



MINUTES

BOARD OF ZOO COMMISSIONERS
OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

TUESDAY, July 21, 2015 – 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
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<http://www.lazoo.org>

Eric Garcetti
Mayor

David E. Ryu
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

None signed in.

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 JUNE 16, 2015

Commission President Winnick moved to approve the minutes of June 16, 2015. President Winnick moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Johnson so moved, Commissioner Mitchell 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

ELECTION OF COMMISSION OFFICERS

Commission Vice President Silva nominated Karen Winnick to continue as Commission President. Unanimous vote in favor; Mrs. Winnick will remain the Zoo Commission President. President Winnick nominated Bernardo Silva to continue as the Commission Vice President. Unanimous vote in favor; Mr. Silva will remain the Commission Vice President.

AGENDA ITEM 5

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND OPERATIONS DIVISION OVERVIEW

Mei Kwan, Director of Administration and Operations, gave an overview of the her Division. This Division oversees City Budget, Department Accounting, Systems, Security Services and Admission and Guest Services. Highlights of each of these functions are:

- Monitoring various types of revenue streams; accounts receivable
- All expenditures which include salaries and operating supplies; accounts payable
- All Department City purchases
- Records Retention Management
- Monitor all computers, software, and databases for the Department
- Admissions and Guest relations which includes the administration receptionist; first impressions of the Zoo
- Liaison to LAPD Security Services Division

AGENDA ITEM 6

GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS

A. Capital Projects

No report presented

B. Animal Transactions

Beth Schaefer, General Curator, discussed the latest animal transactions. Some highlights include:

- Barn owl is being prepped for the bird show
- Received Amazon stingrays which will be on exhibit in the piranha tank
- Three crested screamers have hatched
- Bird show staff flew two bald eagles at the Los Angeles Dodgers game in honor of Independence Day
- California condor chick is being raised on site by a foster pair of condors that have successfully raised off spring in the past

Commissioner Johnson commented that she works with foster children so she was wondering how fostering works in animal world. Ms. Schaefer discussed various species that have been known to foster on their own in the wild, but it is usually more successful in captivity.

C. GLAZA Update

Connie Morgan, President of GLAZA gave an update:

- Finished the fiscal year with a total of \$2.6 million raised for the restricted budget
- Have received \$47,000 for Patti Glover's throne to be placed at the carousel
- An additional \$5,500 has been received for orangutan mesh
- Secured \$92,000 to continue staffing Muriel's Ranch
- Membership had a great year with \$6.3 million in memberships which equates to over 61,000 households
- Beastly Ball raised just under \$1.1 million

D. Zoo Director Reports

Zoo Director John Lewis commented on the following:

- Press release will be going out today on the birth of eight Armenian pit vipers
- Ended the fiscal year with 1.7 million visitors; this includes nighttime event attendance
- Revenue was below projections; \$16 million of \$17 million budget was received
- August 8 -9 the Zoo will be hosting Elephant Awareness; there will be tours of the elephant barn for the public and a spotlight on the 96 Elephants campaign
- Admissions will increase next week by \$1 across all categories
- RFP Bidders conference for the Zoo's Masterplan will be held on 7/22

Commission Vice President Silva asked where the Zoo is in filling the Chief Veterinarian position. Mr. Lewis he's conducted interviews and just needs to make his final decision and offer.

AGENDA ITEM 7 OLD BUSINESS

None

AGENDA ITEM 8 ADJOURNMENT

There being no more business to come before, President Winnick motioned to adjourn the meeting; Commission Vice President Silva so moved and Commissioner Kelley seconded; the meeting was adjourned at 10:44 AM.

ATTEST:

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY