RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT
Minutes of the Joint Zoo Committee Meeting
March 28, 2013
San Francisco Zoological Society
5:00 p.m.

Roll Call:
Recreation and Park Commissioner, Paige Arata
Recreation and Park Commissioner, Mark Buell
Recreation and Park Commissioner, Larry Martin
San Francisco Zoological Society (SFZS) Board Member, Maria Alvarez, Chair
San Francisco Zoological Society (SFZS) Board Member, Gail Secchia
Committee Advisor, Joseph Spinelli
Committee Advisor, Sally Stephens

1. Joint Zoo Committee Meeting Minutes (Action Item)  ACTION: MSA
   Adoption of Minutes of the February 28, 2013 Committee Meeting

2. San Francisco Zoo Administrative Report (Discussion)
   Tanya Peterson, Executive Director and President, SFZS
   Director Peterson reported February attendance as 62,239 visitors versus monthly budget of
   37,800. With respect to animal news, Peterson noted the Zoo’s animal care staff recently began
   “to socialize” the 5-week-old Sumatran tiger cub to acclimate her to human sight and sounds.
   This entails the caregiver interacting with the cub for short periods of time while the mother
   accesses the outside or adjacent habitat. For the public’s convenience, a video feed has been set
   up so that visitors are able to watch the cub. On another note, the Zoo will be hosting its annual
   Big Bunny Spring Fling. San Francisco Department of Animal Care and Control will be on-site
   with rescued bunnies. To prepare for the event, the Zoo hosted community Gatepath, an
   organization that helps disabled young adults transition to independence. Working with the Zoo’s
   Enrichment Committee, the volunteers helped make papier-mâché eggs for Big Bunny Spring
   Fling event. With respect to staff development, Peterson reported that since 1991, SFZS has been
   sending Zoo staff to field conservation programs. Selected staff members receive a complete
   stipend to participate, and their time away is paid for by the Zoo. Lastly, Peterson noted that the
   Zoo’s Adopt-an-Animal program now includes a Sumatran tiger. For every Sumatran tiger
   adopted in April and May, SFZS will donate a percentage of the proceeds to tiger conservation.
   Committee Advisor Stephens asked if after the Fleischhaker Building was torn down did that
   affect the sand and wind activity at the Zoo. Peterson answered that the Recreation and Parks
   staff has been working on a solution as part of the site’s clean-up.

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 – March 2013

   DONATION TO:  ANIMAL SPECIES            PRICE     TOTAL DUE
   Albuquerque BioPark  0.1 Reticulated giraffe  NIL       N/A
   903 10th Street SW,  Giraffa camelopardalis reticulate
   Albuquerque, NM  87102
**DONATION FROM:**
Soledad Freiheit 0.2 Old world rabbits NIL N/A
1233 Melanie Way *Oryctolagus cuniculus*
Livermore, CA 94550

Soledad Freiheit 1.3 Chinchillas NIL N/A
1233 Melanie Way *Chinchilla laniger*
Livermore, CA 94550

Albuquerque BioPark 0.1 Reticulated giraffe NIL N/A
903 10th Street SW *Giraffa camelopardalis reticulate*
Albuquerque, NM 87102

**PURCHASE FROM:**
Miller Park Zoo 0.0.2 Gray short-tailed opossums $300 $600
1020 S. Morris Avenue *Monodelphis domestica*
Bloomington, IL 61701

**Note:** Donation ratified in January 2013, cancelled:
RabbitEARS 0.2 Old world rabbits
7523 Fairmount Avenue *Oryctolagus cuniculus*
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Committee Advisor Stephens asked if the Reticulated giraffe has arrived from Albuquerque.
Bocian responded that it would arrive in May.

5. **Animal Updates.** *(Discussion)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>SEX</th>
<th>ANIMALS</th>
<th>TRANSACTION</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ACQUISITIONS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>Sumatran tiger</td>
<td>Birth</td>
<td></td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>Lady Ross’ turaco</td>
<td>Donation</td>
<td>Private Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>Mandrill</td>
<td>Donation</td>
<td>Tulsa Zoo</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>DISPOSITION</strong></td>
<td>Age at Death</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>Virginia opossum</td>
<td>Donation</td>
<td>Returned to wildlife rehabber</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
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<td>South African shelduck</td>
<td>Donation</td>
<td>Fort Worth Zoo</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>White-faced whistling duck</td>
<td>Death</td>
<td>14Y, 8M, 13D</td>
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<td>23</td>
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<td>Common ostrich</td>
<td>Death</td>
<td>18Y, 8M, 21D</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>Emperor tamarin</td>
<td>Loan Out</td>
<td>Santa Ana Zoo</td>
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Stephens asked why the opossum was returned. Response was that it had been in the ARC for several months and had not adapted and therefore could not be used for education programs.
Member of Public, Mark Ennis, asked regarding the tiger cub, why is it separated from the mother and are there plans to reunite. Zoo President Peterson explained that the separation is for short periods of time, less than 15 minutes, when the mother goes outside or rests in an adjacent exhibit. VP Bocian also responded that the socialization is conducted by staff for ten to fifteen minutes. Ennis then asked if the cub is being bottle-fed or is nursing. VP Bocian responded that the cub is nursing, and that there had been no need for human intervention.
5. **Wellness Story**  
Debbie Marrin-Towey, Assistant Curator of Carnivores, SFZS  
(Information only)  
Marin-Towey presented a power point demonstrating the behavioral techniques used with the carnivores. This is a positive reinforcement system.

6. **Announcements**  
(Information only)

7. **Chair’s Announcements.**  
(Information only)  
Chair Alvarez will not be in attendance at the April 25th meeting.

8. **Old Business.**  
(Discussion)  
None

9. **New Business/Future Agenda Items.**  
(Information only)

10. **Public Comments:**  
Member of Public, Richard Rothman, spoke on the renovation of the Mother’s Building and stated that the ARG submitted a proposal for study of the building and murals. The Historic Preservation Society is having a hearing and Supervisor Ting wants to see the building.

11. **Adjournment.**  
Meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.