



MINUTES

BOARD OF ZOO COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 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
Kimberly Marteau
Bernardo Silva
Sue Downing, DVM

VISITORS

Rex Link
Jim Bickhart
Renee Weitzer
Delilah Puche

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 ABSENT

Elaine Baylor

EX OFFICIO MEMBER PRESENT

Richard Lichtenstein

COMMISSION STAFF

John R. Lewis
Lisa Gerencser

MEDIA

None signed in.

CITY ATTORNEY LIAISON

Dov Lesel

AGENDA ITEM 1

CALL TO ORDER

Commission President Winnick called the meeting to order at 10:11 AM.

AGENDA ITEM 2

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 19, 2013

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



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 3
GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 4
ZOO EVENTS**

Zoo Director of Public Relations and Marketing, Jason Jacobs, along with GLAZA Director of Special Events, Patti Glover, gave an overview of Zoo events. Mr. Jacobs discussed the Zoo events which include Signature events such as *Big Bunny* and *Boo at the Zoo* and Partnership events such as Radio Disney and Scholarshare. Zoo events are specifically to drive attendance and build Zoo awareness for our local community. Ms. Glover discussed GLAZA events which are specific members, cultivation, and stewardship. Member events are specifically designed to give the average member and added Zoo experience; *Enrichment Mornings* and other early events are popular among members. Development events include *Sunset Safari*, *Director's Series*, and *Foundation events*. Ms. Glover noted that GLAZA brings in approximately 5 new members after *Sunset Safari* and 1 to 2 new members from other events.

Commissioner Marteau asked Ms. Glover how much GLAZA makes from their events versus donated gifts. After some discussion, Jeb Bonner, CFO for GLAZA stated they make approximately \$3 million from events and approximately \$4 million from gifts.

**AGENDA ITEM 5
CHACOAN PECCARY PROJECT**

Curator of Mammals, Jeff Holland, gave an overview of the Chacoan Peccary Project. Mr. Holland discussed the differences between peccaries and pigs. There are three types of peccaries all of which live in South and Central America. The Chacoan peccary was believed to be extinct until they were discovered in Argentina in 1972. Major reason for lowered numbers of peccaries is the loss of habitat to cattle ranches and soybean fields. In 1985 a breeding facility was set-up in Paraguay and in 1996 the Species Survival Plan (SSP) for Chacoan peccaries was formed. The LA Zoo has been successful in breeding this species and with little interest from US zoos; Mr. Holland has started looking at European zoos to expand the population.

**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 65% complete.
- *LAIR* has won another award.
- Have spent \$157.5 on capital projects to date.
- Work continues on ROA – stilt house, otter housing and tapir pool.

Discussion about providing a summarizing report on capital projects to the tax payers of Los Angeles

B. Animal Transactions

Jennie Becker Curator of Mammals discussed the latest animal transactions. Some highlights include:

- Outgoing giant horned lizards
- Will be receiving a two-toed sloth that will be on display in the nursery
- Received a falcon on loan for our birdshow

C. GLAZA Update

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

- Received another \$75,000 for ROA
- Received \$40,000 for the bird show
- Received a new ZooMobile

D. Zoo Director Reports

Zoo Director John Lewis commented on the following:

- Several births including Speke's gazelle, chimpanzee, and a black duiker
- On target for attendance and revenue for February
- Currently working on City budget

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 Marteau so moved and Commissioner Dowing seconded; the meeting was adjourned at 11:07 AM.

ATTEST:

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY