



General Meeting of the Board of Directors
Fresno Chaffee Zoo Education Building
Wednesday, November 16, 2016 5:30 pm

DRAFT

Table with 4 columns: Board Members, Attendance, Staff Present, and Public Present. Lists names and attendance status for 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, Levy, Gonzalez, Saladino, and Valentino all present. Board Directors Cates and Price absent. Advisors CEO Barton and Mr. MacAlpine present. Legal Counsel Mr. Larsen present.

Approval of Minutes: Director Valentino called for review of the minutes from September 21, 2016 and a motion to approve. Director Dougherty so called for a motion to approve. Director Rainwater seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Chair Report: Director Valentino stated he did have anything to report at this time. He differed to the CEO's report.

CEO Report: CEO Barton briefly referred to General Curator, Lyn Myers, for a quick presentation of lion cub photos. Myers stated her team would be working closely with the Fresno Bee to update the public on monthly cub updates. She also mentioned the cub would soon be introduced to his older sister. The Board thanked Myers for her time. CEO Barton updated the Board on current attendance numbers already exceeding the 2016 budgeted amount. He stated CFO Goldman would have a more in-depth overview of attendance in his report. CEO Barton updated the Board on the status of the Deputy Director search. He stated a potential candidate did visit and interview with the Zoo, but ultimately due to a quality of life conflict. CEO Barton stated the candidate's spouse could not transfer her job to California, and that the housing costs were higher than they anticipated. He stated the Selection Committee would meet again for further direction regarding the continued search to fill the position. CEO Barton showed the Board a PowerPoint presentation outlining his plan to increase parking spaces for the zoo guests. He stated the zoo is currently working with an engineering company to develop a crosswalk, connecting the Belmont avenue parking lot to Roeding Park. This would create roughly 200 more spaces, and actually be a closer walk to the entrance of the Zoo. CEO Barton presentation showed a map displaying areas in the Zoo where future plans would develop more spaces as well. The last slide showed a design of a future Olive



Avenue entrance with a three lane entry option. He stated the road would also be reconfigured slightly to allow for a smoother flow of traffic. Director Gonzalez inquired who would pay for these renovations to the park entrance and road repairs. CEO Barton stated that Fresno City would cover the costs of the park entrance. Director Rainwater stated the park needs to put better exit signs. CEO Barton shared a design of the Conservation building. Director Rainwater asked where the building would be placed. CEO Barton stated it would be where the Nasara Grille is now. CEO Barton also mentioned that this building would help with field conservation projects, and give the zoo staff the opportunity to be hands-on and very involved. Director Gonzalez asked who would cover the costs for the Belmont parking project. CEO Barton stated this would be a cost of the zoo. Director Gonzalez asked if the zoo could acquire the old K-Mart parking lot for additional parking in the future. CEO Barton stated that area is currently being used for High Speed Rail, but it may become available in the future. CEO Barton stated the Zoo is currently applying for the IMLS Grant. He stated that the grant would allow the zoo the opportunity to further develop their distance learning program. CEO Barton thanked Director Levy for her wonderful service to the Zoo Board. He stated the Director Levy has been a Board member since the conception of the Board.

**Review, Discuss, and Consider the 2017 Board Meeting Calendar:** Director Valentino called for a motion to adopt the 2017 Board of Directors Meeting Calendar, as presented. Director Saladino so moved to approve. Director Nokes seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Review, Discuss, and Consider FCZ Nominating Update:** Director Richards stated that he did receive several submissions for new potential Board members. He stated that he would send the Board a copy of the submissions, and the Board could make recommendations at the January meeting.

**Review, Discuss and Consider Financial Report:** CFO Goldman reviewed the 2016 October Financial report with the committee. CFO Goldman stated the self-generated revenue was \$8,513,132, compared to budgeted revenue of \$7,127,983. He also mentioned that they have a surplus of \$2,705,190 compare to budgeted surplus of \$277,816. The total personnel expenses are 7.9% under budget and total expenses are 4.5% under budget as of 10/31/2016. CFO Goldman stated that the budgeted attendance for 2017 is set at 950,000. Director Richards called for a motion to accept the financial report as presented. Director Rainwater seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Review, Discuss and Consider Bylaw Revisions:** Director Levy and Mr. Larsen reviewed the revisions made to the Bylaws. Mr. Larsen stated that section 4.5 would allow more flexibility for Directors to stay an extra year after their term has concluded. Director Levy stated the Bylaw committee agreed that members could reapply for a board position only after two years of absence from the Board. Mr. Larsen stated in section 4.16, that advisors could be appointed to committees prior to the annual organizational meeting. Mr. Larsen also mentioned on page 15 the job description of the CEO of the zoo would be removed from the Bylaws, with a disclaimer to see the current job description. This would be a separate document controlled by the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Human Resources office. Mr. Larsen also mentioned that on page 18 the committee added that the Board members must acknowledge to the Board when they have a conflict of interest. This would mean if a Board member receives any type of income from a contractor dealing with the zoo, the Board member would recuse themselves from the conversation and not vote. Director Valentino asked how long after the relationship ended with that contractor, could they then participate. Mr. Larsen stated after two years. Director Levy called for a motion to approve the revisions to the Bylaws. Director Saladino so moved for approval. Director Richards seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Review, Discuss and Consider FCZC 2017 Budget:** Director Saladino stated the Finance committee reviewed the FCZC 2017 Budget made a few changes in the staffing requests. The committee decided to eliminate Human



Resources and Veterinarian Assistant positions, and post-pone the Distance Learning position. CFO Goldman stated the projected 2017 attendance will be 950,000. This is close to what the zoo will reach in 2016. CFO Goldman stated the self-generated revenue will be increased by \$1,530,000 over 2016. CEO Barton stated that the budget is flat compared to 2016. CFO Goldman stated the Visitor Services department will resume selling combo tickets for giraffe feeding and Stingray Bay admissions. Adults save \$1.00 and children/seniors save \$1.50 over the total price of admission. CFO Goldman stated they are increasing the giraffe feeding price to \$3.00. This is the first increase in over ten years. Currently, guests are purchasing two pieces of lettuce for \$2.00. Now, they will receive three pieces of lettuce for \$3.00. CFO Goldman stated the total operating expenses will increase to \$1,740,000, about 13.6% more than 2016. CFO Goldman stated the Zoo would be switched healthcare providers in December. He stated the change would offer the employees two different options of coverage. Director Richards asked if the zoo offers family plans as well. CFO Goldman stated they would. Director Rainwater inquired if the spouse of the employee has health coverage, is the zoo requiring the employee to be covered under that insurance first. CFO Goldman stated they are not requiring that. Director Richards asked if the zoo is splitting the premium cost with the employees. CFO Goldman stated that they are not splitting the cost with the employees. Director Valentino called for a motion to approve the 2017 Budget. Director Richards so moved for approval. Director Rainwater seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

**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:** Meeting called to adjourn at 6:53 p.m.

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