



MINUTES

BOARD OF ZOO COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2017 – 10:00 AM

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

*“Creating
dynamic
experiences
to connect
people and
animals”*

Los Angeles Zoo
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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
Tyler Kelley
Marc Mitchell
Bernardo Silva
Yasmine Johnson

VISITORS

Rex Link

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 10:06 AM.

AGENDA ITEM 2

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF DECEMBER 20, 2016

Commission President Winnick moved to approve the minutes of December 20, 2016 Commission Vice President Silva so moved, Commissioner Johnson seconded and the motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM 3 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None



AGENDA ITEM 4 - NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

No Comments

AGENDA ITEM 5 – LA ZOO’S ENRICHMENT AND RESEARCH PROGRAMS

Dr. Cathleen Cox, Zoo’s Research Director, gave an overview of the enrichment and research programs here at the Zoo. Highlights included:

- Enhancing animals well being
- Behavioral Enrichment allows animals to continue with “wild” behaviors
- Assist with design and refurbishment of exhibits
- Create dens and perches within exhibits
- Staff maintains the edible enrichment garden
- Discussed howler monkey exhibit “stilt house”
- Showed images of refurbished orangutan exhibit
- Research conducts various animal observations

Discussion about enrichment for specific animals.

AGENDA ITEM 6

GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS

A. Animal Transactions

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

- Received a female Steller’s sea eagle to pair with one of our males
- Bushmasters, magnificent tree frogs, grey kangaroo, and butaan will all be sent out to other facilities
- Blue throated macaw hatched

Discussion about Anatolian shepherds and transfer of reptiles to Croatia.

B. GLAZA Update

GLAZA President Connie Morgan gave an update on GLAZA activities:

- Received \$50,000 for the maintenance and upkeep of the Witherbee Auditorium
- Have raised over \$2.6 million for the CDC park
- There will be donor naming opportunities at the new park
- Connie will bring model of park to next Commission meeting
- Planning continuing for this year’s Beastly Ball

C. Marketing and Events Update

Kait Hilliard, VP of Marketing and Events for GLAZA gave the following overview:

- Reindeer Romp and Zoo Lights have wrapped up; Kait will have final numbers at next meeting
- Adding additional events to “Sex and the City Zoo”; there will be a sustainable wine/dinner experience also
- Upcoming event, 2/18-19, PBS So Cal Kids with appearances from Curious George and Daniel the tiger

D. Zoo Director Reports

Zoo Director John Lewis commented on the following:

- Next Masterplan Workshop and Public Outreach Meeting will be held in February

- Zoo's accreditation inspection went well with the inspectors having no major concerns about the Zoo
- Final hearing for inspection will be in March at the AZA Mid-Year Conference
- Minor concerns inspection team had were: safety drills, communication dead zones, and lack of signage for non-visitor areas
- Accreditation team complimented LAIR, ROA otters exhibit, Enrichment program, and the CCRZ
- Attendance was below projections for December but still ahead YTD
- Revenue remains below for the month and YTD

**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 the meeting be adjourned and Commission Vice President Silva seconded; the meeting was adjourned at 11:01 AM.

ATTEST:

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY