

RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT

Minutes of the Joint Zoo Committee Meeting

December 21, 2012

San Francisco Zoo

4:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Recreation and Park Commissioner, Paige Arata, Chair

Recreation and Park Commissioner, Allan Low

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

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

Committee Advisor, Joseph Spinelli

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

Adoption of Minutes of the November 29, 2012 Committee Meeting

2. San Francisco Zoo Administrative Report (Discussion)

Tanya Peterson, Executive Director and President, SFZS

Director Peterson reported attendance for November was 45,680 versus budget of 41,000 and is over budget by 4,680 visitors. Total attendance is 364,991 which is over budget by 12,691 visitors. San Francisco Zoo has joined other zoos in presenting a holiday lights shows. *San Francisco Zoo Lights* is a magical light show created within the unique backdrop of the Zoo. On each scheduled evening from 4:00 to 8:00, visitors will follow the path lined with twinkling animal topiaries and displays of glistening garlanded trees. The Lion House, Penguin Pool, and Primate Discovery Center also will be available. Entertainment will occur each evening. This evening is a members-only event, and the general public can view *Zoo Lights* on December 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30. Thanks to P, G & E for underwriting this event. The Connie and Bob Lurie Education Center recently was the site of the first "mini" conference for the Bay Area Chapter of the American Association of Zoo Keepers. SFZS animal keepers Helen Horblit, David Carroll, Anthony Brown, Hilary Maag and Patrick Schlemmer presented a variety of topics to a group of 50 animal care professionals from as far away as the Monterey Bay Aquarium to Safari West. In addition to the presentations, early arrivals went on an Aye-aye Forest tour, and the conference ended with an incredibly special goliath tarantula feeding by Patrick Schlemmer. On December 7th, the Zoo was able to help fulfill the wish of Make-A-Wish child Matthew Tennant. Matthew - who has stage 4 Neuroblastoma - wished to ride all of the trolleys and trains in San Francisco. We arranged for a special meet and greet with Johnny, the Little Puffer Engineer, a tour of the Little Puffer Barn, unlimited rides for the day and lunch at Lemur Café. Matthew was all smiles when Johnny brought Little Puffer around the tracks into the depot, and grinned from ear to ear as he and his mom boarded the train. Matthew's parents are so thankful that Matthew's cancer is in remission at the moment so they could make the trip here and provide this unforgettable San Francisco Zoo for their son. Our Conservation Lecture Series has two lectures scheduled in January. The first on January 17, Miles Woodruff, Jane Goodall Institute Congo Project Manager, will report on the Tchimpounga Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Center and the Mandrill Release Project. On January 26 at noon in the Great Hall of the Education Center, Carol Preston, Education and Outreach Coordinator for NOAA's Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, will be speaking about climate change and how it impacts the California Coast. The lectures are free and the public is encouraged to attend. Director Peterson ended her report by showing the "Jingle Penguins" video.

3. 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 – November 2012

DONATION FROM:	ANIMAL SPECIES	PRICE	TOTAL DUE
TreeHouse Wildlife Center 23956 Green Acres Road Dow, Illinois 62022	0.0.2 American white pelican <i>(<u>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</u>)</i>	NIL	N/A
State of California Department of Fish and Game 20 Lower Ragsdale Drive Suite 100 Monterey, CA 93940	0.0.1 African hedgehog <i>(<u>Atelerix albiventris</u>)</i>	NIL	N/A
US Fish and Wildlife Service Port of San Francisco Burlingame, CA 94010	0.0.1 African hedgehog <i>(<u>Atelerix albiventris</u>)</i>	NIL	N/A
Christopher Morrow 4305 Malone Drive Napa, CA 94558	0.1 Rose-haired tarantula <i>(<u>Grammastola rosea</u>)</i>	NIL	N/A
Oregon Zoo 4001 SW Canyon Road Portland, OR 97221	0.0.2 Western toads <i>(<u>Anaxyrus boreas</u>)</i>	NIL	N/A

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

ANIMAL UPDATES – NOVEMBER 2012					
DATE	SEX	ANIMALS	TRANSACTION		COMMENTS
ACQUISITIONS					
6	0.1	Greater kudu	Birth		
13	0.4	Reindeer	Loan In	Temporary loan of animals for holidays	
15	1.0	Four-toed hedgehog	Purchase	From Miller Park Zoo	
15	0.1	Four-toed hedgehog	Purchase	From Miller Park Zoo	
16	0.0.1	Fishing cat	Birth		
18	0.1	Greater kudu	Birth		
21	0.3	Common ostrich	Purchase	From Private Owner	
DISPOSITION					
5	0.1	Ring-tailed lemur	Death	19Y, 7M, 1D	Intestinal disease
6	0.0.1	Golfodulcean Poison Arrow Frog	Death	Unknown	Pending
7	0.1	Greater kudu	Death	8Y, 1M, 20D	Dystopia
7	0.1	Greater kudu	Death	0Y, 0M, 1D	pending

9	0.1	Four-toed hedgehog	Death	4Y, 3M, 24D	Uterine tumor
13	1.0	Francois langur	Donation		Ownership transaction only; donated to Memphis Zoo
14	0.1	White-faced whistling duck	Death	14Y, 3M, 9D	Arthritis
17	0.1	Senegal parrot	Death	34Y, 10M, 16D	Liver disease
17	0.1	mouse	Death	~1Y	Lung cancer
21	0.1	Fishing cat	Death	6D	Disappeared from nesting box

Committee Advisor Spinelli asked if the Fishing cat listed in Dispositions was the same as the birth listed in Acquisitions. Bocian stated it was. SFZ Board member Beech questioned the Greater kudu's birth and death. Bocian stated that both the mother and the calf died due to positioning issues with the calf. A second calf born to another mother is alive. Member of Public, Tony Colonese, asked if there had been any other instances needing to attempt repositioning of an animal. Bocian responded that he personally had no experience of this and it is an unusual event. Both SFZ veterinarians were present and in attendance; one working with the calf and the other with the mother. Member of Public, Mark Ennis, questioned if in the case of the death of the Fishing cat, the mother could have eaten the kitten. Bocian answered a camera was monitoring the nesting box and there was an indication of a kitten but after five days no sounds of a second animal were heard. The mother was shifted and there was no sign of the kitten. Ennis: Is this common? Bocian: It is something that could occur in the wild and is not unheard of. Do not know if the mother killed the kitten but if the kitten died it is something the mother could do. Being a prey animal it would not want predators to know where it is and therefore would eat the dead animal.

5. **Announcements** (Information only)
6. **Chair's Announcements.** (Information only)
None
7. **Old Business.** (Discussion)
None
8. **New Business/Future Agenda Items.** (Information only)
Clerk of Committee stated that a schedule of dates for meetings is 2013 is being prepared and will be distributed at future meeting. On behalf of the Committee Commissioner Arata was thanked for her service as Chair of the Committee.
9. **Public Comments:**
Member of Public, Richard Rothman, spoke on the renovation of the Mother's Building and stated that it seems the issue is being discussed. He made a suggestion that a viewing of the building might be arranged for all interested parties. Committee Advisor Spinelli congratulated Mr. Rothman on his efforts.
10. **Adjournment.**
Meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.