



Potter Park Zoological Society Board of Directors Meeting

Feb. 28, 2022 – 3:30 to 4:30 p.m in Welcome Center Conference Room

MINUTES

Present

Julie Pingston
Erin Schor
Roxanne Truhn
Gabe Rodriguez-Garriga
George Berghorn
Karlene Belyea
Amy L. Morris-Hall, Society Executive Director

Absent

Aaron Davis
Justin King
Bethany Wicksall

General Items

1. Meeting was called to order at 3:41 p.m.
2. Approval of Jan. 24, 2022 minutes – approved.
3. No members of public
4. Late Items/Deletion/Consent Items – None

Board Items

5. Financial Report YTD (preliminary) through Jan. 31, 2022
Revenue: Year to date revenue at \$194,429.36 is over prior year by \$143,953.39 largely due to increased programming and a significant increase in contributions.
Expenses: Year to date expenses at \$74,430.18 are over prior year by \$28,396.38 because several staff members were furloughed in 2021 and costs increased when programming resumed.
Net Surplus: Year to date the Society is at a \$119,999.17.
Cash and cash equivalents stand at \$1,518,117.87 of which \$556,286.50 received in cash and pledges for the capital campaign.
6. Transaction of Business
 - a. Old Business - None
 - b. New Business - None

Discussion Items

1. Board President Update
 - a. Julie Pingston reported on the February advisory board meeting.

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- i. Potter Park Zoo's Director of Animal Health Dr. Ronan Eustace is partnering with Binder Park's veterinary department on a fellowship opportunity.
 - ii. The advisory board voted to approve an HVAC system for the Discovery Center – this system was in the budget but after contractor's were contacted it was found to cost significantly more than budgeted and will require approval before the project can proceed.
 - iii. Cheryl Bergman will now be the advisory board chair since John Groen stepped down and resigned from the board. Kyle Binkley will continue as vice chair.
2. Executive Director's report
 - a. Staff Update

Interviews are being conducted for the Conservation Engagement Lead position. The hope is to fill it by the end of March.
 - b. Events/Education

Big Zoo Lesson classes are continuing, and plans are underway for Zookambi summer camp registration to be offered to the public within the coming weeks.
 - c. Accreditation

This discussion was delayed until the next meeting.
 - d. Communications

Continues to go well.
 - e. Fund Development Update

The spring appeal is in the works and the plan is to have it in mailboxes by April 15.
 - f. Capital Campaign Update
 - i. Dart Foundation – The Dart Foundation has committed \$500,000 toward the hospital project on the condition that the remaining funds are raised.
 - ii. Glassen Foundation – Amy Morris-Hall, Dr. Ronan Eustace and Dennis Laidler will be presenting March 18, 2022 to the Glassen Foundation board regarding a gift to the hospital.
 - iii. CRCF – Amy Morris-Hall will be applying to CRCF at the foundation's request for a \$75,000 grant that will go toward the hospital.
 - iv. Lansing Chamber of Commerce – The chamber has offered to include the zoo's hospital project in a request for ARPA funding.
 - v. Delta Dental – The Dart Foundation team have assisted in connecting the zoo with Delta Dental and they've expressed interest in the project.

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- vi. Progress report
The capital campaign has currently acquired approximately \$1.2 million in funds and pledges.

- g. Animal update
 - i. The cotton-top tamarin babies are doing well and being cared for by the entire cotton-top family.
 - ii. The new Argentine black and white tegu is on exhibit in the Bird and Reptile house.

- 3. Advisory Board Committee Updates
 - a. Strategic Planning – None
 - 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 4:10 p.m.

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

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