

Recreation and Park Department

Minutes of the Joint Zoo Committee Meeting

January 11, 2010

City Hall, Room 416

1:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Recreation and Park Commissioner, Tom Harrison

Recreation and Park Commissioner, David Lee

Zoological Society Board, Bill Beech, Chair

Zoological Society Board, Elena Asturias

Dr. Joseph Spinelli, Veterinarian Advisor

Sally Stephens, Animal Welfare Commission representative

1. Joint Zoo Committee Meeting Minutes (Action Item)

Adoption of Minutes of the November 9, 2009 Committee Meeting

ACTION: MSA

Adoption of Minutes of the December 14, 2009 Committee Meeting

ACTION: MSA

2. San Francisco Zoo Director's Report (Discussion)

Tanya M. Peterson, Executive Director, SFZS

Director Peterson stated that SFZS began the year with a letter from JP Morgan increasing their annual donation to \$45,000 to help underwrite the Nature Trail youth conservation program. Also, SFZ is having a Happy Zoo Year campaign in January, which allows a child free admission when accompanied by a paying adult. The child is asked to bring in a coloring of their favorite zoo animal or they may download a picture of a penguin from the SFZ website to color. Director Peterson thanked the Bernard Osher Foundation for supporting this campaign. During the months of January, February & March, San Francisco Unified School District teachers are offered one year's free membership to the Zoo. In December, a baby duiker was born at the zoo as part of AZA's Population Management program. SFZ participated in the 27th year of bird counting at the zoo in December. Visitor attendance for December was 35,070 versus a budget of 39,000 generating an unfavorable variance of 3930 visitors. Attendance revenue for the month was \$208,800 versus projection of \$246,068 generating a variance of \$37,268. Seven days of rain and overcast weather had a significant impact on attendance. The zoo renewed its Workers Compensation insurance at the same rates as last year. Director Peterson thanked the efforts of Wayne Reading, SFZ CFO, for this outcome. Last Saturday, 203 volunteers came out to the zoo to participate in the Renew the Zoo program working in the primate and savanna areas as well as some of the walkways. The holiday gift membership campaign yielded over 185 new members versus 30 gift memberships the previous year. A membership reward program will be rolled out in February in which food and retail sales will yield retail membership coupons for members. The education department has set the dates for its two Spring Zoo Camp program sessions: March 29 – April 2 and April 5 – April 9 for children preschool through 5th grade. After-care will be offered for a fee. There will also be a blog for parents so that they can check in on their children throughout the day. The zoo will host its Lunar New Year event celebrating the Year of the Tiger on Sunday, February 21. Details can be found on the zoos website at www.sfzoo.org.

Commissioner Lee asked if not having the reindeer over the holiday season impacted attendance this year and suggested that preparing a cost analysis might show this information.

He also wanted to say that he is pleased the zoo is going to have the Lunar New Year celebration. He has attended this event since its inception and realizes it is very popular. Ms. Stephens asked if the legislation proposed by Supervisor Sean Elsbrend has been adopted. Mr. Jenkins stated that the proposal was submitted in December and must go through the normal process. Also, SFZ representatives have been in contact with state legislators to suggest a change of the Criminal Trespass Law for the State of California.

Member of the public, Deniz Bolbol asked if a report would be given on the Hippo/Rhino enclosure as requested at the last meeting. Director Peterson responded that this is to be a formal agenda item and will be given at a future meeting possibly in February or March.

3. Animal Transactions. (Action Item)

ACTION: MSA

Bob Jenkins, VP – Institutional Advancement, SFZS

SALE TO:

PRICE TOTAL DUE

Boise Zoo 355 Julia Davis Dr. Boise, ID 83702 USDA #82-C-0006 Phone – 208-384-4260 Fax – 208-384-4194	3.0 Magellanic penguin <u><i>Spheniscus magellanicus</i></u>	\$500.00ea \$1,500.00
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4. Animal Updates. (Information only)

Bob Jenkins, VP – Institutional Advancement, SFZS

November 2009 Acquisition/Disposition Data:

DATE	SEX	ANIMALS	TRANSACTION	COMMENTS
ACQUISITION				
20	0.1	Lion	Donation	Tautphus Park Zoo, Boise, ID
DISPOSITIONS				
				Age at Death
2	0.1	Helmeted guineafowl	Death	12y 10m Pending
5	1.0	Emperor tamarin	Donation	Montgomery
7	1.0	Red ruffed lemur	Death	15y 7m 17d Pending
12	0.1	California kingsnake	Death	11y 1m 11d Pending
18	0.1	Lion	Donation	Tautphus Park Zoo
19	1.0	North American ruddy duck	Disappeared	presumed dead
23	1.3	Magellanic penguin	Loan	Monterey Bay Aquarium
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • - age at death may be estimated 		

December 2009 Acquisition/Disposition Data:

DATE	SEX	ANIMALS	TRANSACTION	COMMENTS
ACQUISITIONS				
1	1.0	Howler monkey	Birth	
11	1.0	Yellow-backed duiker	Birth, Loan In	Boston, Franklin Park
DISPOSITION				
Age at Death				

