

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT

Minutes of the Joint Zoo Committee Meeting

December 15, 2010

San Francisco Zoo

5:00 p.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, Bill Beech

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

Committee Advisor, Dr. Joseph Spinelli

Committee Advisor, Sally Stephens

1. Joint Zoo Committee Meeting Minutes (Action Item)

ACTION: MSA

Adoption of Minutes of the November 17, 2010 Committee Meeting

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

Wayne Reading, Chief Financial Officer, SFZS

Mr. Reading wished everyone in attendance Happy Holidays. He reported the loss of long time friend and donor Richard Goldman. Mr. Goldman and his wife were not only generous supporters of the San Francisco Zoo but other institutions throughout the City. The Goldman Foundation contributed to the refurbishment of the Little Puffer train at the Zoo. Lily the female yellow backed Duiker was moved from an off exhibit site and is now a resident in the African Savanna. On the financial front, December has seen five rain days some of them occurring on weekends. Visitor attendance to date is below budget by 1053, down by 9.9% resulting in attendance revenue being below projections by \$12,000.

Advisor Sally Stephens stated that there had been a blurb in The Examiner stating that "Hippo May Ship via FedEx". Ms. Stephens wanted to clarify that this could be misconceived that the animal would be going through a national hub and that in fact the animal is taken special care of during transport. SFZS General Curator, Mike Sulak responded that while final arrangements have not been confirmed, the animal will be transported by air from Topeka, Kansas to Kansas City, Missouri. The animal will be accompanied by two people-one from SFZ and one from Topeka Zoo. It is to arrive in Oakland, CA and will then be taken to SFZ. Mr. Sulak explained to transport the animal via air is much better than travelling cross country in a van during this time of the year. It is hoped that plans will be finalized within the next couple of weeks. Animals have been shipped via FedEx previously, and they are very skilled in the transport of animals. Mr. Reading stated this is a point to be understood that this carrier has been transporting animals for awhile with great success. Dr. Spinelli stated that the greatest danger in transporting animals is that they get stuck in an airport. He asked that if there was bad weather predicted would the transport be cancelled or rescheduled. Mr. Sulak stated that this would be the case if necessary for the well being of the animal. The container used for transport is climate-controlled as is the hangar it would be detained in if necessary, and there are always two handlers in attendance.

Ms. Stephens asked in regards to the swan that was placed at SFZ from the pool at the Legion of Honor: is the plan that SFZ would be keeping the animal or would it be returned to the

Legion. Mr. Sulak stated that animal is under the control of SF Animal Control and SFZ is just holding the animal.

Member of Public, Philip Gerrie asked the cost of transporting the hippo. Mr. Sulak stated that the costs quoted to transport would be in the range of \$92,000 if chartered. Member of Public, Mark Ennis, wanted to state his opposition to bringing the hippo to SFZ.

3. Animal Transactions. (Action Item)

ACTION: MSA

Bob Jenkins, VP – Institutional Advancement, SFZS

SAN FRANCISCO ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS

ANIMAL TRANSACTION RATIFICATION - November 2010

DONATION TO:	PRICE	TOTAL DUE
Columbus Zoo 0.1 West African crowned crane PO Box 400 9990 Riverside Dr Powell, OH 43065 614/724-3665 Attn: Kelly Vineyard, Assistant Curator USDA # 31-C-0042	NIL	N/A

PURCHASE FROM:	PRICE	TOTAL DUE
Gladys Porter Zoo 0.1 Coscoroba swan 500 Ringgold Street Brownsville, TX 78520 956/546-7187 Attn: Colette Adams, General Curator USDA #74-C-0050	\$100	\$100

Member of Public, Pam Hemphill, asked how animals are transported. Mr. Jenkins responded that different species require designated means of transport and that if, in fact, this subject would be of interest to the Committee, it could be a topic on the agenda at a future date.

4. Animal Updates. (Discussion)

Bob Jenkins, VP – Institutional Advancement, SFZS

ANIMAL UPDATES – NOVEMBER 2010					
DATE	SEX	ANIMALS	TRANSACTION		COMMENTS
		ACQUISITIONS		Age at Death	
20	4.0	Reindeer	Loan in		Operation Santa
23	0.1	Coscoroba swan	Purchase		GladysPorter Zoo
24	0.1	Mute swan	Loan in		Holding for Palace of Fine Arts
		DISPOSITION			
8	2.0	Pied tamarins	Loan transfer		Seneca Park Zoo
9	1.0	Squirrel monkey	Death	18Y 3M 4D	Pending
13	0.1	San Francisco garter snake	Death	6Y 5M 6D	Pending
16	0.1	West African crowned crane	Donation		Columbus Zoo
20	0.0.1	Golfodulcean poison dart frog	Death	0Y 10M 18D	Pending
23	1.0	Queensland koala	Death	19Y 9M 9D	Pending

Mr. Jenkins explained the Final Disposition Results Report which was distributed to the Committee. Advisor Stephens asked if the current death of the dart frog was of concern as there has been a previous loss in October of another frog. Mr. Jenkins stated that due to the decomposition of the body of the first frog a necropsy could not be performed so cause of death was not determined.

5. **San Francisco Zoo Chief of Veterinary Services Report.** (Discussion)
Graham Crawford, DVM, SFZS
Mr. Jenkins introduced Dr. Crawford who presented his biannual report.
Advisor Stephens questioned when specialists are called in to perform procedures on zoo animals is their time donated or paid. Dr. Crawford stated that each case is different as far as compensation and is often determined on the nature of the procedure. Member of Public, Mark Ennis, questioned the procedure of trimming rhino Ghati's horn as to how frequently it is done and why. Dr. Crawford responded that it is performed once a week more as a behavioral reinforcement. He does need it trimmed once or twice a year as he has a lip on it which overlaps too much and could cause problems. Member of Public, Philip Gerrie, asked the reason for Dr. Jencek leaving SFZ. Dr. Crawford stated that Dr. Jencek resigned for personal reasons a few months ago, but she remains a relief or on-call vet to the Zoo.
6. **Announcements** (Information only)
No announcements.
7. **Chair's Announcements.** (Information only)
No announcements.
8. **Old Business.** (Discussion)
There was no old business.
9. **New Business/Future Agenda Items.** (Information only)
Advisor Stephens stated that she would like to have a report presented on animal transport procedures. This item will be put on a future agenda.
10. **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, asked if there is going to be a wolf exhibit. Mr. Jenkins commented that this is one of the concepts being discussed for the proposed renovation to two of the hoofstock areas and is being considered in a conceptual manner at this time to present the predator-prey relationship.
11. **Adjournment.**
Meeting was adjourned at 5:46 p.m.