



MINUTES

BOARD OF ZOO COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2014 – 10:00 AM

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

*“Nurturing
wildlife
and enriching
the human
experience”*

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Eric Garcetti
Mayor

Tom LaBonge
Council Member
4th District

Zoo Commissioners

Karen B. Winnick
President

Bernardo Silva
Vice President

Tyler Kelley

Yasmine Johnson

Marc Mitchell

Richard Lichtenstein
ex officio member

John R. Lewis
Zoo Director

MEMBERS PRESENT

Karen B. Winnick
Bernardo Silva
Yasmine Johnson
Tyler Kelley
Marc Mitchell

VISITORS

Rex Link
Renee Weitzer

EX OFFICIO MEMBER ABSENT

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 10:04 AM.

AGENDA ITEM 2

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF OCTOBER 21, 2014

Commission President Winnick moved to approve the minutes of October 21, 2014. President Winnick moved to approve the minutes. Commission Vice President Silva so moved, Commissioner Kelley seconded and the motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM 3 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None



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

YELLOW FOOTED ROCK WALLABY POUCH MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Curator of Mammals Jeff Holland discussed the Zoo's pouch management with marsupial species, specifically the yellow footed rock wallabies. Joeys are removed from pouches and replaced with more endangered species (cross-fostering). Embryonic diapause allows for timed births. Pouch management is also used by zoos when exhibit space is limited and other birth control methods cannot be utilized.

AGENDA ITEM 5

TREATMENT OF FUNGAL INFECTION IN LOWLAND GORILLA "JABARI"

Dr. Cindy Stadler, Acting Chief Veterinarian, gave an overview of the treatments used to treat a fungal infection in one of the Zoo's lowland gorillas. When "Jabari" was 14 years old he was seemingly lethargic and was losing weight. A complete medical exam revealed he had Valley Fever. Various medical treatments were utilized until staff found success with an intravenous drug that needed to be administered three times a week. Outside medical doctors and other veterinarians assisted with these procedures. While "Jabari" showed real improvement recovering from Valley Fever, there was a setback in September when staff discovered he had somehow broken his leg while on exhibit. Specialists were called in and a metal rod was placed in "Jabari's" leg. As of the day of this report he continues to recover at the health center.

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:

- Through October 2014 \$166.41 million has been spent on capital projects
- Construction on the jaguar exhibit is 70% complete
- Jaguar exhibit expected completion continues to be December 2014; anticipate animals being moved to exhibit in January 2015

B. Animal Transactions

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

- Will be receiving Prevost squirrels
- Desert spiny lizards have been sent out
- Birth of a hippopotamus

C. GLAZA Update

GLAZA President Connie Morgan gave a brief update on GLAZA activities. Some items noted:

- GLAZA received \$250,000 from the Wasserman Foundation for the jaguar exhibit
- Only need \$128,000 in additional pledges to complete the costs for the elephant exhibit. GLAZA will utilize their endowment to make payment
- Received a gift for the new mesh at the orangutan exhibit
- Tickets for Zoo Lights are now on sale

D. Zoo Director Reports

Zoo Director John Lewis commented on the following:

- On December 1, Beth Schaefer will start as the new General Curator
- Receiving Prop A funding for improved lighting on zoo grounds
- Attendance is on target but revenue continues to be behind; revenue issue could be because of initial projections
- Notable births included chimpanzee, hippopotamus, piranhas, and flamingos

AGENDA ITEM 9

OLD BUSINESS

None

AGENDA ITEM 10

ADJOURNMENT

There being no more business to come before, President Winnick motioned to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Johnson so moved and Commission Vice President Silva seconded; the meeting was adjourned at 10:49 AM.

ATTEST:

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY