

Potter Park Zoo Docent and Volunteer Association

Membership Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 24, 2018



The meeting began at 6:40 p.m.

Minutes from November 15, 2017, were approved.

Treasurer's report was approved.

Bylaws are approved and will be on the association Web site.

Treasurer Ed Pinheiro highlighted the success of Winter Wonderland of Lights fundraising towards the Dexter cow, and offered special thanks to everyone involved in the effort. Please see attached.

Committee Updates

Election Committee, Sue Hinkley and Roberta Gubbins

The Election Committee presented the slate for the upcoming election on February 28, 2018.

- President – Val Johnson
- Vice President – Julie Burnner
- Treasurer – Ed Pinheiro
- Secretary – Deb Cadle
- Member at Large – Katelyn Thompson

Candidates are elected to a two-year term and may run for a second two-year term. Swearing in will be held at the March PPZDVA meeting.

Enrichment, Jill Garnett

We had a fabulous day for last Saturday's event and all the animals cooperated.

New Business

- Next meeting will be held on February 28, 2018, at 6:30 p.m.
- On March 28, 2018, Amy Morris and Cindy Wagner will present the Five-Year Plan for PPZ. There will also be an Ice Cream Social.
- 100 Year Anniversary is coming up in 2020. A committee will be formed to explore activities and contributions to the event.
- Increasing attendance:
 - Meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m., and will end no later than 8:30 p.m.
 - Any discussions needing lengthy attention will be tabled for continuation in an organized format.
 - Games and Prizes! Get ready for ZOO-pardy. Be the first to answer correctly and you can win a \$10 gift certificate. If no one wins, the prize will be added to the next month. (Use of electronic devices or other reference material during the game is strictly prohibited.)

Dennis & Jennifer Present: The Rat

- Rat Facts: They make great pets, are intelligent, social and altruistic. Rats probably originated in Central Asia. The Black Death has been largely attributed to rats, however the fleas carrying the virus could have been passed on easily from human-to-human contact. Rats have four incisors, with thick enamel, that continually grow.
- Rat Adaptations: Not having fur on the tail allows diversion of blood flow in order to dissipate heat. Their 21-day gestation can be delayed up to two weeks if food is in short supply. They will eat anything.

- Rats in PPZ Education
 - Short-term use: hold the rat keeping arm level and elbow tightly against your body. Your other hand should be lightly resting on top of the rat. If conditions are favorable, the rat may be touched on the tail with one finger.
 - Long-term use: the cage should be used for longer events. Both rats can be present in the cage. Be sure to take a bag of bedding, a spare bag for waste, water bottle and chew toy. Having rats in the cage does not free up the docent to have another animal.

Volunteers are needed to sew new crate covers. The Education department already has the fabric. If you, or anyone you know, would like to volunteer, please contact Dennis.

Staff Report

Jennifer Horvatin

- We received a number of good applicants at our recent recruitment event.
- Classes will start February 15th. There will be separate labs for animal handling.
- Calendars are available.
- Snack sign up sheet is available for upcoming PPZDVA meetings.

Dennis Laidler

- There will be more docent classes this year. Current docents are welcome to attend lectures, but will need to check before attending animal handling labs.
- To better answer guest questions, all zoo staff will be required to take an Animal Welfare class offered through the San Diego Zoo Academy.
- Mariah, of Zoo in Your Neighborhood program, has recently married. Her last name is now Martinez. Thank you!
- Garnet News Service has made a donation to the Zoo in Your Neighborhood program.
- The strategic plan is complete. We are now working on an action plan.
- We are looking for funding for various projects including expansion of the wolf exhibit.
- The Great Escape: the female artic fox made an escape on Christmas eve, leading Keepers through the snow-covered neighborhood near PPZ. She was found under a trailer by Keeper Jake.
- Animal Updates.
- Meeko is in the AZA Calendar.
- Lecture on Working Dogs 4 Conservation, will be held here at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 26th.

Meeting adjourned.

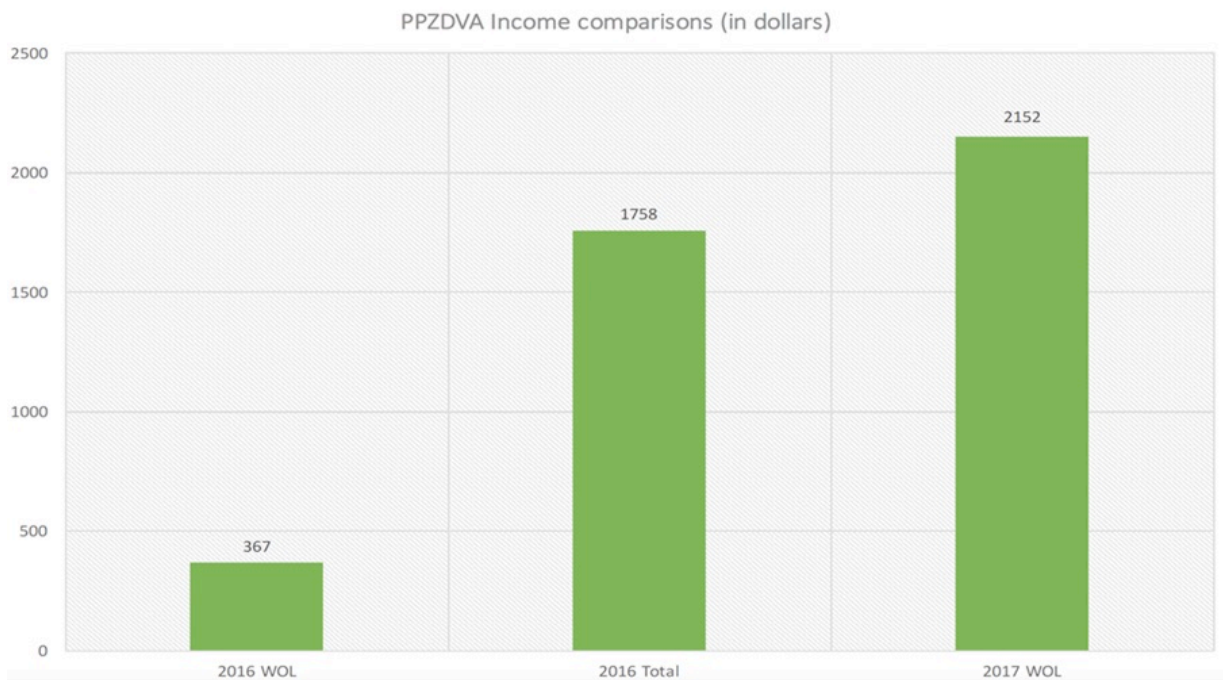
The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 28, 2018, 6:30 pm at the Zoo.

Respectfully submitted:

Cynthia Holt, Secretary



The 2017 Wonderland of Lights Story



The 2017 Wonderland of Lights Story

Thank you to the everyone who made this a success!



Shannon	Armbruster
Julie	Brunner
Hailee	Butler
Victoria	Chrumka
James	Constandt
Carolyn	Farnham
Sue	Hinkley
Nicole	Holbrook
Nancy	House
Katrina	Jeffreys
Val	Johnson
Mackenzie	Kilbourne
Megan	Knight
Ed	Pinheiro
Anastasia	Shortridge
Whitney	Wells
Leah	Wolfe
Carol	Zwick

