



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 1, 2022

7:30 AM

Virtual meeting

A. Call To Order

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

Present 6 - JONATHAN BECKER, Supervisor CHUCK ERICKSON, TAG EVERS, JEFFREY GUNDERSON, SARAH JUSTUS, and ANNE ROSS

Excused 1 - MICHAEL PETERSEN

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2021
MIN-578](#)

Attachments: [2021 MIN-578](#)

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

C. Action Items

[2021
RES-338](#)

AWARDING CONTRACT WITH THE SSA GROUP FOR FOOD, RETAIL AND CATERING SERVICES AT HENRY VILAS ZOO

Sponsors: RATCLIFF, ERICKSON and RIPP

Attachments: [2021 RES-338](#)

[2021 RES-338 Fiscal Note](#)

Darcangelo explained that the Zoo went out to bid for this contract last fall. SSA was selected based on the county grading system with multiple reviewers. SSA only partners with zoos, museums, and aquariums and has a conservation mission, "Conservation with Capital." They will run gift shop and grille, and will be the catering vendor for events on grounds. They will do booking for events. Their DICE plan (Diversity, Inclusion, Community, and Environment) matches our mission and vision. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by ERICKSON, seconded by JUSTUS, that the Resolution be recommended for approval. The motion carried by a voice vote.

D. Presentations

None

E. Reports to Committee

Schwetz talked about the CLR presentation that was recorded for anyone who missed it. The sessions were with stakeholders and we were excited about the level of involvement. Neighbors and businesses were represented. Erickson and Evers would like to make sure that the Greenbush neighborhood is more included in future meetings. Discussion ensued.

The Zoo recently posted a second janitor position and a new horticulturist position. We are excited about the impact a horticulturist could have on the zoo grounds and exhibit spaces. There are also three keeper positions currently open and they are all in the final interview stages. We are almost done filling a second vet tech position. The new operations assistant position will be posted soon. All of these positions will be filled by our busy spring season.

International Polar Bear Day will be celebrated in person on Sunday, February 27. We have a lot of activities planned and it will be fun. The commission was invited to attend if they are available.

Our Giant African millipedes are breeding. We have almost 600 babies right now and we will be sending many of them out to other institutions based on recommendations from AZA.

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

The next commission meeting will take place on March 1st and will be held virtually.

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

None

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

None

I. Adjourn

A motion was made by EVERS, seconded by JUSTUS, that the Zoo Commission meeting be adjourned at 8:56am. The motion carried unanimously.

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