



## MINUTES

### BOARD OF ZOO COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 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”*

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Eric Garcetti  
Mayor

David E. Ryu  
Council Member  
4<sup>th</sup> District

Zoo Commissioners

Karen B. Winnick  
President

Bernardo Silva  
Vice President

Margot Armbruster

Christopher Hopkins

Richard Lichtenstein  
ex officio member

John R. Lewis  
Zoo Director

#### MEMBERS PRESENT

Christopher Hopkins  
Margot Armbruster  
Karen Winnick  
Bernardo Silva

#### VISITORS

Rex Link

#### EX OFFICIO MEMBER ABSENT

Richard Lichtenstein

#### COMMISSION STAFF

John Lewis  
Lisa Gerencser

#### MEDIA

None signed in.

#### ZOO GENERAL COUNSEL

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 SEPTEMBER 19, 2017

Commission President Winnick moved to approve the minutes September 19, 2017. Commission Vice President Silva so moved, Commissioner Hopkins seconded and the motion passed.

#### AGENDA ITEM 3

##### GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None



## **NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

No Comments

## **AGENDA ITEM 4**

### **GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS**

#### **A. Animal Transactions**

Curator of Mammals, Josh Sisk, discussed the latest animal transactions. Some highlights include:

- Incoming Merten's water monitor
- Three different parrots are currently in quarantine
- Incoming binturong
- Birth of a chevrotain

#### **B. GLAZA Update**

Kait Hilliard gave an update on GLAZA activities:

- Received \$20,000 for Education programming
- Received \$6,500 for capuchin monkeys
- Donor named outreach wallaby "Spud"
- Held first Salon event for potential donors

#### **C. Zoo Director Reports**

Zoo Director Lewis commented on the following:

- September attendance and revenue were both above projections for September. For year-to-date attendance we behind approximately 10%
- Reminded Commissioners to check out the re-done flamingo exhibit
- Discussed suspicious package at Zoo entrance that turned out to be a live opossum

## **AGENDA ITEM 5 – PROPOSED 2018 COMMISSION MEETING DATES**

Dates for 2018 meetings were unanimously approved.

## **AGENDA ITEM 6 – AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ZOOLOGICAL VETERINARY CONFERENCE (AAZVC)**

Dr. Lisa Naples, Chief Veterinarian, gave an overview of this annual conference. This year's conference was held in Dallas with over 900 veterinarians in attendance. Major focus of this conference is education, scientific studies, and medical/pharmaceutical advances. There are workshops, study sessions, and general sessions. Various procedures and advances are discussed and shared to improve the Animal Health community.

## **AGENDA ITEM 7 – TEACHER NEEDS ASSESMENT PRESENTATION**

Dan Keeffe, Director of Education, introduced Dr. Jim Kisiel to discuss his findings from his teachers need assessments. Data collected included:

- Currently schools teach less science and focus more on math and English
- No funding for transportation for field trips
- Teachers perceived the zoo as a fun place and less as an educational resource

- Teachers require educational support before field trips
- Would like an increase in hands on and immersive experiences
- Recommended increase conservation programming to include students

Education Curator, Head of Education Programming, Heather Shields, discussed the Zoo's plans to follow up on these results. Education has received additional funding for another Curator position whose job will be to work directly with teachers. Education staff is currently compiling all the responses from teachers while they create new programming.

**AGENDA ITEM 8  
OLD BUSINESS**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 9  
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 Commission Vice President Silva seconded; the meeting was adjourned at 10:51 AM.

ATTEST:

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY