

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT

Minutes of the Joint Zoo Committee Meeting

October 29, 2010

City Hall, Room 400

11:00 a.m.

Roll Call:

Recreation and Park Commissioner, David Lee, Chair

Recreation and Park Commissioner, Gloria Bonilla

Recreation and Park Commissioner, Mark Buell

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

San Francisco Zoological Society (SFZS) Board member, David Stanton

Ms. Sally Stephens, Advisor

1. Joint Zoo Committee Meeting Minutes (Action Item) ACTION: MSA

Adoption of Minutes of the September 16, 2010 Committee Meeting

**2. San Francisco Zoo Director's Report (Discussion)
Tanya Peterson, Executive Director & President, SFZS**

Director Peterson first congratulated the San Francisco Giants baseball team and noted the Director of the Fort Worth Zoo had extended a challenge bet regarding the outcome of the World Series between the Giants and the Texas Rangers. Also, Peterson noted participants in the SFZS' most recent Bird Walk spotted a rare Scarlett Tanager, a migratory East Coast bird, and a few Black Headed Grosbeaks. Also, in their continued effort to achieve best practices, members of the SFZS recently visited the Oakland Zoo and reviewed their animal enrichment programs. Peterson then reported that attendance for the month of September was over projection by 1528 visitors, and admissions revenue for the month was over budget by \$47,500. Also, she noted the Zoo's annual "Boo At The Zoo" event will be held on Halloween, and the Zoo's animals will celebrate with special enrichment items. Chairman Lee had expressed his desire that reindeer return to the Zoo for the winter holiday season, and Peterson reported reindeer will be returning. Also, as had been discussed at previous meetings, the SFSZ plans to give a home to a young male hippo arriving from an accredited zoo in the Midwest. This move is predicated by an unplanned birth of a calf at that zoo. It was the recommendation of Commission Bonilla and the SFZS to accept this hippo. Committee Advisor Stephens asked if the Waste Water Plant under consideration to be built in Golden Gate Park will be supplying water to the Zoo. Director Peterson responded she believes the PUC intends to supply it for irrigation purposes and further understands there will be public meetings on the use. Advisor Stephens also asked about the sailors who worked on a pond at the Zoo during Fleet Week. Director Peterson stated it was a successful partnership and the sailors completed the project in much less time than expected. Member of the Public, Mark Ennis, stated his opposition to bringing the hippo to the San Francisco Zoo due to current financial stress and the lack for consideration of animal welfare. He also stated his opposition to bringing reindeer to the Zoo for the same reasons.

3. Animal Transactions. (Action Item) ACTION: MSA

Bob Jenkins, VP – Institutional Advancement, SFZS

ANIMAL TRANSACTION RATIFICATION - September 2010

DONATION TO:			PRICE	TOTAL DUE
Los Angeles Zoo 5333 Zoo Drive Los Angeles, CA 90027 323/644-4207 Jennie Becker, Curator	0.4	Common squirrel monkey <u>Saimiri sciureus</u>	NIL	N/A
DONATION FROM: Detroit Zoo 8450 W. 10 Mile Road Royal Oak, MI 48067-3001 Nancy Butler, Registrar 248/541-5717	0.0.6	Amazon river turtle <u>Podocnemis unifilis</u>	NIL	N/A
Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley 3027 Penitencia Creek Road San Jose, CA 95132 408-929-9453 Jackie Turner	0.1	Virginia opossum <u>Didephis virginiana</u>	NIL	N/A
Coyote Point Museum 1651 Coyote Point Drive San Mateo, CA 94401 Nikii Finch-Morales, Director of Wildlife	0.0.2	Rubber boa <u>Charina bottae</u>	NIL	N/A
Blank Park Zoo 7401 SW 9 th Street Des Moines, Iowa 50315 515/323-8374 515/323-8390 fax Kevin Drees, Dir. Animal Care	1.0	Red-necked wallaby <u>Macropus rufogriseus</u>	NIL	N/A
PURCHASE FROM: Granby Zoo 525 St-Hubert Street Granby, QC Canada J2G 5P3 450/372-9113 x2151 Pauline Leggett, Registrar	0.1	Red-necked wallaby <u>Macropus rufogriseus</u>	\$1,000.00	N/A

Member of the Public, Mark Ennis, questioned the cost of acquiring the Wallaby to be part of the breeding program and again voiced his opinion that this is another example of the lack of concern of the zoo for animal welfare by spending money on acquiring new animals that could be used to care for the animals currently at the zoo.

4. **Animal Updates.** (Discussion)
 Bob Jenkins, VP – Institutional Advancement, SFZS

DATE	SEX	ANIMALS	TRANSACTION	COMMENTS
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ACQUISITIONS

2	0.0.6	Amazon river turtle	Donation	Detroit Zoo
4	0.0.1	Chilean flamingo	Birth	SFZoo
7	1.0	Francois' langur	Birth	SFZoo
8	0.1	Virginia opossum	Donation	Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley
8	1.0	Black lemur	Loan in	Como Park Zoo
22	0.0.2	Rubber boa	Donation	Coyote Point Museum
23	0.0.1	Francois' langur	Birth	SFZoo
28	0.1	Red-necked wallaby	Purchase	Granby Zoo
28	1.0	Red-necked wallaby	Donation	Blank Park Zoo

DISPOSITION

				Age at Death
14	0.4	Common squirrel monkey	Donation to	Los Angeles Zoo
30	1.0	Aye-aye	Loan transfer	Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo

5. Announcements (Information only)

Advisor Stephens voiced her desire that the meeting schedule be more formalized with fewer changes in times thus allowing more people to attend. Commissioner Buell stated that in an effort to regulate meetings the Recreation and Parks Commission has revised its meeting schedule to better accommodate those who wish to attend the meetings. The proposal is rather than having two commission meetings per month, beginning in January there will be one Commission meeting and three committee meetings: Joint Zoo, Operations and Capital. Ms. Stephens also commented on the possibility of posting the meeting notices on the SFZS website as well as the City website. Chairman Lee asked the clerk if this is possible and Ms. Schafer commented that the new Commission website is confusing and she would check with the City Attorney on the parameters in posting before the next meeting.

6. Chair's Announcements. (Information only)

Chairman Lee stated that he is pleased the reindeer are returning to the Zoo and he will definitely visit to see them.

7. Old Business. (Discussion)

Commissioner Bonilla asked if there has been discussion on plans to honor the Docents for their service to the Zoo. Director Peterson did state that there was a celebration held on zoo grounds honoring these volunteers. Commissioner Bonilla stated that if possible to have some of the Docents attend the Joint Zoo Meetings to be recognized.

8. New Business/Future Agenda Items. (Information only)

The minutes from the Site Tour of the Zoo will be on the next meeting's agenda.

9. Public Comments: Members of the public may address the committee on matters that are within the committee's jurisdiction and are not on today's agenda.

Member of the Public, G. L. Hastings wanted to thank the Commission and the SFZ staff and board for taking good care of the zoo and its animals in response to the objections of Mr. Ennis. He also gave as a gift a copy of the book, *America's Best Zoos by Allen W. Nyhuis & Jon Wassner*. Director Peterson thanked Mr. Hastings and stated that this would be placed in the Library at the Zoo. Member of the Public, Mark Ennis, stated that the new Recreation &

Parks website is difficult to maneuver and he was not able to locate the posting of the agenda for this meeting. The clerk, Ms. Schafer responded that she had doubled checked the posting and the change of meeting notice and agenda were in fact posted by Tuesday at 11 a.m. as required. Mr. Ennis asked Director Peterson from what zoo the hippo was arriving and was given the response that it is the Topeka Zoo.

10. Adjournment.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.