



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, December 7, 2021

7:30 AM

Zoom Meeting

A. Call To Order

Others present: Ronda Schwetz, Joseph Darcangelo, Kristin Moala, Supervisor Melissa Radcliff

A motion was made by ERICKSON that the December Zoo Commission meeting be called to order at 7:32 am.

- Present** 5 - Supervisor CHUCK ERICKSON, TAG EVERS, JEFFREY GUNDERSON, SARAH JUSTUS, and MICHAEL PETERSEN
- Excused** 2 - JONATHAN BECKER, and ANNE ROSS

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2021](#)
[MIN-480](#)

Attachments: [2021 MIN-480](#)

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

C. Action Items

None

D. Presentations

None

E. Reports to Committee

SCHWETZ gave an update on Zoo Lights. Timed-ticketing is working very well. Our community night was very successful. We have generated just over \$200,000 from the event so far.

Our concessions RFP closed and it is now in the review process. The Zoo will be taking over the operation of the carousel. We are excited about the direction we are going. The new contract will start in April 2022.

The CLR stakeholder planning meetings will be coming up the week of January 17, 2022. The Zoo Commission will be invited. The Zoo will be reaching out to other stakeholders, including neighbors, for those meetings.

The Herpetarium is now open. The primate building and Aviary remain closed. Our animal vaccines are almost done being administered. We are hopeful we will be able to open buildings once the face mask mandates are done.

The remaining lion cub, Ansel, got a SSP recommendation to move in spring. This is really good news. He will have his own pride with this move.

Zoo attendance as of November 1 was at 650,000. In 2020 because of COVID we only welcomed about 291,000 guests and we are back up to pre-COVID numbers now. Donations for the year are up. We have collected about \$325,000 in donor tubes on grounds, which was up significantly from 2020.

DARCANGELO will provide a year in review at the next Commission meeting.

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

The next meeting will be held virtually on January 11, 2022 at 7:30am.

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 JUSTUS, seconded by PETERSEN, that the Zoo Commission meeting be adjourned at 8:01am. The motion carried unanimously.

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