

FRESNO'S CHAFFEE ZOO CORPORATION
General Meeting of the Board of Directors
Fresno Chaffee Zoo Education Building
May 08, 2008 5:38pm

Present

Bruce Campbell
 Colin Dougherty
 Sieg Fischer
 Sheri Manning-Cartwright
 George Nokes
 Tom Richards
 Tom Templeton
 John Valentino

Absent

Sharon Levy
 Shari Rainwater
 Cruz Ramos

Public

Staff

Lewis Greene
 Brian Goldman
 Patty Peters

Other

Dirk Poeschel
 DPLSM, Inc.

Discuss and consider minutes: Director Valentino explained that minutes from the December 26, 2007 special meeting had not been formally approved and asked the board to review those minutes to be approved tonight. Director Templeton made a motion to accept both minutes as written and corrected. Director Nokes seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Report by Dirk Poeschel: Mr. Poeschel stated that he was disappointed with the Environmental Impact Report progress. Mr. Poeschel stated he was particularly disappointed with the City Manager's and City Attorney's offices and stated this to the City staff handling the EIR document. Mr. Poeschel discussed his concerns with our attorney, Mr. Jeff Kuhn. Mr. Kuhn agreed. Mr. Poeschel and Mr. Kuhn are setting an appointment with the City Attorney's office to discuss these concerns further. Director Richards stated he appreciated the sensitivity of the situation, but is concerned with the delays. After discussion by the board it was decided that a special meeting would be set to discuss this situation after Mr. Poeschel and Mr. Kuhn meet with City.

Chair Report: Director Valentino stated that Bonnie Koeppel was hired as a zoo consultant. Ms. Koeppel will assist with strategies to proceed with the master plan. Director Valentino stated that some basic engineering work would need to be done concerning service and capacity before the Architect review committee meets. Director Manning-Cartwright asked who was on the Architect review Committee. CEO Greene stated beside himself Director Valentino, Director Rainwater, Director Richards, Mr. Dirk Poeschel, Ms. Bonnie Koeppel, Director of Finance and Administration, Mr. Brian Goldman and Director of Facilities, Mr. Ken Boriack make up the committee. Director Valentino stated that this committee will be meeting on May 12, 2008 to review the Architectural firms' RFQ submittals. The committee will select four firms for interviews. Director Valentino stated that the Architectural Review Committee will select the firm from those interviews. Director Valentino stated that after hiring Mr. Poeschel, CEO Greene has used Mr. Poeschel for other situations outside the process of the EIR. Director Manning-Cartwright asked when the appropriate time would be to hire the Construction Manager and CEO Greene stated that the Construction Manager would be hired after the Architectural firm was selected.

CEO Report: CEO Greene stated that it was a very busy month. One weekend was very busy with Breakfast with the Animals, Party for the Planet and Hispanic Day. CEO Greene stated that Hispanic Day was attended by 9000 people. The staff did an excellent job. There was an increase in Docent participation over last year. The Cinco de Mayo Golf Tournament was held this month. CEO Greene and Director Levy met with Playland Storyland to see if there were some common areas to work together or share costs with in the future. CEO Greene gave Mr. Toste, the new Tax Authority board member, a tour of the Zoo.

Report by Director of Finance and Administration: Mr. Goldman reviewed the financial report with the board. Attendance is up 17% from this time last year. Mr. Goldman stated that hiring of staff continues.

Discuss and consider budget amendment, request for capital funds: Mr. Goldman reviewed the budget amendment with the board explaining the request for funds. Director Manning-Cartwright made a motion to accept the budget amendment and the request for funds. Director Richards seconded. Call for discussion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Report from Finance Committee: Director Manning-Cartwright stated that the Finance Committee met with County Bank to go over the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Corp investments and to address the news reports about County Bank and losses due to the housing market crisis. Director Manning-Cartwright stated that the Finance Committee was comfortable with County Bank and the position Fresno Chaffee Zoo Corp has with them.

Discuss and consider committee appointments: Director Manning-Cartwright asked the board members to consider attending the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Corporation standing and ad hoc committee meetings and encouraged the members to join those committees that interest them. Director Richards was added to the Finance Committee and stated that he would like to sit in on the meetings of the other committees.

Discuss and consider rural youth as volunteers for zoo events: Tabled until the June 12, 2008 general meeting.

Discuss and consider the new board members terms: Director Dougherty stated that the new board member recruitment will be completed with the decision of initial terms. Director Richards drew the initial 2-year term. Director Ramos will have the initial 3-year term.

Public Comment. This time is set-aside for the public to comment on any item within the jurisdiction of the Board, but not appearing on the agenda. Items presented under public comment may not be discussed or acted upon by the Board at this time. For items appearing on the agenda, the public is invited to comment at the time the item is called for consideration by the Board. Any person addressing the Board under public comment will be limited to a 3-minute presentation to insure that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak. Please state your name and address for the record:

Staff comments: Director of Marketing and Development Patty Peters stated that Director Dougherty did a great job in the breakfast line at Breakfast with the Animals.

Board questions and comments: Director Dougherty commended the staff for the outstanding job they do. Director Nokes asked about the new Seal Lion. Director of Animal Care Andy Snider stated that she came from a rehab center. This young Sea Lion is paralyzed in her hindquarters so she could not be released back to the wild. Mr. Snider also stated that the new Navajo-Churro sheep from the Santa Ana Zoo would be in the Small Wonders exhibit. Director Templeton inquired about the tree survey.

Closed Session convened at 6:18pm. Open Session resumed at 6:37pm.

Adjournment: at 6:39pm

Respectfully submitted by: Lisa Condoian, Assistant Secretary
Fresno Chaffee Zoo Corporation