



Oregon Zoo Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee

Oregon Zoo – Zoom
Wednesday, May 12, 2021
3 to 5 p.m.

Oregon Zoo Bond
Citizens' Oversight
Committee Meeting

May 12, 2021

Minutes

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Susan Hartnett (Chair)
Dan Aja
Naomi Bishop
Laurel Brown
Heidi Goertzen
Daniel Hauser
Nan Heim
Jill Mellen
Javier Mena
Katherine A. Porras
Chin See Ming
Dick Stenson
Christine L. Taylor
Karen Weylandt
Emma Stocker

AFFILIATION

Retired from Spectator Venues, City of Portland
Banfield Pet Hospital
California State University, Northridge (professor *emerita*)
Assistant Director of Facilities Operations, Reed College
Becker Capital Management
Oregon Center for Public Policy
Nan Heim Associates; Oregon Zoo Foundation Board of Directors
Research Biologist
Affordable Housing Manager, City of Beaverton
Meyer Memorial Trust
Gilbert Levy Bennett
Retired healthcare executive; community volunteer
Miller Nash Graham & Dunn
Retired from Providence Health & Services
Emergency Management, Portland State University

MEMBERS ABSENT

Robyn K. Pierce
Kevin Spellman

AFFILIATION

Pierce, Bonyhadi & Associates
Spellman Consulting, Inc.

GUESTS

None

AFFILIATION

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND STAFF

Shirley Craddick
Scott Cruickshank
Julie Fitzgerald
Kate Giraud
Bob Lee
Jim Mitchell
Joel Morton
Linnea Nelson
Sarah Orizaga
Staci Pfau
Heidi Rahn
Ruth Walkowski

Metro Councilor
Oregon Zoo Interim Director
Oregon Zoo Foundation Executive Director
Oregon Zoo Bond Project Manager
Oregon Zoo General Curator
Oregon Zoo Bond Construction Manager
Metro Senior Attorney
Assistant Management Analyst
Oregon Zoo Administrative Assistant III
Oregon Zoo Bond Project Manager
Capital Asset Management Director
Chief Financial Officer, Oregon Zoo Foundation

A. Welcome / Introduction

Susan Hartnett, Oregon Zoo Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee Chair, opened the meeting at 3:04 p.m. Susan shared virtual meeting etiquette and gave an agenda item overview. She shared two important personnel updates: Scott Cruickshank will be retiring from Metro at the end of July. Kate Giraud will also be moving on from the Zoo Bond Program. Bob Lee has accepted a position at the Albuquerque BioPark and his last day at the Zoo will be in late May. Susan thanked them for their service to Metro and to the Zoo Bond Program. Scott and Kate both said their thanks to the committee for all of the work put into the bond program. Sarah showed a video of Nora playing in a tub of ice in the new Polar Passage habitat.

B. Approval of February 10, 2021, Oversight Committee meeting minutes

The minutes of the February 10, 2021, Oregon Zoo Bond Oversight Committee ("Oversight Committee" or "the Committee") meeting were approved by a show of hands via Zoom.

C. Monthly Project Updates

Polar Passage/Primate Forest/Rhino— Jim Mitchell began the updates:

- This is the 62nd report Jim has given.
- The projects are on track to be completed
- We have not dipped into contingency funds

Kate Giraud walked the committee through the newest project photos highlighting:

- The transformation of the PPR site from 2018-2021
- Whole tree climbing structures in primate forest
- The primates being let into moated habitat, and Leah the chimp at the termite mound
- Installation of the shade wall in front of primate day-room, allowing guests to see into day room
- Meshed habitat with mature tree success, and the chimps interacting with trees
- Ladder install in meshed habitat. Showed rendering of new design. The plan is to have it completed by the end of July.
- The ladder changes to whole tree climbing structures will cost \$300,000. The contingency accommodated that so we were able to proceed.
- Finished polar passage: photos showed the Headland Habitat, Nora's love of the swim flume, and the cedar lean-to structure
- Keeper interacting with Nora at the training wall in front of guests for the first time. Nora responded well.
- The deep pool/meadow ridge habitat with deadfall, and Nora enjoying the deep pool
- Growler's café. The Zoo aims to have this open by Memorial Day.
- Finished event space. Guests are loving the space and immediately began to use it once barriers were remove.
- Finished storage building, which will make a huge difference for the zoo.

Percent for art – Kate showed photos of the final sculpture and benches. Susan spoke about the concerns of zoo staff that guests/children are climbing on it. Susan reminded the committee that

OZPAAC had tried to find a work around and let the committee know that a solution is being worked on by zoo staff.

