Bob Llewellyn
Muriel Pyburn
Esther Trosow

From: Steve Bailey *Steve*

Re: Lighthouse planning discussion

I am inviting you to participate in a meeting at the Point Pinos Lighthouse from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Monday 2 June. The purpose of this on-site meeting is to discuss several important questions central to the further development of the Point Pinos Lighthouse museum.

The ten people listed above represent the museum staff (6), the Museum Association Board's committee on the Lighthouse (3), and the Adobe Chapter of the Questers (1). Each of us has unique concerns, perspectives, and talents to contribute to this discussion.

That having been said, I should remind everyone of the process that will be followed. It is not a democracy. I am soliciting all of your input and I will consider it all carefully. As a group you may even choose to vote on certain issues. However, what you will be considering will be your *recommendations* to me. As Museum Director I will make the final decisions. Your task, singly and collectively, will be to convince me of the wisdom of your suggestions. Hopefully a strong consensus will evolve from this discussion that not only convinces you but also convinces me of its wisdom. It will have to be practical as well as consistent with the goals of the museum and with professional museum standards.

Before listing the key agenda questions, I will state some things that are not up for discussion at this meeting. The rooms already restored by the Questers are not being reconsidered. The upstairs Coast Guard Room project will continue as planned for the past two years, under Paul's guidance working with Kent Seavey and others. The bathroom will be redone with antique fixtures (e.g. pull-chain toilet) and its bathtub restored.

The following are key questions to be discussed. Please do not prejudge any of these based on past practices or present opinions. In each case there are factors and concerns of which each one of us is unaware.

- 1) Should we continue to sell lighthouse items in the *Lighthouse*?
- 2) Should the mode of visitor entry be changed?
- 3) How should the "kitchen" be used?
- 4) What should be done with the big stove?
- 5) How should the basement be developed?
 - a) If the space is limited to what we have now.
 - b) If we obtain the rest of the basement.
- 6) How do these answers relate to the Questers' restoration of the central room?
- 7) Should the restored bathroom be available for functional use?

Although there is somewhat of a logical sequence to these questions, clearly they must be answered with the big picture in mind; none of the first six questions can be considered alone without thinking of the other questions.

If you will be unable to attend this meeting, please send your thoughts to me on paper. This is an important chance to incorporate your thoughts.

This will be the first and perhaps most important meeting of the Museum Association Board's committee for the Lighthouse. After this meeting I see the committee as having an ongoing function of gathering or receiving suggestions from anyone and considering them as needed while working with the museum staff. Even after I have decided these bigger questions there will be much detailed planning to be done as specific projects evolve. For example, we envision contracting an exhibit professional to produce interpretive exhibits that will be developed with input from all of us.

I hope to see you at the meeting.