



## Potter Park Zoological Society Board of Directors Meeting

*Nov. 15, 2021 – 3 to 4 p.m in Welcome Center Conference Room*

### MINUTES

#### Present

Julie Pingston  
Justin King  
Roxanne Truhn  
Karlene Belyea  
Erin Schor  
Bethany Wicksall  
Amy L. Morris-Hall, Society Executive Director

#### Absent

George Berghorn  
Aaron Davis

#### General Items

1. Meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m.
2. Approval of Sept. 27, 2021 minutes – approved.
3. No members of public
4. Late Items/Deletion/Consent Items – None

#### Board Items

5. Financial Report YTD (preliminary) through Oct. 31, 2021  
Revenue: Year to date revenue at \$816,811 is under budget by \$100,044 largely due to education revenue being reduced by COVID-19 class restrictions and cancellations.  
Expenses: Year to date expenses at \$789,530 are below budget by \$27,839.44.  
Net Surplus: Year to date the Society is at a \$72,764 deficit.  
Cash and cash equivalents stand at \$273,328.48 which is around 105 days.  
The financials were received and filed with an agreement that a small committee should come together and discuss options for the education department
6. Transaction of Business
  - a. Old Business
    - a. The board changed the meeting time to 3:30 p.m. and otherwise approved the 2022 Meeting Schedule.
  - b. New Business
    - a. Renee Smith – introductions – is interested in assisting with the Capital Campaign and has applied to be on the Zoo Advisory Board.

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- b. Potential New Board Member: Gabe Rodriguez-Garriga  
Erin moved, Roxanne seconded to add Gabe to the board and the motion was approved.

### Discussion Items

1. Board President Update  
At the Zoo Advisory Board meeting last week they reviewed attendance year to date compared to 2019 it is only around 13,000 off in attendance. Much of this is due to the lack of attendees in education programming and special events. Also, there is a new arrangement in how maintenance is structured on the zoo side. s
2. Executive Director's report
  - a. Staff Update  
Celaina is doing a great job assisting with the Capital Campaign.  
Mariah Martinez will be on maternity leave until mid-February.
  - b. Events  
Fall Zootacular – attendance was excellent and weather cooperated for the most part.
  - c. Education  
BZL – We are at only 11 classes completed in 2021.  
Education programming is limited right now, and scheduled events are continuously getting cancelled.
  - d. Communications
    - Media were very interested in covering the vaccination of zoo animals for Covid 19.
    - Jaali's move also created a tremendous amount of media coverage.
    - The two new elk calves were announced to the public.
    - Unfortunately, the zoo lost a tufted deer fawn and this was also covered by media.
  - e. Fund Development Update  
The Society was awarded \$20,000 from MCACA to renovate the zoo restrooms and make them touch free. The Society also received \$18,600 for operating support from MCACA.  
The Society expects to receive \$25,000 from CRCF to make the doors on zoo grounds automatic.  
The PPP loan of \$106,200 has been forgiven and is now a grant.
  - f. Animal update
    - i. Introductions between black rhinos went well and Doppsee and Phineas were observed breeding several times. They were introduced again in October and did not breed.
    - ii. Maliha and the cubs are doing well.

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- iii. Junior, one of the zoo's North American River Otters, is having some issues with mobility but is being closely monitored by Dr. Ronan Eustace and the animal care team.
  
3. Advisory Board Committee Updates
  - a. Strategic Planning – Revisited the master plan.
  - b. External Relations – None
4. Suggestions for future agenda items, discussion and/or board comments - None
5. Public comment – No members of the public attended the meeting.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

*2021 Meeting Schedule – Potter Park Zoo*

*Dec. 13, 2021*

*2022 Meeting Schedule – Potter Park Zoo – Welcome Center Conference Room*

*January 24, 2022*

*February 28, 2022*

*March 28, 2022*

*April 25, 2022*

*May 23, 2022*

*June 27, 2022*

*July 25, 2022*

*August 29, 2022*

*September 26, 2022*

*October 24, 2022*

*November 14, 2022*

*December 12, 2022*