



MINUTES

BOARD OF ZOO COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2017 – 10:00 AM

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

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

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Eric Garcetti
Mayor

David E. Ryu
Council Member
4th District

Zoo Commissioners

Karen B. Winnick
President

Bernardo Silva
Vice President

Margot Armbruster

Christopher Hopkins

Tyler Kelley

Richard Lichtenstein
ex officio member

John R. Lewis
Zoo Director

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tyler Kelley
Margot Armbruster
Karen Winnick
Christopher Hopkins

VISITORS

Rex Link

MEMBERS ABSENT

Bernardo Silva

EX OFFICIO MEMBER ABSENT

Richard Lichtenstein

COMMISSION STAFF

John 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 10:00 AM.

AGENDA ITEM 2

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING OF APRIL 18, 2017

Commission President Winnick moved to approve the minutes of April 18, 2017. Commissioner Hopkins so moved, Commissioner Kelley seconded and the motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM 3 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None



NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

No Comments

AGENDA ITEM 4 – RECOGNITION OF COMMISSIONER YASMINE JOHNSON

Commission President Winnick presented former Commissioner Johnson with a plaque and shared the Commission's appreciation for her work on the Zoo Commission. Zoo Director Lewis presented the former commissioner with a proclamation from the Arts, Parks, and River Committee and thanked her for her service on the Zoo Commission. Mrs. Johnson noted she will continue to be an advocate for the LA Zoo and spread the word about the amazing conservation efforts. The LA Zoo is a family destination and she will continue to keep the community aware through her "Mommie Blogging" and other endeavors.

AGENDA ITEM 5 – SHARING, LEARNING AND BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH EASTERN CHINESE ZOOS

Animal Keeper Megan Fox discussed her recent trip to China where she was involved in Chimpanzee and Orangutan field work and sharing with the foreign staff the LA Zoo's husbandry practices. Highlights of the trip included:

- Majority of time was spent at the Nanjing Hongsham Forest Zoo
- Ms. Fox and other staff from various zoos held husbandry workshops for orangutans and chimps
- Visiting Zoo staff helped create an howdy area for the orangutans and assisted with creating better holding areas
- Instituted Behavioral Enrichment by identifying browse in the local area that can be given to both Chimps and Orangs
- Held discussions on exhibit design
- Assisted with care of disabled Orangs
- Currently working on a care manual for Chinese Zoos
- This trip has led to what will become regular husbandry workshops that will help zoos globally

Discussion about Golden Monkeys and Borneo Orangs

AGENDA ITEM 6

GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS

A. Animal Transactions

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

- Several outgoing transactions that include, orange eye tree frogs, Prevost squirrels, male giant otters and a male sifaka
- Will be receiving Addax
- Several births include, Chacoan peccaries, takin, crested capuchin and a Nubian ibex

Discussion regarding the deaths of pronghorn fawns and howler monkey.

B. GLAZA Update

GLAZA President Connie Morgan gave an update on GLAZA activities:

- Staff is hard at work with the Beastly Ball which will be held this Saturday, May 20
- GLAZA has raised over \$2.5 million thus far for the Ball
- Discussed auction items and showed off the concert t-shirt

C. Marketing and Events Update

Emily Marrin gave the following update on Zoo events and Marketing efforts:

- Over 33,000 visitors attended Big Bunny's Spring Fling
- The Sustainable Dinner series have done really well with all but one night selling out
- The Zoo had a booth at the March for Science
- Showed a video clip of the activities from "Wild for the Planet" event
- New sponsors are Helpful Honda and Welk Resorts
- Social media to promote and raise awareness of the Beastly Ball and the VR Slash concert

D. Zoo Director Reports

Zoo Director Lewis commented on the following:

- Next Masterplan workshops will be held on June 22 & 23 with the community meeting being held on June 24
- Mayor's Budget was released and the Zoo is happy with its budget
- Hired new staff in facility operations; should bring cleanliness up to visitors' needs
- Attendance is behind 1.5% year-to-date but revenue is up 3.6% for the year

**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 Commissioner Hopkins so moved the meeting be adjourned and Commissioner Kelley seconded; the meeting was adjourned at 10:48 AM.

ATTEST:

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY