

**RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT**

Minutes of the Joint Zoo Committee Meeting

July 23, 2015, 5:00 p.m.

San Francisco Zoo, Lurie Education Center

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Recreation and Park Commissioner Eric McDonnell

Recreation and Park Commissioner Allan Low

San Francisco Zoological Society (SFZS) Board Member, Bill Beech

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

Committee Advisor, Joseph Spinelli

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

**ACTION: MSA**

Adoption of Minutes of the June 2, 2015 Committee Meeting.

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

Joe Fitting, Deputy Director SFZS.

Fitting reported year-to-date attendance is 957,228 versus budget of 870,000 and over budget by 87,228 visitors or 10%. Last year's final attendance was 915,657. Summer Zoo Camp has over 1600 participants and the Puffer Train is back up and operating after necessary maintenance and repairs.

Fitting announced on July 11<sup>th</sup> will be the Grand Opening of the South American Tropical Rainforest & Aviary. The temporary exhibit *Water Maze* is currently open. As with previous maze exhibits it offers interactive teaching experience.

Fitting reviewed the Primate Exhibit Expansion. He stated that currently SFZ is actively seeking funding for the exhibit. He reviewed the exhibit expansion with visuals of the Phasing diagram. He then reviewed Phase 1 Site Plan presenting a visual of the whole exhibit. Next he reviewed the Primate Interior Expansion, Phase 1 Building Plan Level 1 – Option 1. He then showed the Sifaka Project which takes the old PDC building and brings in Sifaka which is the largest of the lemur species. A donor has already come forward and there is \$1million dollars designated for this exhibit.

Fitting announced two summer events. On July 18-19 the annual Teddy Bear Festival was held with over 11,000 visitors enjoying themselves with entertainment, crafts and special programming. On August 1<sup>st</sup> will be the March of the Penguins. This year there are two chicks that will be making the trek from fish school to Penguin Island to join the group.

**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 2015**

<b>DONATION FROM:</b>	<b>ANIMAL SPECIES</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>TOTAL DUE</b>
Oakland Zoo	2.1 Meerkat	NIL	N/A

9777 Gold Links Road  
Oakland, CA 94605

Suricata suricatta

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

ANIMAL UPDATES – MAY 2015					
DATE	SEX	ANIMALS	TRANSACTION		COMMENTS
<b>ACQUISITIONS</b>					
1	0.0.1	Hadada ibis	Hatch	At SF Zoo	
1	0.1	Domestic polecat(ferret)	Donation	From Peninsula Humane Society	
5	0.0.1	Hadada ibis	Hatch	At SF Zoo	
6	0.0.1	Hadada ibis	Hatch	At SF Zoo	
7	0.0.2	Smoky jungle frogs	Donation	From Houston Zoo	
7	0.0.1	Black Howler	Birth	At SF Zoo	
~14	0.0.2	Blue-bellied roller	Hatch	At SF Zoo	
16	0.0.1	Magellanic penguin	Hatch	At SF Zoo	
19	0.0.1	Magellanic penguin	Hatch	At SF Zoo	
27	0.0.1	Waldrapp ibis	Hatch	At SF Zoo	
28	1.0	Pacific pond turtle	Donation	From Public Person	
<b>DISPOSITION</b>					
				<b>Age at Death</b>	
2	0.0.1	Hadada ibis	Death	<b>0Y, 0M, 1D</b>	Trama & failure to thrive
14	1.0	Chilean flamingo	Death	<b>0Y, 7M, 25/d</b>	Aspergillosis suspected-pathology report pending
17	1.0	Domestic chicken	Death	<b>7Y, 9M, 22D</b>	Pulmonary disease-pathology report pending
24	0.2	Scimitar-horned oryx	Loan Out		To Safari West
27	1.0	Emperor tamarin	Loan Transfer		To Denver Zoo
28	0.0.1	Waldrapp ibis	Death	<b>0Y, 0M, 1D</b>	Pathology report pending
28	0.1	Polar bear	Death	<b>32Y, 6M, 3D</b>	Intestinal cancer, arthritis
29	0.0.1	Hadada ibis	Death	<b>0Y, 0M, 24D</b>	Trauma

