



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, November 2, 2021

7:30 AM

Virtual Meeting

Virtual Meeting

A. Call To Order

Others present: Ronda Schwetz, Joseph Darcangelo, Kristin Moala

A motion was made by ERICKSON that the November Zoo Commission meeting be called to order at 7:36am.

Present 7 - JONATHAN BECKER, Supervisor CHUCK ERICKSON, TAG EVERS, JEFFREY GUNDERSON, SARAH JUSTUS, MICHAEL PETERSEN, and ANNE ROSS

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2021](#)
[MIN-406](#)

Attachments: [Minutes 9 8 21](#)

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

C. Action Items

None

D. Presentations

None

E. Reports to Committee

Zoo Report

Joseph went over the proposed 2022 County budget. A horticulturalist and guest services position are included. We worked with the Controller's Office throughout the budget process. With the help of Supervisor Radcliff, we were able to offset revenue by \$20k to add scholarships for after school camps and summer programs. We appreciate all of the support from the County. Personnel and finance met several times and they are in the final stages of approval, then it goes to the full County Board for final approval. Discussion ensued.

The Zoo had almost 700,000 visitors this year, which is close to our pre-COVID numbers. CLR will have an updated design for us this week. We will be planning a stakeholder meeting with the Commission, neighbors, etc. for the next phase of this project. It will be early next year. Discussion ensued. Zoo Lights set up is going smoothly and we are on track to open November 26. Timed tickets should reduce our lines.

Animal update: We had a dental procedure on one of our seals. Keepers have been working on training so they can brush their teeth going forward. We had our first voluntary radiographs for one of our camels. Staff have been doing a wonderful job of working with our animals to get more voluntary participation in their health care. Grizzlies will be denning up soon for the winter.

Joseph thanked Evers for helping us get the City to come out and fill up the potholes in the South parking lot.

This week is first meeting for our interpretive master plan project. Very excited to move forward with that project.

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

The next Zoo Commission meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 7 at 7:30am. The meeting 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 ERICKSON, seconded by JUSTUS, that the Zoo Commission meeting be adjourned at 8:22am. The motion carried unanimously.

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