



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Henry Vilas Zoo Commission

Consider:

Who benefits? Who is burdened?

Who does not have a voice at the table?

How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

Tuesday, February 7, 2023

7:30 AM

702 S. Randall Ave. Madison, WI 53715

Visitor's Center Conference Room

A. Call To Order

Others present: Jasmine Banks, Ronda Schwetz, Joseph Darcangelo, Kristin Moala

A motion was made by ROSS that the Zoo Commission meeting be called to order at 7:31am.

Present 6 - TAG EVERS, JEFFREY GUNDERSON, SARAH JUSTUS, MICHAEL PETERSEN, ANNE ROSS, and Supervisor CECELY CASTILLO

B. Introductions

The Commission welcomed Jasmine Banks.

C. Consideration of Minutes

[2022](#)
[MIN-538](#)

Attachments: [2022 MIN-538](#)

A motion was made by CASTILLO, seconded by JUSTUS, that the Minutes be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote.

D. Action Items

None

E. Presentations

None

F. Reports to Committee

[2022 RPT-682](#)

Zoo Report - 2023 Events

Attachments: [2023 Run Wild Sponsorship](#)
[2023 Zoo Lights Sponsorships](#)

SCHWETZ gave an animal update. The Zoo is on track to get a new bison in mid-February. We recently got land snails that will be part of our animal ambassadors. The capybaras were moved down to the Animal Health Center for the winter, which gives them more space. The male aldabra tortoise had a bone infection, and to ensure the infection didn't spread he had one toe amputated. The female aldabra was moved in with lemurs so that the male had a quiet space to heal. The lemur exhibit also gives the female more room during the winter months.

Education update - Summer Zoo Camp registration is currently open. Switching to a lottery system instead of first come, first serve for the first time this year. Allows working parents an equal opportunity to get their kids enrolled. Have received very positive feedback on the change. We reserve two spaces in every camp program for scholarship recipients.

DARCANGELO gave a financial update. Zoo Lights made slightly less money than last year, but we had to close for two nights because of weather. Gave updates on event revenue.

MOALA gave an update on 2023 events. Two new events are being planned for June. The Commission was given sponsorship information to share with any potential partners for the zoo run and zoo lights.

Discussion ensued.

This report was placed on file.

G. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Hybrid Meetings

The Commission discussed holding future meetings in person or utilizing the hybrid meeting model. Commissioners added this topic to the next meeting agenda. The March meeting will be held in person on March 14th at 7:30am in the Visitors Center at the Zoo.

H. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

None

I. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

None

J. Adjourn

A motion was made by CASTILLO, seconded by JUSTUS, that the Zoo Commission meeting be adjourned at 8:55am. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Kristin Moala, pending approval from the Zoo Commission.