COBID – 14%: 7% is emerging small business, 5% is women owned, 2% is minority owned. Susan acknowledged that it can be hard to find qualifying firms. Heidi mentioned that the ideas on how to increase COBID that came from this committee are now being used agency-wide, thanks to the work of this zoo bond program. A CMGC report will be finalized when the job is complete. That will come out later this summer. We will add all of this information into the final report.

D. Oversight Committee Reports

Susan and Heidi presented the 2020 annual report to Metro Council on May 6th. It was well received and Metro council always loves to hear about the zoo bond's progress. Councilor Craddick voiced her pride in the success of the zoo bond program. She said that the committee "set the stage for future oversight committees, which there are now 3 others at Metro. They were all designed off the work the bond oversight committee has done." Heidi said that the oversight committee instilled trust in voters, which is what Metro needs. It won't be too long until we think about the next phase of planning for the zoo.

Susan acknowledged the staff that have supported the committee, as well as volunteers and Metro council. Everyone paid attention to what the voters asked for. Susan voiced the committee's gratitude to the Oregon Zoo foundation to Metro Council. Julie thanked Nan Heim as the liaison between board and committee.

Where we are headed in reporting: Susan intends to complete this process with a final report to be completed this fall. We will also utilize formatting changes to have a portion of it be a short, image-rich executive summary geared towards the voters and region residents. There will also be a more detailed, comprehensive gathering of information regarding the entire program. This will be useful for future oversight committees or bond measures. Around July we will start working on this final report. There will need to be enough time for final financial information to settle before being gathered. We hope to have a final report finished by the September meeting. Susan will be in touch in late June with members of the committee to plan that further. Julie and Nan would like to be involved to represent OZF in the final project.

Final celebration planning updates:

E. Program Status, Financial Information, and Schedule

Heidi introduced Caleb Ford to the committee, who will be overseeing the final stretch of the program budget. She reassured the committee that dedicated bond stuff are here to close-out the program.

Caleb gave a brief financial update. The bond money has been spent. He will make sure that everything is tied up neatly. \$250,000 dollars of unrestricted bond funds remaining. Projects are not quite finished but very close. The program spent all that was promised to be spent. The check from the Oregon Zoo Foundation's campaign was received. Fund 320 has been closed out, so we are now using fund 325, which is right where we want the money to be.

Heidi gives Jim kudos for tracking and managing program budget so well.

F. Zoo and Oregon Zoo Foundation Update

Zoo Updates: Scott Cruickshank shared that the zoo is starting to grow back the team, many who were laid off last year are coming back. Recently held curator interviews for primates, and we are hoping to make an offer of employment soon. We are bringing back some events team members. We are hoping to have some smaller events later this year and working to bring in additional inventory of lights for ZooLights. There isn't a decision on what model ZooLights will be this year, but the events team is discussion options. Additional positions are opening up with guest services and custodial. Metro is currently in director recruitment for a new zoo director. They are working with a consulting company on that search and recruitment is live. Hoping to arrive at a candidate around July 1st. Scott's departure will be July 30th, which also lines up with AZA accreditation. AZA accreditation will follow a 4-day in person inspection, with a hearing in September with results. New food and beverage location when Growlers is complete. Food and beverage staff are starting to work in there this week to set it up. Goal is to open Memorial Day weekend.

Animal updates from Bob Lee: Rhinos aren't arriving until September, hoping to have another animal in the space over the summer, maybe llamas or alpacas. Bob shared various photos from the animal areas. Susan asked question about painted dogs. Bob says we still have some, but we did ship some to another facility to make room. Linnea asked if Nora had any other deep pool experience. Bob said our facility is state of the art. Took all the best parts of other exhibits and incorporated them into this one.

Oregon Zoo Foundation update: Julie Fitzgerald gave a summary of the campaign. In 2018, the Heart of the Oregon zoo campaign started with six components. First 3 = \$3.5mil, second half = \$5mil. Completed conservation and education goals. Completed animal welfare goals. Still fundraising. Anymore unrestricted gifts go towards animal welfare. In phase 4, they opened it up to any level of donations. Heart of the Oregon Zoo sign will be installed in time for final bond celebration. Direct mailing just completed. It was advertised that \$1k donation would get the donor's name inscribed on the Polar Passage pillar. \$64k was donated from that campaign. The foundation will be communicating with specific donors to attend the bond celebration to see what their money went toward. In June and July, foundation staff will be hosting small group tours of the zoo for board members. Tonia will send link to bond oversight committee to attend if they are able. Susan offered to be paired up with foundation staff to meet and greet board members. Nan Heim added that the bond program has energized the foundation board. Looking for opportunities to show donors/board that zoo/metro/foundation all work together toward the same thing.

G. Open Discussion/Questions

No open discussion. Susan hopes to see everyone in September. Closed meeting at 4:30.