



The meeting began with a brief message from Dennis Laidler regarding the recent accreditation inspection: We will know more next month, but the inspectors found the zoo beautiful and welcoming.

Minutes from the meeting on April 26, 2017 were approved.

Treasurer's report was approved.

New Business

Crate Covers: Any ideas to improve the crate covers, please see Chris Kennedy.

Volunteer Newsletter/Brochure

- The association now has a contribution Carrie Green's Volunteer Newsletter. We have been allotted "page 4" to share monthly updates about the association and our activities. If anyone would like to receive Carrie's newsletter, please contact her.
- Val distributed a sample of the volunteer brochure designed by Andrea Hunter. Attendees voted to approve the purchase of 250.
- Brochures will be available for outreaches, special events, etc.
- The idea of having a bumper sticker made was suggested.

Summer Trip

- After a vote, it was decided that the summer trip will be to Binder Park Zoo. Kayla will try to make arrangements for a behind the scenes tour of the giraffe barn. More details to follow.

Docent and Volunteer Garden

- Location is on the "path to nowhere" across from the Vezu.
- The design, by Jerry Nester, will cover both sides of the walk way.
- Jerry has donated many plants, and the Zoo has ornamental grasses available. Plants are pending approval.
- The association name will not fit on the recognition plate and it was suggested that the association logo be used instead.
- There was discussion of acknowledging Jerry's contribution in some way. One suggestion was a painted stone.
- Garden Watch to be established. A volunteer will check the garden two or three times in a one week period. If attention is needed, the volunteer on duty will contact other garden volunteers to help with maintenance.

Tech Support

- Our San Diego Zoo Academy tech support team will be Sarah Steinhour, Andrea Kepsel, and Katie Licht. They don't have administrative access at this time.

Tour Handouts

- The tour handouts are pending review.
- Ed has volunteered to pay for the handouts for the first year.

- Current handouts are for the Habitats and What's for Lunch tours, and include a checklist of talking points.

Keeper Appreciation Week – July 16th through 22nd

- The association would like to show appreciation to the keepers.
- There are 14 keepers, 8 aids, 7 interns, medical staff, and Sarah.
- Suggestions included: food, purchase from Amazon Wish List.

Fundraising Ideas

- Val: Working with Amy Morris to determine Zoo priorities for targeted fund raising. This way we will know what we are working towards.
- Sell drink carriers at Zoo Brew. (200 at \$66, sell at \$1 each)
- Making stickers with association logo for drink carriers and other items.
- Return of Face Painting. Will have fewer designs, and some stencils available. Need volunteers willing to do this.
- Zoo animal lollipops from Oriental Trading.

Animals And Continuing Training

1st Lesson: Cheat Sheets

Sometimes we all need a little reminder. Cindy Bauer, Wayne and Sarah Steinhour, Katie Licht, Val Johnson, and Andrea Hunter submitted their ques for a quick reminder.

- Erasable marker board covered with plastic wrap.
- Reduce animal fact sheets to fit in 5x7 or 4x6 portable photo album.
- Compile fact sheets into book using MSU book printing service.
- Color coded index cards.
- Index cards on a ring.

Andrea has created laminated fact sheets held together by a ring that fit into our docent vest very nicely. A sample will be left in the docent lounge; feedback will be appreciated.

By Law Committee – Currently gathering comments. Please have changes to chair by May 1st.

Staff Reports

Jennifer Horvatin

- Docent manual is required.
- Review of upcoming events that need docent and volunteer participation.
- Ordered shirts for International Migratory Bird Day.
- Falconers
 - May program canceled due to low interest.
 - June date has been set.
 - Lindsey Berg is working on a plan to regenerate interest in the program.
- Review of teen zookeeper program.
- Reminder of protocol for bringing groups in for presentations.
- Presenter spots are still available for spring fling, but hurry to sign up since Ed signs up for everything!

Dennis Laidler

- Seven days prior to the AZA accreditation visit the Ingham County computers were hacked and shut down.

- The AZA Accreditation Team looks at concerns from previous report. They are not fooled by cosmetics. Their report is sent to AZA, while PPZ works on issues. At September meeting, PPZ will present plan/progress report of resolutions of issues. The report also commended PPZ on nine items, including education. Also recommended PPZ petition for award for the Falconers program.
- With younger children, it is more important to have a positive animal experience rather than an educational experience. Especially true at birthday parties.
- Chris Kennedy's grandchild had a birthday party here and it was the talk of their school.
- Animal Updates.
- Kudos for all the hard work for accreditation prep, and a special thanks to Val, Ed, and Diane.
- Official docent graduation of Kate White.
- Dennis's office will be one of two nursing mothers' stations. There is a kit in the office for their use.

Meeting adjourned.

Our next meeting will be on June 28, 2017, at 7:00 pm at the Zoo.

Respectfully submitted:

Cynthia Holt, Secretary