ANIMAL UPDATES – JUNE 2015					
DATE	SEX	ANIMALS	TRANSACTION		COMMENTS
<b>ACQUISITIONS</b>					
2	0.2	Domestic guinea pig	Donation	From Peninsula Humane Society	
4	0.0.10	Panamanian golden frogs	Loan	Transfer from Baltimore Zoo	
14	1.0	Domestic chicken	Purchase	Rooster from private local farm	
14	0.4	Domestic chicken	Purchase	Hens from private local farm	
18	0.2	West African crowned crane	Loan	From San Diego Zoo Safari Park	
25	0.0.1	West African crowned crane	Hatch	Hatched at San Antonio Zoo, SFZ male there on breeding loan	
<b>DISPOSITION</b>					
				<b>Age at Death</b>	
3	1.0	Domestic guinea pig	Death	<b>~5Y, 3M, 11D</b>	Weight loss, spleen

					masses, pathologist report pending
5	1.0	Crocodile-bird (plover)	Death	<b>6Y, 0M, 14D</b>	Predated
7	0.1	Nine-banded armadillo	Death	<b>3Y, 2M, 7D</b>	Anemia, pathologist report pending
8	1.0	Pacific pond turtle	Donation		To Detroit Zoo
12	0.1	Sheep	Death	<b>14Y, 3M, 8D</b>	Cancer suspected, pathologist report pending
23	1.0	Mallard	Death	<b>14Y, 3M, 8D</b>	Cancer, liver cysts, pathologist report pending
24	0.1	West African crowned crane	Loan		To Dallas Zoo for breeding
24	0.1	Southern groundhornbill	Loan		To White Oak Conservation Center for breeding
24	1.0	Southern groundhornbill hornbill	Donation		To White Oak Conservation Center

**6. Approval of Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Operating Budget for the San Francisco Zoo.**

Wayne Reading, CFO, SFZS

**ACTION: MSA**

Mr. Reading presented the FY 2015-2016 Operating Budget for approval.

Reading reviewed the process for submission of the budget. Reading stated that the Zoo's Finance Committee is the first to approve the budget for submittal and the Executive Committee is the second body to review and approve for submittal to the Joint Zoo Committee for approval. It is then to be presented to the Recreation and Park Commission. Revenues for this budget are generated from special fundraising events, donor contributions, membership dues, admission fees, parking revenue, various other retail sales and a management fee from the City and County of San Francisco. All of the budgeted expenses are used to support the ongoing operations of the Zoo, animal wellness and welfare, maintenance of the facilities and grounds and fundraising for the San Francisco Zoological Gardens.

The fiscal year 2015/2016 proposed operating budget includes total revenues of \$22,305,332 and operating expenses are planned at \$22,262,632. Next year's attendance has been budgeted at 900,000, which is 6% under the final actual attendance of 957,228 for fiscal year ending June 2015. The 6% delta in attendance projections allows for weather and other unknown variables that may impact attendance.

Reading stated that during Fiscal 2016, SFZ will continue to fill open positions, invest in the new wellness initiative, expand conservation efforts and focus on improving visitor experience. In addition to increased staff positions cost of improving the way-finding signage and hourly wages increases per the proposed collective agreement with the Teamsters Union. Expenses have increased for enhancing security, group medical insurance to reflect the significant increase in premiums charged by SFZ insurance companies as well as the increased cost of animal food, maintenance, utility rates and operating supplies.

**7. Announcements** (Information only)

**8. Chair's Announcements.** (Information only)

9. **Old Business.** (Discussion)  
None
10. **New Business/Future Agenda Items.** (Information only)  
David Bocian requested that a proposal to update the current SFZ Animal and Acquisitions and Dispositions Policy to reflect that policy stated by AZA (Association of Zoos and Aquariums) be placed on the agenda for consideration by the Committee. Copies of the various documents will be forwarded to the Committee for review.
11. **Public Comments:**  
Member of Public Rothman requested that if any one has any photos on the mural which is on the west wall before the water damage of the Mothers Building to please contact him to be shown in the renovations project. Member of Public Forwood questioned the timeframe on the Primate Exhibit Expansion. Fitting stated the target date is Spring 2016. Forwood questioned the improvements to the current chimp exhibit. Improvements for enrichment are already in process. Bocian stated the target completion for the Primate Expansion is Fall 2016 not Spring.
12. **Adjournment**  
Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.