

Potter Park Zoo Docent and Volunteer Association

Membership Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 27, 2017



The meeting began at 7:05 with Zookeeper Jake Brodie speaking about bats.

Guest Speaker

Zookeeper Jake spoke about the Seba Short Tail bats and bats found in Michigan. He also expressed thanks to Docent Gee Wasper and her friend from the construction trades for their help in building the new exhibit.

Minutes from August 23, 2017, were approved.

Treasurer's report was approved.

Committee Updates

Enrichment Committee, Jill Garrett

Upcoming Events

- International Red Panda Day celebration at the zoo, Saturday, September 30th. There will be 2 shifts, 11:00 – 1:00 and 1:00 – 3:00. Keeper talks from 11:00 – 3:00. Donations will be sent to Red Panda Network.
- Tailgate with the Animals and College Day, Sunday, October 1st. Free admission for college students.

Old Business

- Head Keeper Sarah is collecting any kind of perfume and spices for animal enrichment. We want to clarify that it is ok if the perfume is older but they would like the spices to be unopened and from the list that Kayla provided. There is a collection box in the lounge.
- Pizza House Fundraiser on September 12th brought in \$208.41.
- Bottle Drive brought in \$54.00.
- Docent Garden: Signs are pending.

New Business

- Bylaws: A lot of work has gone into revising the bylaws. Copies will be e-mailed to association members that have the original wording and the revisions. Please be prepared to discuss and vote during our October meeting.
- Fundraising Project: Potential projects have been identified.
 - Pollinator Garden, inspired by the garden at Blank Park Zoo, will be created outside the Discovery Building. By making a financial contribution we will be able to provide input on the design of the garden.
 - Barnyard: There are plans to acquire American Heritage animals in the Zoo's barnyard. The first animals to potentially be acquired are Dexter cows. The cost is \$1,500 each.
 - Ultrasound for the clinic. These are very costly and it is unlikely we could fund the entire cost. The goal would be to contribute to the purchase.
 - Large Enrichment Items for rhinos and big cats.Preliminary vote favored Dexter cows. Actual vote will be held at October meeting.

Staff Reports

Jennifer Horvatin

- Sign-up sheets are available for Falconers Boo at the Zoo, Boo at the Zoo, Programs, Big Zoo lessons.
- On-line sign-up is here! Demonstration was provided. Information will be sent via e-mail. We will use both methods during the transition period, so be sure to e-mail the appropriate day captain after using the on-line system.
- Falconers – Falconers Boo at the Zoo will be an overnight program on October 13th. November 4th theme will be Getting Ready for Winter. The December 4th program will be Winter Wonderland of Lights.
- Association potluck will be on December 13th. We will not have an Association meeting in December.
- Several books have been culled from the library and are available to anyone who wants them.
- On behalf of Dennis
 - Though we didn't win the Diversity Award for Falconers, the recent AZA conference was informative and inspiring. PPZ has been accredited for the next five years. We really do a lot for such a small zoo.
 - The conference was held in Indianapolis, which allowed us to visit former PPZ resident Tombi. Though she has never had a calf, she has become an auntie that keeps the young bull elephants in line.
 - Animal updates.
 - Animals in the education quarters have been moved around. Be careful

Mariah Faszczewski, Zoo In Your Neighborhood Coordinator

Reaching out to underserved members of the community with free events at libraries and community centers to promote the zoo. Participants in this program will need to complete an orientation.

Anyone who may be interested can provide their e-mail address for updates.

Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 25, 2017, 6:30 pm at the Zoo.

Respectfully submitted:

Cynthia Holt, Secretary