



MINUTES

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 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
5333 Zoo Drive
Los Angeles
California 90027
323/644-4200
Fax 323/662-9786
<http://www.lazoo.org>

Eric Garcetti
Mayor

David E. Ryu
Council Member
4th District

Zoo Commissioners

Karen B. Winnick
President

Bernardo Silva
Vice President

Margot Armbruster

Nicole Chase

Christopher Hopkins

Richard Lichtenstein
ex officio member

John R. Lewis
Zoo Director

MEMBERS PRESENT

Nicole Chase
Karen Winnick
Bernardo Silva

MEMBERS ABSENT

Margot Armbruster
Christopher Hopkins

EX OFFICIO MEMBER PRESENT

Richard Lichtenstein

COMMISSION STAFF

John Lewis
Lisa Gerencser

ZOO GENERAL COUNSEL

Laurie Rittenberg

**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 OCTOBER 17, 2017

Commission President Winnick moved to approve the minutes October 17, 2017. Commission Vice President Silva so moved, Commissioner Chase seconded and the motion passed.

**AGENDA ITEM 3
GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

VISITORS

Rex Link

MEDIA

None signed in.



NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

No Comments

AGENDA ITEM 4 – ZOO LIGHTS PRESENTATION

Kait Hilliard, VP of Marketing and Events for GLAZA, gave an overview of this year's Zoo Lights experience. Zoo Lights will run nightly from November 17, 2017 through January 7, 2018; minus the holidays. GLAZA updated the marketing campaign for this season and added dynamic pricing for various days of the week. Discussed new sponsors and food items this year. New Commissioner, Nicole Chase, commented that she had a wonderful time at the opening night for Zoo Lights.

Kait also noted that via social media the Zoo is contributing to "Gratitude Week"; staff is sharing stories of why they are grateful to work at the Zoo.

AGENDA ITEM 5

GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS

A. Animal Transactions

Curator of Birds, Mike Maxcy, discussed the latest animal transactions. Some highlights include:

- Zebra catfish from confiscation going into the piranha tank
- Two additional types of poisonous frogs will be added to LAIR
- Two male koalas going to San Diego as breeding recommendation

B. GLAZA Update

GLAZA President Connie Morgan gave an update on GLAZA activities:

- Received \$250,000 for CDC Park
- Received \$50,000 to name new snow leopard cubs
- Duttenhaver/Earthwatch trip will be going to Costa Rica next summer
- Received \$2,500 for Zoo Lights
- The Beastly Ball is set for May 19, 2018

C. Zoo Director Reports

Zoo Director Lewis commented on the following:

- Following Mayor's Executive Directive 16, the Zoo is participating in the Homeless Hygiene Drive. Zoo employees and visitors are both participating in this drive.
- Three births – paca, gerenuk and okapi
- "Randa" our Indian Rhinoceros past away last week and staff/visitors had a memorial for her this past weekend. "Randa" was 48 years old. Commission President Winnick asked about receiving a new rhino; none identified at this time.
- Attendance is slightly behind projections with revenue above projections
- Entire ibex collection was euthanized due to "MCF" a highly contagious strain of the herpes virus. There is no cure and the possible spread of the disease to other species was too great to risk. Specialist will be coming in to check on the rest of our hoofstock and other species that may be at risk. Discussion about procedures and policies for this type of event
- Budget has been submitted to the Mayor's office

**AGENDA ITEM 8
OLD BUSINESS**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 9
ADJOURNMENT**

Commission Vice President officially welcomed Commissioner Nicole Chase to the Board. There being no more business to come before, President Winnick motioned to adjourn the meeting Vice President Silva so moved the meeting be adjourned and Commissioner Chase seconded; the meeting was adjourned at 10:32 AM.

ATTEST:

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY