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

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

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
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 ASSESSMENT 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      SECRETARY