

Attachment C

Dunes Center Extension Request Letter

Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center
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March 12, 2021

Dear Kathy Pfeifer,

I am writing to request an extension of the 2019 Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund (CREF) for the preservation and restoration of a sphinx from Cecil B. DeMille's 1923 *The Ten Commandments*. The current end date of this grant is June 2021.

We require this extension in order to successfully complete the preservation and restoration of a sphinx from Cecil B. DeMille's 1923 *The Ten Commandments*. We were unable to complete the project during the contracted award period as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Other funding opportunities (i.e. private donors and foundations) were directed towards basic needs and general operations. We were unable to successfully raise the matching funds in order to complete the project.

The Dunes Center had to cancel all in person fundraising events and was forced to prioritize raising funds to support our staff and support our community directly. Although, we shifted our focus during the shutdown, in attempt to raise the funding to complete the project, we hosted two virtual events, *The Sphinx and Drinks I and II*. The virtual events were educational talks that focused on the narrative and logistics of past excavations. We also continue to advertise on social media and in our newsletters and e-blasts.

The pandemic has had a severe impact on the Dunes Center, as we move forward towards reopening, we ask that you grant us two more years to raise the matching funds and complete the project. This project will not only bring publicity and visitors to the Dunes Center, this project will bring tourism and revenue back to Guadalupe in a time when it is needed most.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. I look forward to speaking with you.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alexis Elias".

Alexis Elias
Interim Executive Director