



MINUTES

BOARD OF ZOO COMMISSIONERS
OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

TUESDAY, April 17, 2012 – 10:00 AM

Los Angeles Zoo
Grand Room
5333 Zoo Drive
Los Angeles, California 90027

*“Nurturing
wildlife
and enriching
the human
experience”*

Los Angeles Zoo
5333 Zoo Drive
Los Angeles
California 90027
323/644-4200
Fax 323/662-9786
<http://www.lazoo.org>

Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor

Tom LaBonge
Council Member
4th District

Zoo Commissioners

Karen B. Winnick
President

Bernardo Silva
Vice President

Elaine Baylor

Sue Downing, D.V.M.

Kimberly Marteau

Richard Lichtenstein
ex officio member

John R. Lewis
Zoo Director

MEMBERS PRESENT

Karen B. Winnick
Bernardo Silva
Kimberly Marteau

MEMBERS ABSENT

Sue Downing, D.V.M.
Elaine Baylor

EX OFFICIO MEMBER ABSENT

Richard Lichtenstein

COMMISSION STAFF

John R. Lewis
Lisa Gerencser

CITY ATTORNEY LIAISON

Dov Lesel

AGENDA ITEM 1

CALL TO ORDER

Commission President Winnick called the meeting to order at 10:31 AM.

AGENDA ITEM 2

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF MARCH 20, 2012

Commission President Winnick moved to approve the minutes of March 20, 2012, Commission Vice President Silva so moved, Commissioner Marteau seconded and the motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM 3

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None

VISITORS

Rex Link
Jim Bickhart
Catherine Doyle
Julie Kreisler

MEDIA

None signed in.



An Equal
Employment
Opportunity
Affirmative
Action
Employer

Accredited by the Association
of Zoos and Aquariums

Accredited by the American
Association of Museums

Member of the California
Association of Zoos and Aquariums

AGENDA ITEM 4

PRESENTATION – CHIMPANZEE NEONATE AND GROUP MANAGEMENT

Curator of Mammals, Jennie Becker, gave an overview of chimpanzee group management. The Zoo just had their first chimp birth in 13 years. Highlights included:

- Species Survival Plan (SSP) recommendations for breeding within the group
- Keeper staff monitors chimp menses and estrous; estrous is noticeable due to the females swollen rear side.
- Males and females whom have been chosen to breed are placed together during estrous
- Keepers conduct Maternal Skills Training with female chimps
- Staff prep for the birth and monitor the pregnant female
- After the birth, both mother and infant are observed to make sure they are both healthy and thriving
- If the chimp is born off exhibit and away from the group, the last step is the introduction to the group

AGENDA ITEM 5

GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS

A. Capital Projects

Rebecca Abano with the Bureau of Engineering gave a brief update on the following Zoo projects accompanied with a slide show of the work progression:

- To date, \$150.7 million of the \$172.3 million bond budget has been spent
- *Rainforest of the Americas* project is 30% complete; work on the masonry wall and tram road have been completed; project on schedule to be completed in April 2013
- *LAIR (Living Amphibians, Invertebrates and Reptiles)* – There are four items left to complete with \$63,000 in pending change orders

B. Animal Transactions

Ian Recchio, Curator of Reptiles, discussed the latest animal transactions. Some highlights include:

- Four Roti Island snake-neck turtles being sold to a facility in Ojai
- Loan of one male chimpanzee to the Potawanami Zoo
- Acquiring one female African fish eagle for breeding with our male
- Birth of three giant otter pups being hand reared in the nursery

C. GLAZA Update

GLAZA President Connie Morgan gave a quick update on GLAZA activities.

- Almost all carousel animals have been sponsored
- Received an additional \$200,000 donation for Bird Show renovations on top of the \$700,000 already received

D. Zoo Director Reports

Zoo Director John Lewis commented on the following:

- Birth of a colobus monkey
- Attendance is on target for the year
- With the ending of all capital projects, it is now time to revisit and revise the Zoo's Master Plan; general roadway improvements are necessary from all the years of construction
- Big Bunny's Spring Fling was held April 6 – 8, 2012 with over 38,000 visitors
- Bird Show renovations will begin soon and the show will be closed for four to five months during construction
- Earth Day Expo will be held April 22, 2012

AGENDA ITEM 8

OLD BUSINESS

None

AGENDA ITEM 9

ADJOURNMENT

There being no more business to come before the Commission President Winnick called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Marteau seconded and the meeting adjourned at 10:56 AM.

ATTEST:

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY