



# MINUTES

## BOARD OF ZOO COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2013 – 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>

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Karen B. Winnick  
Elaine Baylor  
Bernardo Silva  
Sue Downing, DVM

### VISITORS

Rex Link  
Jim Bickhart

Antonio R. Villaraigosa  
Mayor

Tom LaBonge  
Council Member  
4<sup>th</sup> 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 ABSENT

Kimberly Marteau

### EX OFFICIO MEMBER ABSENT

Richard Lichtenstein

### COMMISSION STAFF

John R. Lewis  
Lisa Gerencser

### MEDIA

None signed in.

### CITY ATTORNEY LIAISON

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### AGENDA ITEM 1 CALL TO ORDER

Commission President Winnick called the meeting to order at 10:12 AM.

### AGENDA ITEM 2

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF MARCH 19, 2013

Commission President Winnick moved to approve the minutes of March 19, 2013. Commissioner Silva so moved, Commissioner Downing seconded and the motion passed.



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Association of Zoos and Aquariums

**AGENDA ITEM 3  
GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 4  
SUMATRAN RHINO CRISIS**

Jeff Holland, Curator of Mammals just returned from a meeting in Singapore regarding the near extinction of the Sumatran rhino. There are believed to be less than 100 rhinos in the wild and only 10 in captivity. This is an emergency crisis situation. Mr. Holland discussed translocation of wild rhinos and improved breeding among the captive population. Commission President Winnick asked Mr. Holland to report back to the Commission should there be any updates on this crisis.

**AGENDA ITEM 5  
TRAINING BEHAVIORS FOR NEW BIRD SHOW**

Lead Animal Keeper Jon Guenther gave an overview of the Zoo's birdshow. A video was shown highlighting birds from the old show along with artist's rendering of the new stage. Keeper provided the Commission with a demonstration on how they train birds to circle; keepers used two blue-throated macaws to circle the meeting attendees.

**AGENDA ITEM 6  
GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS**

**A. Capital Projects**

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

- *Rainforest of the Americas* (ROA) project is 70% complete.
- Have spent \$158.1 on capital projects to date.
- Work continues on ROA – stilt house, Strangler fig, otter pool

**B. Animal Transactions**

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

- Outgoing female alligator to St. Augustine
- Will be receiving male gerenuk for breeding
- Births included a chimpanzee, gerenuks, and 13 chuckwalla eggs

**C. GLAZA Update**

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

- GLAZA turns 50 in November
- Received sponsorships from Scholarshare and Microsoft
- Gluck Foundation will continue to fund Education positions in the contact yard

**D. Media Updates**

Jason Jacobs, Director of Public Relations and Marketing played a clip that aired on "Good Morning America" on April 1 regarding gorilla communication.

**E. Zoo Director Reports**

Zoo Director John Lewis commented on the following:

- Attendance and revenue were up for the month of March
- *Big Bunny* event brought in more than 36,000 visitors
- *Earth Day Expo* is this coming weekend
- Mayor will release his budget either this Friday or on Monday

**AGENDA ITEM 6  
OLD BUSINESS**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 7  
ADJOURNMENT**

There being no more business to come before, President Winnick motioned to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Baylor so moved and Commission Vice President Silva seconded; the meeting was adjourned at 11:02 AM.

ATTEST:

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY