

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT

Minutes of the Joint Zoo Committee Meeting

January 29, 2015, 5:00 p.m.

San Francisco Zoo, Lurie Education Center

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Recreation and Park Commissioner Maggie Wei

Recreation and Park Commissioner Mark Buell

San Francisco Zoological Society (SFZS) Board Member, Maria Alvarez

San Francisco Zoological Society (SFZS) Board Member, Elena Asturias, Chair

Committee Advisor, Sally Stephens

Committee Advisor, Joseph Spinelli

2. Joint Zoo Committee Meeting Minutes (Action Item) ACTION: MSA

Adoption of Minutes of the December 10, 2014 Committee Meeting.

3. San Francisco Zoo Administrative Report (Discussion)

Tanya Peterson, Executive Director & President SFZS.

Ms. Peterson reported attendance for the month of December is 65,069 versus budget of 55,000 and over budget by 10,069 visitors. SFZ *Zoolights* event had attendance of 18,994 versus budget of 10,000. This figure included 797 free visitors from San Francisco fire Department. Attendance on Christmas Day was over 3,000 visitors. January attendance to date is over budget by 5,940 visitors or 11%. The special exhibit *Rockin' Ropes* has already had 500 users. Actual year-to-date attendance is 527,484 and is over budget by 64,984 visitors.

Ms. Peterson reported on the AZA Director's Conference she attended. The participants highlighted trends throughout the Zoo community. These included Increasing "Asks" of zoo visitors at exhibits such as Wipe for Wildlife, Palm Oil Education, recycle cell phones; climate change education; increase "Value" for animals in exhibits such as enrichment and exhibit habitat; Increase "Stay" time at exhibit to watch the animals through installation of benches, having naturalists in presence to speak and/or design enhancements and lastly participating in S.A.F.E. or "Save Animals From Extinction. This year the San Francisco Zoo has taken up the plight of the Western Pond Turtle. Ms. Peterson cited case studies of two zoos – Indianapolis and Philadelphia who examined ways to increase attendance through various channels including online purchase of tickets at a discount, increasing visitor ship during weekdays, new exhibits. The conference allowed for exchange of ideas from Zoo professionals which give thoughts of possible channels to explore for all Zoos.

Ms. Peterson announced the opening of the San Francisco Zoo Animal Sculpture Plaza which is an enhancement to the Children's Playground. The Sculpture Plaza is scheduled to open Memorial Weekend.

Commissioner Buell stated that the Golden Gate Park Conservancy is doing a study of climate change and feels the approach through education rather than advocacy is the road to take.

4. **Animal Transactions.** (Action Item)

ACTION: MSA

David Bocian, VP Animal Care & Enrichment, SFZS

Discussion and possible action to recommend that the Recreation and Park Commission approve the following transactions:

ANIMAL TRANSACTION RATIFICATION – January 2015

DONATION TO:	ANIMAL SPECIES	PRICE	TOTAL DUE
None			
DONATION FROM: Birmingham Zoo 2630 Cahaba Road Birmingham, AL 35223	0.1 Lady Ross' turaco <u>Musophaga rossae</u>	NIL	N/A
Fresno Chaffee Zoo 894 W. Belmont Ave. Fresno, CA 93728	0.0.1 Roseate Spoonbill <u>Ajaja ajaja</u>	NIL	N/A
Fresno Chaffee Zoo 894 W. Belmont Ave. Fresno, CA 93728	1.0 Emerald tree boa <u>Corallus caninus</u>	NIL	N/A
Fresno Chaffee Zoo 894 W. Belmont Ave. Fresno, CA 93728	1.0 Aquatic caecilian <u>Typhlonectes natans</u>	NIL	N/A
Fresno Chaffee Zoo 894 W. Belmont Ave. Fresno, CA 93728	1.0 Surinam toad <u>Pipa pipa</u>	NIL	N/A
Fresno Chaffee Zoo 894 W. Belmont Ave. Fresno, CA 93728	0.1 Caiman lizard <u>Dracaena guianensis</u>	NIL	N/A
Fresno Chaffee Zoo 894 W. Belmont Ave. Fresno, CA 93728	2.0 red-ruffed lemur <u>Varecia rubra</u>	NIL	N/A
US Fish & Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement Port of San Francisco	0.0.5 spiny-tailed iguanas <u>Ctenosaura palearis</u>	NIL	N/A

5. Animal Updates. (Discussion)
David Bocian, VP Animal Care & Enrichment, SFZS

ANIMAL UPDATES – DECEMBER 2014					
DATE	SEX	ANIMALS	TRANSACTION		COMMENTS
ACQUISITIONS					
4	0.1	Red panda	Donation	Sunset Zoo	
9	1.1	South American green snake	Donation	Dallas Zoo	
9	0.2	Andean tinamou	Donation	Dallas Zoo	
9	1.0	Hadada ibis	Donation	Dallas Zoo	
9	0.1	Western grey plantain-eater	Donation	Dallas Zoo	
17	1.0	Steer	Donation	Private party	
18	1.0	Snow leopard	Donation	Cleveland Zoo	
DISPOSITION					
				Age at Death	
17	1.0	Canvasback	Death	14Y, 5M, 27D	
19	1.0	North American ruddy duck	Death	13Y, 4M, 28D	
19	0.1	North American ruddy duck	Death	12Y, 5M, 11D	
19	1.0	Black lemur	Death	19Y, 9M, 4D	Progressive seizure disorder, vascular disease
19	0.1	Red-necked wallaby	Death	~7Y, 2M, 15D	Fractured femur
23	1.0	North American ruddy duck	Death		

asked the name of the lemur. Response was Deidre. Commission Advisor Spinelli questioned if SFZ currently has two red pandas or three? Response was three – two females & one male.

6. Record Keeping: Groups, Colonies, and Individuals

Ingrid Russell-White, Curator of Collections (Information only)

Ms. Russell-White explained the record keeping process of animals living at zoos. Each animal or group is given a number; all transactions are recorded; daily keeper reporting and medical information goes in the database; individual ID's, parentage taxonomy, rearing information, enrichment and training, permits birth place, previous transactions, weight and reproductive status. Data Entry Standards are set from the following: AZA: has an Institutional Records Keeping course offered yearly and published data entry standards; ZRA (Zoo Registrars Association) has a List serve of information and holds an annual conference; USDA requires water quality, permits and daily records information and California Fish & Wildlife has identifiers which can include imbedded photos. To maintain the most detailed information every specimen that becomes part of a collection should be accessioned with an individual record. Individual accession allows easy transfer of information and medical records and individuals are uniquely identifiable or held in separate enclosure. Group/Colony accessing is practical with a large number of animals with a short life span; too many in the group to count; individuals cannot be distinguished; examples: a colony of rodents in which offspring become part of the breeding group and a spawn of amphibians which may occur over a period of time. Annual census occur and changes will be reflected in the collection numbers

Committee Advisor Spinelli questioned if common & scientific names are used and species and subspecies. Committee member Alvarez asked if there is a common database across all zoos.

7. **Announcements** (Information only)
Committee Advisor Stephens reported that at the January Animal Care meeting David Bocian came & gave a presentation which was well received and Abigail Tuller represented SFZ and went on record of SFZ as supporting Assembly Bill 96 banning sale of ivory to protect elephants..
8. **Chair's Announcements.** (Information only)
9. **Old Business.** (Discussion)
None
10. **New Business/Future Agenda Items.** (Information only)
11. **Public Comments:**
12. **Adjournment**
Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm

DRAFT