RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
Minutes of the Joint Zoo Committee Meeting
May 23, 2013
San Francisco Zoological Society
5:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
   Recreation and Park Commissioner, Paige Arata
   Recreation and Park Commissioner, Larry Martin
   San Francisco Zoological Society (SFZS) Board Member, Maria Alvarez, Chair
   San Francisco Zoological Society (SFZS) Board Member, Elena Asturias
   San Francisco Zoological Society (SFZS) Board Member, Gail Secchia
   Committee Advisor, Sally Stephens

2. **Joint Zoo Committee Meeting Minutes (Action Item)**
   Adoption of Minutes of the April 25, 2013 Committee Meeting

3. **San Francisco Zoo Veterinary Report.** *(Information only)*
   Graham Crawford, Chief Veterinary Services, SFZ
   Dr. Crawford gave an overview of the Zoo’s wellness health program, which
   includes wellness evaluations; life stage evaluations which generally include a full physical
   exam, x-rays, and lab tests; acute and emergency care; intermittent care such as dental
   cleaning; aging animal care; nutrition program, and the care of animals offsite or not in the
   Zoo’s collection including the Bison in Golden Gate Park, animals at the Randall Museum,
   and, at times, triage to Ocean Beach animals and local wildlife. He also stated that at times
   veterinary and human consultants help with specialized procedures such as surgery and root
   canals. Alternative medical procedures are employed such as acupuncture on arthritic goats
   and sheep. Medical behavior training is done so there is a decreased need to anesthetize
   animals for diagnostic tests. For example, awake ultrasound exams are used to evaluate gorilla
   heart health and diagnose pregnancy in the Sumatran tiger.

   Committee member Secchia asked if annual examinations are advisable when anesthesia is
   necessary. Crawford responded that the practice of annual anesthetized exams is not thought to
   be necessary or performed in most animals, particularly with the progress being made in awake
   medical behavior training.

   Member of Public Ennis stated that he recalled that every six months the Chief Veterinarian
   would present an updated list of the causes of death of various animals whose results were
   pending at the monthly meetings and requested this be done again. Ennis said he had copies of
   the report and would bring to the next meeting.

4. **San Francisco Zoo Administrative Report (Discussion)**
   Tanya Peterson, Executive Director and President, SFZS
   Director Peterson reported April attendance as 91,297 visitors versus monthly budget of 80,000
   and over budget by 14%. As of May 20th, year to date attendance is 744,000 visitors and over
   budget by 15%. Regarding exhibits, Peterson reported minor renovation is occurring at the
   western end of polar bear exhibit, so that a polar bear can use both grottos. Also, a small fountain
   can now be seen in the Upper Lake near Pelican Beach. This step was made to improve pond
   management as well as create additional movement and help cycle the water. This new fountain
   should provide a healthy balance and prevent algae build-up. Over 6000 visitors came to the Zoo
to celebrate Mother’s day. Over 1600 of those visitors were Mothers and Grandmothers who received free admission to the Zoo. This upcoming Memorial Day weekend, the Zoo is both honoring the country’s veterans as well as encouraging a little wellness, conservation and fun with its visitors. The Zoo will offer 50% off admission to both active and retired veterans. Red Rover is sponsoring *Hallabazoo* with activities including an inflatable playhouse, obstacle course and a climbing wall. This year, the Zoo covered its annual safety training during National Volunteer Week. During the training, Zoo staff reviewed key information such as what to do in case of an earthquake, tsunami, major medical emergency, lost children and animal escapes. On other news, *ZooFest*, the Zoo’s annual fundraiser, was an outstanding success. The new tiger cub received her name, Jillian, after longtime Zoo supporter, Jillian Manus. *Travesia: Journey of the Gray Whale* opens to the public on June 8. This is an exciting bi-lingual, multi-media show that explores the lifecycle and migration patterns of gray whales.

5. **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 – May 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DONATION TO:</th>
<th>ANIMAL SPECIES</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>TOTAL DUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Louisville Zoological Garden</td>
<td>3.3 Chilean flamingoes</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1100 Trevilian Way</td>
<td><em>Phoenicopterus chilensis</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Louisville, KY 40213</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Detroit Zoological Society</td>
<td>1.0 Lion-tailed macaque</td>
<td>NIL</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8450 W. 10 Mile Rd.</td>
<td><em>Macaca silenus</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal Oak, MI 48067</td>
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   6. **Animal Updates.** (Discussion)

   David Bocian, VP Animal Care & Enrichment, SFZS

   **ANIMAL UPDATES – APRIL 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>SEX</th>
<th>ANIMALS</th>
<th>TRANSACTION</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ACQUISITIONS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Black parrots</td>
<td>Loan In</td>
<td>Private Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>Chacoan peccary</td>
<td>Birth</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
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<td>San Clemente goat</td>
<td>Birth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>Fishing cat</td>
<td>Birth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>Red-fronted lemur</td>
<td>Donation</td>
<td>Birmingham Zoo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>Blue-tongued skink</td>
<td>Donation</td>
<td>Private Party</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DISPOSITION</td>
<td>Age at Death</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>Goat</td>
<td>Death</td>
<td>11Y, 5M, 3D</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>Red kangaroo</td>
<td>Death</td>
<td>19Y, 1M, 24D</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>Tiger salamander</td>
<td>Death</td>
<td>~12Y, 10M, 24D</td>
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Curator Corrine MacDonald was asked to review the death of the Fishing Cat. Committee Member Secchia asked if the Zoo has had successful births previously. MacDonald stated both the National Zoo and SFZ are the facilities that have had successful births. In this case, viewing cameras were installed to view the nesting box. All seemed to be doing well but then the kitten’s behavior became suspect and staff felt they should intervene. When attempting this there was trauma to the kitten by the mother possibly in an effort to keep the kitten from staff. While there was trauma it was found that the kitten had ingested some of the nesting material which had lodged in the soft pallet. Committee Advisor Stephens asked if the cat would have died anyway. MacDonald answered she could not say that. Stephens asked if this was the same mother who gave birth six months ago and lost the kitten. MacDonald stated it is but cameras were not installed at that time.

Member of Public Ennis asked about the death of the Tiger salamander from hyperthermia. Curator Gomez stated it was felt that the death could have occurred due to overheating when the animal was displayed to the public through outreach programming.

7. **Announcements**  
   (Information only)
   None

8. **Chair’s Announcements.**  
   (Information only)
   None

9. **Old Business.**  
   (Discussion)
   None

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

11. **Public Comments:**
    Committee Advisor Stephens stated she recalled something similar to what Member of Public Ennis had said about detailed report of deaths.

12. **Adjournment.**
    Meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.