

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT

Minutes of the Joint Zoo Committee Meeting

December 16, 2013

San Francisco Zoo

4:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Recreation and Park Commissioner, Eric McDonnell

Recreation and Park Commissioner Tom Harrison

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

San Francisco Zoological Society (SFZS) Board Member, Wayne Reading

Committee Advisor, Sally Stephens

Committee Advisor, Joseph Spinelli

2. Joint Zoo Committee Meeting Minutes (Action Item)

ACTION: MSA

Adoption of Minutes of the October 24, 2013 Committee Meeting.

3. San Francisco Zoo Administrative Report (Discussion)

Wayne Reading, Chief Financial Officer, SFZS.

Mr. Reading reported that attendance for the month of November was 60,647 visitors versus budget of 47,800 and over budget by 12,847 visitors. Year-to-date attendance is 377,345 and is over budget by 14,545 visitors.

In terms of animal updates, Reading reported that the new Amur tiger has arrived and has been relaxing in his new habitat. Recently, the Zoo received two eastern mountain bongo, a type of spiral-horned antelope found only in the mountain forests of Kenya. These animals are critically endangered due to habitat loss and poaching. A new male cassowary, Daintree, has been added to the collection and paired with our female cassowary, Slash.

In terms of events, Reading reported that the Zoo is once again having its nighttime *Zoolights* program. Over half a million energy-efficient L.E.D. lights are used to brighten up the holidays around the Zoo. Thanks to Mega Event Productions, visitors are following the decorations from Entry Village past the Lemur Café to *Big Bugs*, *Outside the Box* and around to the reindeer on the Playfield Lawn and new Elinor Friend Playground. Guests will hear Christmas music along the path and simulated snow will fly each night of Zoo Lights.

Lastly, Reading suggested that the audience visit the Zoo's [Holiday Happenings and Great Gifts](#) web site page to explore the variety of means through which to do some holiday shopping while simultaneously support the Zoo's mission.

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 – November 2013

DONATION FROM:	ANIMAL SPECIES	PRICE	TOTAL DUE
Saint Louis Zoo	3.3 White ibis	NIL	N/A

One Government Drive *Eudocimus albus*
Saint Louis, MO 63110

Philadelphia Zoo 1.0 Crested oropendola NIL N/A
3400 West Girard Ave. *Psarocolius decumanus*
Philadelphia, PA 19104

SAN FRANCISCO ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS
ANIMAL TRANSACTION RATIFICATION – December 2013
NO TRANSACTIONS FOR THIS PERIOD

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

ANIMAL UPDATES – OCTOBER 2013					
DATE	SEX	ANIMALS	TRANSACTION		COMMENTS
ACQUISITIONS					
1	1.1	Red-bellied lemur	Donation	Dreher Park Zoo	
6	1.0	Slender-tailed meerkat	Donation	Albuquerque Zoo	
13	0.1	Virginia opossum	Donation	Squirrel Mender Wildlife Rehab	
27	0.0.2	Chacoan peccary	Birth		
29	0.0.4	Chacoan peccary	Birth		
31	0.0.1	American alligator	Loan In	Audubon Zoo	
DISPOSITION					
				Age at Death	
1	0.1	Barrow's goldeneye	Death	13Y, 4M, 3D	Missing, predation suspected
10	0.1	Virginia opossum	Death	~3Y, 7M, 9D	Rear leg paralysis
17	0.1	Hooded merganser	Death	2Y, 4M, 20D	Muscle disease, cause not determined
18	1.0	Mallard	Death	12Y, 5M, 3D	Cancer, testicular
20	0.1	Giant marine toad	Death	~8Y, 7M, 19D	Post-op hip surgery, pathology report pending
23	0.1	Capybara	Death	~5Y, 4M, 22D	Cancer, lymphoma
27	0.1	Mallard	Death	12Y, 5M, 12D	Cancer, ovarian
29	0.1	European rabbit	Death	3Y, 7M, 28D	Gastrointestinal obstruction

ANIMAL UPDATES – NOVEMBER 2013					
DATE	SEX	ANIMALS	TRANSACTION		COMMENTS
ACQUISITIONS					
5	1.0	Francois' langur	Loan	Hogle Zoo	
5	1.0	Amur tiger	Loan	Hogle Zoo	
12	0.9	Mice	Purchase	East Bay Vivarium	
12	0.0.1	Emperor tamarin	Birth	Santa Ana Zoo	
22	0.4	Reindeer	Loan	Operation Santa Claus	
29	1.0	Eastern bongo	Donation	Louisville Zoo	
29	0.1	Eastern bongo	Loan	Zoo Atlanta	
29	1.0	Southern cassowary	Donation	Houston Zoo	

		DISPOSITION		Age at Death	
6	1.0	Sheep	Death	10Y, 8M, 25D	Neurological disease, brain tumor
6	1.0	Yellow-backed duiker	Donation		Nurnberg Zoo
12	1.0	Chilean flamingo	Death	37Y, 10M, 11D	Intestinal mass, internal bleeding
13	0.1	Goat	Death	14Y, 8M, 8D	Chronic progressive arthritis
21	1.0	Common squirrel monkey	Death	19Y, 1M, 4D	Heart failure
26	1.0	Chilean flamingo	Death	~27Y, 10M, 25D	Leg weakness, pathology report pending

Committee Advisor Stephens asked the age of the tiger, why he was here, and whether he will be at SFZ for awhile. Bocian answered he is four years old and will be at SFZ for a few years. Bocian noted that SFZ has one female Siberian tiger, although it is uncertain whether she will conceive due to her age and past breeding practices, so it is most likely that the male will be here for display purposes. Committee Member Alvarez asked about the new Cassowary. Bocian responded that Cassowaries are a part of a large group of flightless birds including ostrich. Member of Public Ennis questioned that if the tiger is not here for breeding what did SFZ give Hogle Zoo to get him. Bocian explained that while not here specifically for breeding, the movement is part of a cooperative as Hogle Zoo has too many male tigers and SFZ can provide a home. SFZ paid nothing for the male. Ennis asked if the alligator is here for breeding and how many are at SFZ. Bocian stated the alligator is here for educational purposes and is the only one of its breed at SFZ.

6. Announcements (Information only)

None

7. Chair's Announcements. (Information only)

None

8. Old Business. (Discussion)

None

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

10. Public Comments:

The Business Agent of Local Teamsters No. 856, Tim Jenkins, spoke about his concerns of the functioning of the Zoo's "Code Red" alarm system and safety issues for employees working in "code red" animal areas. Commissioner Harrison asked if the Society's management would be speaking to the concerns raised by the union representative. Reading commented that the Society is currently in negotiations with Teamsters 856 for a new contract, but since he had not been directly involved in negotiations with the union, he would have to leave a response to the Society's negotiating team and/or the Society's President and Executive Director.

11. Adjournment.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:27 p.m.