



Potter Park Zoological Society Board of Directors Meeting

Jan. 23, 2023 – 11:30 to 1 p.m. in Welcome Center Conference Room

MINUTES

Present

Julie Pingston
Roxanne Truhn
George Berghorn
Aaron Davis
Amy L. Morris-Hall, Society Executive Director

Absent

Karlene Belyea
Bethany Wicksall
Gabe Rodriguez-Garriga

General Items

1. Meeting was called to order at 11:45 a.m.
2. Approval of Dec 12, 2022 minutes – approved.
3. No members of public
4. Late Items/Deletion/Consent Items – None

Board Items

5. Financial Report YTD (preliminary) through Dec 31, 2022
Revenue: Year to date revenue at \$1,465,617 is over budget \$274,617 with capital campaign revenue not included. Year-to-date revenue exceeds prior year by \$433,502 without capital campaign and paycheck protection program proceeds.
Expenses: Year to date expenses at \$1,030,931 are \$56,408 over budget and \$47,355 under budget without the capital campaign.
Net surplus: The net surplus is \$2,741,834 with capital campaign revenue and expenses included. The net surplus from operations not including capital campaign is \$434,686.
Cash: The days of cash increased from 151 days as of Nov. 30, 2022 to 242 days as of Dec. 31, 2022 with capital campaign cash and expenses not included.
6. Transaction of Business
 - a. Old Business - None
 - b. New Business – None



Discussion Items

1. Board President Update on Advisory Board Meeting
 - i. Winter has been challenging for the zoo
 - Binturong furnace required replacement
 - Feline primate heating required repair
 - Water line replacement needed
 - Emergency repair of a generator required
 - ii. Passed resolution to hire an owner's representative
 - iii. Passed resolution to have building authority on hospital.
 - iv. Attendance is off last year by 1300. It is closer to 2019 numbers than 2020 or 2021. Total is 184,000 for all events in 2022.

2. Executive Director's report
 - a. Miscellaneous
 - i. Path project – The zoo will be closing at some point in 2023 for path replacement. The dates will not be scheduled until after the request for proposal is posted and a contractor is selected.
 - ii. Audit – The audit of 2022 is scheduled for Feb. 27, 2023.
 - b. Staff Update
 - i. Evaluations – These were completed with all Society staff and were very beneficial.
 - ii. Employee Survey – This has been sent to all staff. Initial results are positive. The final results will be brought to the board.
 - c. Events/Education
 - i. Ice Safari planning underway, and staff is still seeking sponsorships.
 - d. Accreditation
 - i. Stephanie Pentiuk is working on education documents and helping with the conservation section.
 - ii. With the funds raised things should be good on the hospital.
 - iii. The moats are now empty.
 - iv. Lions will have more space due to the loss of one lion and one tiger since the previous inspection.
 - e. Communications Update
 - i. Heath Thurman will be attending photography and software training as well as getting new equipment to improve our communications.
 - f. Fund Development Update
 - i. ARPA funds from the city of Lansing are in process.

POTTER PARK



- ii. Okapi Exhibit Donation – The Society received a \$50,000 donation and will be transferring it to the zoo to be used to renovate the new okapi exhibit.
- iii. FALCONERS sponsors – This program has a potential new \$10,000 sponsor.

g. Capital Campaign Update

- i. First installment received from state of Michigan
- ii. Delta Dental funds received
- iii. Dart Foundation – not yet received
- iv. Consumers Energy funds received
- v. JNL - We are still waiting for information on this support.
- vi. Progress – \$2,193,090 in funds received, \$2,166,443 in additional hard pledges, and \$140,467 in funds to be raised to reach \$4.5 million goal.

h. Animal update

- i. The zoo is seeking an okapi, but no animal has been secured yet.
- ii. The zoo team is working with the SSP to find a new male bongo.
- iii. The male Arctic fox was euthanized due to health issues.
- iv. A penguin was euthanized, and the official diagnosis is pending.
- v. The young binturong are being introduced to dad and all is going well. They will eventually transfer to another facility.
- vi. The zoo is participating in an activity research project with the black rhinos. They have been wearing something like a fitbit.
- vii. Red panda cub Wilson is now in the full exhibit.
- viii. The new timber rattlesnake is doing well on exhibit.

3. Suggestions for future agenda items, discussion and/or board comments

- a. None

4. Public comment – No members of the public attended the meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

2023 Meeting Schedule – Potter Park Zoo – Welcome Center Conference Room

Feb. 27, 2023

March 27, 2023

April 24, 2023

May 22, 2023



June 26, 2023

July 24, 2023

Aug. 28, 2023

Sept. 25, 2023

Oct. 23, 2023

Nov. 13, 2023

Dec. 11, 2023