

**RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT**

Minutes of the Joint Zoo Committee Meeting

August 27, 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 Tom Harrison

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

San Francisco Zoological Society (SFZS) Board Member, Elena Asturias

Committee Advisor, Joseph Spinelli

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

**ACTION: MSA**

Adoption of Minutes of the July 23, 2015 Committee Meeting.

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

Tanya Peterson, Executive Director & President, SFZS.

Director Peterson provided an overview of summer exhibits and events. The summer started with the Grand Opening of the South American Tropical Rainforest & Aviary, and in addition the temporary exhibit *Water Maze* was opened. On July 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, the annual Teddy Bear Festival was held with over 11,000 visitors enjoying themselves with entertainment, crafts and special programming. August 1<sup>st</sup> was the annual March of the Penguins and August 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> was Wild Cat Weekend showcasing our big cats. On August 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, two of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Michelangelo and Rafael, will be onsite to help celebrate the Mountain Lake Restoration Project in which SFZ is currently helping to repopulate the Western pond turtle population in Mountain Lake here in the City. Labor Day Weekend is Komodo Karnival showcasing SFZ's own Big Daddy Bahasa.

Peterson then provided a review of the expansion of the Lipman Family Lemur Forest. Peterson also reported that SFZ participated in a study funded by the Bechtel Environment Fund to reach out to youth to see what they feel environmentalism means. Lastly, Peterson stated that the recent issue of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) magazine entitled "Towards Positive Animal Welfare featured eleven articles written by many of the world's leaders in zoo animal welfare. One article, "Assessing Quality of Life in Geriatric Zoo Animals" is co-authored by members of SFZ's Wellness, Carnivore and Veterinary staffs. The article describes a simple behavior-based approach that SFZ has pioneered to evaluate the wellness of aging animals.

**4. Animal Transactions.**

**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 – July 2015**

<b>DONATION FROM:</b>	<b>ANIMAL SPECIES</b>	<b>PRICE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
California Department of Fish and Wildlife	3.2 chuckwallas <i>Sauromalus ater</i>	NIL	N/A



present a plan to restore the building. This will take time and money. Recreation & Parks Commission asked ARG for immediate and short term needs for this to occur. The needs must be met before the rainy season comes. Rothman was asked what the estimated cost of the repairs is. Rothman responded the total estimate for the project is \$4.6m with \$180,000 needed before the rain. Member of Public Forwood questioned why the decision has been made to complete the lemur expansion for an animal that SFZ as yet does not have rather than concentrating on the chimp exhibit for animals already here. Peterson responded that the Lipman family already had funded the expansion of the Lipman Family Lemur Forest. Regarding the chimpanzee exhibit expansion for additional chimpanzees, funds are being raised and additional care is being provided for the elderly male, Cobby.

**12. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

DRAFT