

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT

Minutes of the Joint Zoo Committee Meeting

October 23, 2014

San Francisco City Hall, Room 416

2:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Recreation and Park Commissioner, Eric McDonnell, Chair
Recreation and Park Commissioner Maggie Wei
Recreation and Park Commissioner Mark Buell
San Francisco Zoological Society (SFZS) Board Member, Gail Secchia
San Francisco Zoological Society (SFZS) Board Member, Maria Alvarez
Committee Advisor, Sally Stephens
Committee Advisor, Joseph Spinelli

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

Adoption of Minutes of the September 25, 2014 Committee Meeting.

3. San Francisco Zoo Administrative Report (Discussion)

Tanya Peterson, Executive Director & President, SFZS.

Ms. Peterson reported that she and the director of the Kansas City Zoo have entered into a wager on the outcome of the World Series based on the mascots and colors of the respective teams. Senior manager from the losing team will wear the winning team's colors: Kansas will wear orange & black in front of their seal lion exhibit with a sign reading "we're not lying the Giants beat us fair & square or San Francisco will wear royal blue in front of the lion exhibit with a sign reading "the Royals won, we're swallowing our pride". SFZ is offering \$1 off admission to visitor's wearing Giants attire to the Zoo during the world series. To celebrate the Giants first game victory the Zoo has named the new baby kudu Madison after pitcher Madison Baumgartner.

Ms. Peterson reported attendance for September is 65,312 versus budget of 60,000 and over budget by 5,312 visitors or 8%. Actual year-to-date attendance through September 15 is 282,831 and is over budget by 10.9%.

The Zoo's special exhibit, "*Nature Connects*", opened to the public on October 10th in the former pachyderm building. The exhibit features artist Sean Kenney's giant nature-themed sculptures made out of LEGO bricks and focuses on imagery of wildlife and plants. The exhibit closes on January 4th.

SFZ's annual *Boo At The Zoo* event will be held on October 25th & 26th with candy stations, special animal enrichment, take-home crafts to be made and pictures with Casper the Friendly Ghost. As always there is the Haunted Nature Trail and the Pumpkin Stomp & Chomp where the animals enjoy tasty holiday-themed treats and wellness activities. Children wearing costumes receive \$1 off admission. SFZ thanks Grocery Outlet Bargain Market for its generous sponsorship of this event.

In animal news, SFZ is home to two of the oldest polar bears, Ulu and Pike. To acquaint the visitor with these special animals Keeper Talks are scheduled daily at 12:30. Guests will learn of the individual likes and dislikes, personalities and care they receive.

Conservation is part of the Zoo's mission and management has been developing a waste management program and the concern for the wild animal population which gets food discarded by our visitors. SFZ has developed a program spearheaded by SFZ Board Member Gail Secchia that has purchased three debris handling recycling bins for composting and trash containers. These containers encourage visitors to separate their waste and to compost creating a way to keep animals from getting the waste and supporting conservation. SFZ thanks Gail for her suggestion and donation to promote conservation efforts.

SFZ's annual *Zoolights* winter event will return beginning Friday, December 12th through Tuesday December 30th. The event will be held from 5pm to 8pm every evening except December 15th through December 18th and December 24th & 25th. Visitors can enjoy the Zoo at night under magical holiday lights. Live entertainment, costumed characters, visits with Santa, visiting Santa's reindeer, the Elinor Friend Playground, silent disco and more animals to see.

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:

SAN FRANCISCO ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS
ANIMAL TRANSACTION RATIFICATION – October 2014

DONATION TO:	ANIMAL SPECIES	PRICE	TOTAL DUE
None			

DONATION FROM:
None

PURCHASE FROM:
None

SALE TO:
None

TRADE:
None

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

ANIMAL UPDATES – SEPTEMBER 2014					
DATE	SEX	ANIMALS	TRANSACTION		COMMENTS
ACQUISITIONS					
6	0.0.1	Chilean flamingo	Birth/hatch		
13	0.0.1	Chilean flamingo	Birth/hatch		
14	0.0.1	Chilean flamingo	Birth/hatch		
19	0.0.1	Chilean flamingo	Birth/hatch		
26	0.1	Southern pudu	Donation	Micki Grove Zoo	

26	0.1	Southern pudu	Donation	Sedgwick County Zoo	
		DISPOSITION		Age at Death	
9	1.0	Barred tiger salamander	Death	~14Y, 3M, 22D	Weight loss/skin ulcers (report pending)
18	0.0.1	Chilean flamingo	Death	~0Y, 0M, 5D	Undetermined
17	1.0	Giant anteater	Donation		To Great Plains Zoo (been on loan)
19	0.0.6	Lemur leaf frogs	Death	~1Y	Maladaptation syndrome/parasites
27	0.1	Guinea pig	Death	~4Y,7M, 4D	Abnormal heart/liver (report pending)
30	0.1	Patas monkey	Loan Out		To Woodland Park Zoo

6. San Francisco Zoo Incident Commander Process Report

Rene Martin, Security Manager, Fresno Chaffee Zoo (Information only)

Mr. Martin presented an overview of the Incident Commander System and his suggestions for implementation of this system into SFZ current protocols. He outlined what the program components are: Incident Commander who has overall control of the incident; Operations representative who is in charge of the particular incident; Planning which entails preplanning and drills; Logistics and Finances. The objectives are to save life, stabilize the incident and protect property. One main component is the language used should be universal to all emergency agencies which might be needed to control the incident. SFZ has already incorporated components into its protocols and is working with staff to explain the ICS and holding drills. Discussion followed on various areas with questions from the Committee centering on the integration of the ICS into SFZ protocols. Mr. Martin made the point that the process can take 1 – 1 ½ years of implementation and that the continued use of the system and training is the key. He also stated that SFZ is ahead of that curve.

7. Announcements (Information only)

None

8. Chair's Announcements. (Information only)

Chair McDonnell stated that due to the Thanksgiving & Christmas holidays the Committee meeting would need rescheduling and the public would be informed. He also thanked David Bocian for implementation of the new radio system with both union and non-union staff.

9. Old Business. (Discussion)

None

10. New Business/Future Agenda Items. (Information only)

Chair McDonnell would like to see updates on the new radio system..

11. Public Comments:

Member of Public Rothman stated that things are moving ahead on the possible restoration of the Mother's Building.

12. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.