

**RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT**

Minutes of the Joint Zoo Committee Meeting

June 26, 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 Mark Buell  
San Francisco Zoological Society (SFZS) Board Member, Maria Alvarez  
San Francisco Zoological Society (SFZS) Board Member, Gail Secchia  
San Francisco Zoological Society (SFZS) Board Member, Elena Asturias  
Committee Advisor, Sally Stephens  
Committee Advisor, Joseph Spinelli

**2. Joint Zoo Committee Meeting Minutes (Action Item)**

**ACTION: MSA**

Adoption of Minutes of the May 22, 2014 Committee Meeting.

**3. San Francisco Zoo Administrative Report (Discussion)**

Joe Fitting, VP Education and Conservation, SFZS.

Mr. Fitting reported attendance for the month of May was 91,331 versus budget of 93,000 and under budget by 1669 visitors. Actual Year-to-date attendance is 817,773 versus budget of 746,000 and over budget by 70,973 visitors.

The Zoo is fortunate to have two ongoing partnerships with the San Francisco Public Libraries. On June 4<sup>th</sup> the San Francisco Public Library BookMobile came again to the Zoo on the Resident Free Day. For the past several years the BookMobile sets up and opens its doors allowing kids and families to take home exciting animal themed books. The second partnership is thru the ZooMobile outreach program. For the third year in a row, starting in June, the ZooMobile visited various library branches. This year eight branches had live animal presentations over the course of four days.

In event news, *KidsFest*, returned to the Zoo on Friday, June 6 with more than 320 guests enjoying the Elinor Friend Playground, red panda exhibit and special exhibit *Washed Ashore*. Also on hand were wildlife presentations, live music, dancing, face painting, magicians, and arts and crafts. The result of all the fun was approximately \$35,000 raised for the Zoo. Other events which occurred in June were World Oceans Day on June 8<sup>th</sup>, Father's Day weekend on June 14 and 15, and World Giraffe Day celebrated on June 21.

In animal news, Tenzing, the new male red panda, turned 1 year old on June 8. Staff celebrated with a few snacks including an ice cake with fruit treats inside and a decorated box of bamboo. On June 16 for the first time in nearly 40 years yellow-legged frogs are swimming in lakes of the Lake Tahoe Basin. The Zoo partnered with the US forest Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, wildlife researches and other to head start metamorphic frogs for reintroduction. Thirty-five Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frogs were released into their new home. The group will be monitored throughout the summer.

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 – June 2014**

<b>DONATION TO:</b>	<b>ANIMAL SPECIES</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>TOTAL DUE</b>
Louisville Zoo P.O.Box 37250 Louisville, KY 40213	0.1 Siamang <i>Symphalangus syndactylus</i>	NIL	N/A
<b>DONATION FROM:</b>			
Brookfield Zoo 3300 Golf Road Brookfield, IL 60513	0.2 Amazon tree boas <i>Corallus hortulanus</i>	NIL	N/A
Buffalo Zoo 300 Parkside Avenue Buffalo, NY 14214	.2 Red-rumped agouti <i>Dasyprocta leporina</i>	NIL	N/A
<b>PURCHASE FROM:</b>			
John and Cheryl Weickert 43704 Bills Beach Road Dent, MN 56528	1.0 North American porcupine <i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>	\$1000	\$1000

5. **Animal Updates.**

(Discussion)

David Bocian, VP Animal Care & Enrichment, SFZS

<b>ANIMAL UPDATES – MAY 2014</b>					
DATE	SEX	ANIMALS	TRANSACTION		COMMENTS
<b>ACQUISITIONS</b>					
1	0.1	red panda	Loan Transfer	Zoo Boise	
4	0.0.1	bearded dragon	Donation	rescue	Recycled Reptiles
7	0.0.1	glass lizard	Donation	rescue	Recycled Reptiles
14	1.0	Magellanic penguin	Birth		
15	1.0	Magellanic penguin	Birth		
15	3.3	scarlet ibis	Purchase	SeaWorld San Antonio	
15	1.0	blue-bellied roller	Donation	Reid Park Zoo	
22	1.0	Magellanic penguin	Birth		
24	0.1	Magellanic penguin	Birth		
<b>DISPOSITION</b>					
6	1.0	Giant anteater	Donation		Zoo Boise
8	0.1	Domestic turkey	Death	~5Y, 1M, 7D	Abdominal cancer
10	0.1	Chacoan peccary	Death	0Y, 0M, 11D	Failure to thrive
13	1.0	Sugar glider	Death	~9Y, 4M, 12D	Liver mass. Pathologist report pending
23	1.0	Chacoan peccary	Death	0Y, 1M, 16D	Pathologist report pending
23	1.0	mallard	Death	13Y, 0M, 8D	Skin cancer

Committee Advisor Stephens regarding the maternal neglect death of the Chacoan peccary at what point is an animal removed. Bocian responded that animals will be removed if the need is seen. In the incident of the 10 day old animal there was no indication that the animal was having any problems and was found dead. The 16 day old was being hand reared and again there was no indication of a problem. Both deaths were a surprise. No wound was found upon examination. Commissioner McDonnell asked the meaning of numbers under the column stating sex mean. For example the scarlet ibis listing is 3.3. Bocian responded that the entry means three male and 3 female animals.

- 6. Approval of Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Operating Budget for the San Francisco Zoo**     MSA  
Wayne Reading, Chief Financial Officer, SFZS                                     (Action Item)  
Mr. Reading presented the FY 2014-2015 Operating Budget for approval.  
Committee member Secchia asked for an explanation of Board Giving and how it is set up.  
Reading responded \$10,000 is given yearly for expenses and \$50,000 is given every three  
years for capital. Commissioner Buell questioned before the budget is presented to this  
committee who else has seen it. Reading stated that the Zoo's Finance Committee is the first to  
approve the budget for submittal and the Executive Committee is the second. Commissioner  
Buell asked for his own information to be better informed on the budget he would like to meet  
with Reading and the Development VP to review for the breakdown of expenses.  
Commissioner McDonnell stated he would also like to meet to become better educated in  
specific details. Committee Advisor Stephens asked if most of the changes in expenses are  
staff related. Reading answered yes.
- 7. Announcements**   (Information only)  
None
- 8. Chair's Announcements.**   (Information only)  
Chair McDonnell stated that he was extremely sorry to have missed the visit of Patrick Willis  
at the Zoo.
- 9. Old Business.**   (Discussion)  
None
- 10. New Business/Future Agenda Items.**   (Information only)  
None
- 11. Public Comments:**  
Member of Public Hastings presented for consideration various ideas on improving the Zoo.
- 12. Adjournment.**  
Meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.