



# Dane County

## Minutes - Draft

### Henry Vilas Zoo Commission

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Tuesday, March 6, 2018

7:00 AM

702 S Randall Ave. Madison, WI 53715

(608)266-4732

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#### A. Call To Order

**Present** 6 - ANNE ROSS, Supervisor CHUCK ERICKSON, JEFFREY GUNDERSON,  
JONATHAN BECKER, SARA ESKRICH, and SARAH JUSTUS

**Absent** 1 - CHRIS HENDERSON

#### B. Consideration of Minutes

This was approved

#### C. Action Items

No action items

#### D. Presentations

None

#### E. Reports to Committee

See Zoo Director and Society reports

#### *Zoo Director Report*

Ronda Schwetz, Executive Director of the Zoo reported Zoo updates: Animal updates include moving out a female polar bear to another zoo for breeding, lion cubs celebrated their first birthday, the black and white ruffed lemurs may be pregnant, we received a male tiger that is in quarantine and are looking to do AI on the female polar bear Berit again this year. Construction continues on the zoo's lower restrooms by Findorff and is expected to be complete sometime between late May and mid-June. Other updates also included submission of the 2018 Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) accreditation application which is done every five years and only the top 10% of zoos and aquariums meet this standard. Henry Vilas Zoo has been accredited by AZA for over 25 years. An on-site inspection will occur in sometime in summer. A national ad campaign will be starting for AZA in April which speaks to all of the good conservation AZA institutions are doing.

### *Zoo Society Report*

Alison Prange, President of the Zoo Society reported: the 2017 budget will be finished with its audit after next week and they met their revenue goals for the year with a strong fundraising year. Planning for Zoo lights and Rende-zoo, which is June 9th, are underway. The final joint strategic plan is ready to be rolled out to the stakeholders. The visitor center has completed renovations for office space and will be having a grand opening in spring. The first annual Save Our Species lunch kicked off on February 6, 2018 showcasing shark conservation issues and strategies for conservation. It was a huge success and sold out at 350 guests.

### **G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda**

None

### **F. Future Meeting Items and Dates**

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 7:00am in the Zoo Administration Building.

### **H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law**

None

### **I. Adjourn**

Minutes taken on, March 6, 2018 by Ronda Schwetz and subject to final approval by Zoo Commission.

*Minutes respectfully submitted on March 6, 2018 by Ronda Schwetz and subject to final approval by Zoo Commission.*