



General Meeting of the Board of Directors
Fresno Chaffee Zoo Education Building
Wednesday, July 19, 2017 5:30 pm

DRAFT

Table with 4 columns: Board Members, Attendance, FCZ Staff Present, and Public Present. Lists names and attendance status for various board members and staff.

Meeting called to order at 5:31 p.m.: Board Chair, John Valentino called the meeting to order.

Roll Call: Board Directors Dougherty, Nokes, Rainwater, Richards, Saladino, and Valentino all present. Board Director Price, Cates, and Gonzalez absent. Advisors CEO Barton and Ms. Fortune present. Legal Counsel Mr. Larsen present.

Approval of Minutes: Director Valentino called for review of the minutes from June 21, 2017 and a motion to approve. Docent President, Ms. Dorothy Fortune, stated the minutes needed to be revised in the public comment section, stating that there was no public comment at the June Board meeting. Director Dougherty so called for a motion to approve the minutes with the revisions. Director Saladino seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Review and Discuss Presentation on Asia Design: Greg Dykstra with CLR presented to the Board the new design concepts for the Asia exhibit. He stated that Zoo just wrapped up their second workshop and anticipate opening the exhibit in January of 2020. Mr. Dykstra stated that the first workshop consisted of staff input and getting a good idea of the Zoo wanted for this area. He mentioned a potential Komodo dragon area near the existing Australian aviary, and hornbill near the current orangutan and Asian rhino exhibits. Mr. Dykstra stated they would probably leave the pool that is currently in the tiger exhibit, but the idea is to create larger connecting spaces for tigers and bears to use at different times. These areas would allow the animals more space and a more naturalistic design. He stated they will also incorporate a classroom or event space for the guests and staff to utilize as they wish. Mr. Dykstra stated that the next workshop would potentially be at the end of September 2017. Director Nokes asked if the Asian Rhino exhibit is a large enough space to house the animals. CEO Barton stated that experts had advised that it is. Director Nokes inquired if the Zoo would add any more addition classrooms. CEO Barton stated that they would be adding rooms into each new project. Mr. Dykstra stated that he is located in the Philadelphia office, and that CLR has been in the Zoo design industry for over 35 years. He stated that they are a full service architecture firm. Mr. Dykstra stated that designing zoo exhibits are very tricky because they have to juggle a lot of different factors, including the needs and desires of the staff, animals, and guests. He stated that a 13-15% is a typical range for design fees for their industry standards. The Board thanked Mr. Dykstra for his time and presentation. Director Richards stated he would like to meet with Mr. Dykstra when he is again for the next workshop.



**CEO Report:** CEO Barton stated that the zoo is behind its budgeted attendance by 13%, and attributed this decrease to the intense rain during the winter and spring months. He stated that although they had a drop in attendance, they have also managed their expenses to offset the difference. CEO Barton stated that Shaunzi was well received at the Los Angeles Zoo, and it is very much enjoying her new home. He thanked the staff for doing such a great job on her move. CEO Barton stated that Amos Morris has accepted the position as the Zoo's first ever Deputy Director and will start around August 1<sup>st</sup>. CEO Barton stated that they are currently in the midst of scheduling interviews for the top two candidates for the CFO position. He stated that there would be Board involvement during the interviews. CEO Barton stated that he requested a change order be approved prior to the meeting due to a broken waterline. He stated that he did receive approval from Directors Valentino and Richards. CEO Barton stated that the Warthog exhibit would be going out to bid soon, and have a bid opening in sixty days. CEO Barton stated that a few of the Zoo staff would be attending the annual AZA conference in September. He stated that this year's conference is being held at in Indianapolis. He stated that the Zoo has submitted for the exhibit award for African Adventure. Director Nokes asked what stage of construction the water play area is currently at. CEO Barton stated that they had just started, and were inputting the underground tank.

**Review and Discuss and Consider Finance Committee Update:** Director Saladino stated that the Finance committee received its third quarter investment update from Regency. Director Saladino stated that the Zoo would be sending Regency a current copy of the Investment policy.

**Review, Discuss and Consider Financial Report:** CEO Barton stated the financial statement was put together by Nora Crow. Ms. Crow has been assisting the Zoo while they are look to fill the CFO opening. He reiterated that the budgeted attendance is behind 13%, but that the Zoo has a higher surplus. He stated that this was due to the fact that most expenses come at the second half of the year. CEO Barton stated that the Zoo's operating costs are 11% under budget. He stated that the Zoo is trending to end the years attendance at about 830,000 – 840,000. He stated that he will be monitoring this closely. CEO Barton stated that the Zoo is currently putting together their 2018 budget. He stated that the Finance committee challenged him to come up with ideas for increased attendance in 2018. CEO Barton stated that the self-generated total is not 1.3%, but actually 10% down. Director Valentino called for a motion to accept the June 2017 financial statement. Director Rainwater so moved to approve. Director Dougherty seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Review, Discuss, and Consider Next Scheduled Board Meeting:** Director Valentino asked the Zoo Board members to confirm their availability for the next meeting on September 20, 2017. Majority of the members verbally responded that the date and time worked well for them. Executive Assistant, Jessica Revis, stated she would send out an invite to all of the Board members.

**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: None.

**Board questions and comments:** None.

**Adjournment:** Adjournment 6:21 pm

**Respectfully submitted by:** Jessica Revis, Executive Assistant to the CEO/Executive Director  
Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation