

THE CITY OF TORONTO

City Clerk's Office

Minutes of the Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo

Thursday, December 10, 2009

The Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo met on Thursday, December 10, 2009, in the Boardroom, Zoo Administration Building, 361A Old Finch Avenue, Scarborough, commencing at 9:35 a.m.

Members Present:

9:35 a.m.–11:10 a.m.

Councillor Raymond Cho, Chair	X
Councillor Paul Ainslie	X
Dr. Ming-Tat Cheung	X
Councillor Norm Kelly	X
Councillor Giorgio Mammoliti	X
Ms. Sylvie Tessier	X
Ms. Cindy Yelle	X
Dr. Dudley Williams	X

Regrets:

Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker
Councillor Mark Grimes
Mr. Joe Torzsok, Vice-Chair

Members were present for some or all of the time period indicated.

Confirmation of Minutes

On motion by Councillor Ainslie, the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Management held on October 29, 2009, were confirmed.

115. Endangered Species Reserve Fund – 2010 Budget

The Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo considered a report (November 16, 2009) from the Chief Operating Officer submitting the 2010 Endangered Species Reserve Fund Budget, which funds research and education projects to benefit endangered species in Canada and around the world.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that Project submissions 1 to 23 and E1 to E12, with expenditures of \$94,612.00 be approved for funding from the Endangered Species Reserve Fund.

On motion by Councillor Mammoliti the Board approved the recommendation contained in the report (November 16, 2009) from the Chief Operating Officer.

116. Stingray and Shark Interactive Exhibit – 2010 Season

The Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo considered a report (November 16, 2009) from the Chief Operating Officer respecting the continuation of a temporary interactive stingray and shark exhibit with the addition of a new animal species for the 2010 season.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board approve the extension of the Agreement with Living Exhibits Incorporated of San Diego, California, for the Stingray and Shark interactive exhibit for 2010, in the amount of \$312,500.00 US, excluding GST.

On motion by Dr. Williams, the Board approved the recommendation contained in the report (November 16, 2009) from the Chief Operating Officer.

117. Partnership with Delta Toronto East

The Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo considered a report (November 6, 2009) from the Executive Director, Marketing and Communications advising of the renewal of the advertising and marketing partnership with the Delta Toronto East Hotel for 2010; and outlining details of the partnership.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the report be received for information.

On motion by Dr. Williams, the Board received for information the report from the Executive Director, Marketing and Communications.

118. 2009 Zoo Camps and Bush Camp Report

The Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo considered a report (November 9, 2009) from the Executive Director, Conservation, Education and Research highlighting significant activities and statistics with respect to the 2009 Zoo Camps and Bush Camp programs.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Kelly, the Board received for information the report from the Executive Director, Conservation, Education and Research.

119. Project Update and Capital Variance Report

The Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo considered a report (November 12, 2009) from the Chief Operating Officer providing an update on the status of the Capital and Operating projects at the Zoo.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Ainslie, the Board received for information the report from the Chief Operating Officer.

120. Visitor Statistics

The Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo considered a report (November 7, 2009) from the Executive Director, Marketing and Communications submitting the visitor statistics for the period ending October 31, 2009.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Cho, the Board received for information the report from the Executive Director, Marketing and Communications; and directed that appreciation be expressed to all Zoo staff and volunteers.

121. Preliminary Operating Results

The Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo considered a report (November 16, 2009) from the Chief Operating Officer submitting the 2009 preliminary operating results for the period ending October 31, 2009.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Mammoliti, the Board received for information the report from the Chief Operating Officer.

122. 2010-2019 Capital Budget Approval - Update

The Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo considered a report (November 30, 2009) from the Acting Chief Executive Officer providing an update to the Board on the recent City Financial Planning Division recommendations approved by the Budget Committee regarding the Toronto Zoo's 2010–2019 Capital Budget.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Ainslie, the Board received for information the report from the Acting Chief Executive Officer.

123. CAZA Awards

The Board received the following awards and certificates from the Canadian Association of Zoos and Aquariums:

- Thomas R. Baines Award for Outstanding Achievement in the area of Exhibit Design for the Tundra Trek Project; and
- Col. G.D. Dailley Award for Innovation in Breeding Programs presented to the Toronto Zoo and Calgary Zoo for the Black-footed Ferret Conservation Breeding and Recovery Program.

124. Publication

The Acting Chief Executive Officer distributed the following publication:

- "Connect" Magazine of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, November 2009, distributed by the Acting Chief Executive Officer.

The Board received for information the publication.

125. Presentation on the Black-Footed Ferret Release Program

Ms. Maria Franke, Curator of Mammals, gave a presentation on the Black-footed Ferret Conservation Breeding and Recovery Program, in particular with respect to:

- Black-footed Ferret History;
- Achievements at the Toronto Zoo;
- Return of the Black-footed Ferret to Canada;
- Grasslands National Park;
- Mapping of Prairie Dog Colonies/Towns;
- Feasibility Workshop – June 2004;
- Final Recovery Series and Goals
- Draft Action Plan;
- Outdoor Preconditioning Pens in Colorado;
- Val Marie – Welcome by School and Community;
- Command Station at Parks Canada;
- Arrival of Ferrets; and
- the Toronto Zoo Crew.

The Board also considered an article (December 2009) from the Canadian Geographic, headed "Return of the Ferret".

On motion by Councillor Cho, the Board received for information the presentation on the Black-footed Ferret Conservation Breeding and Recovery Program, and expressed appreciation to Ms. Franke and all Zoo staff involved in this project.

126. China Trip Report

The Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo considered the following:

- Report (December 3, 2009) from the Acting Chief Executive Officer attaching a report from Councillor Giorgio Mammoliti and Dr. William A. Rapley on their recent visit to China

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the attached China Trip report be received for information.

- Letters (November 27, 2009) from Guy Giorno, Chief of Staff, addressed to Councillor Raymond Cho and Councillor Mark Grimes regarding efforts to secure pandas from China for the Toronto Zoo; and indicating that the Federal Government's delegation will pursue the acquisition of pandas for the Zoo during the Prime Minister's visit to China.

The Board:

1. Appointed a Task Force, to be chaired by Dr. Ming-Tat Cheung, and comprised of members of the Board of Management, the Fundraising and Sponsorship Committee, Chinese Community Leaders, Federal Members of Parliament, and a member of the community, to develop a detailed proposal to obtain Giant Pandas.

(Motion by Dr. Ming Tat-Cheung)

2. Requested the Chair of the Task Force and Members of the Fundraising and Sponsorship Committee to consider who should be invited to serve on the Task Force.

(Motion by Councillor Mammoliti)

3. Received the report from Councillor Giorgio Mammoliti and Dr. William A. Rapley on their China visit, and directed that a copy be forwarded to the Task Force for consideration.

(Motion by Councillor Mammoliti)

4. Requested the Task Force to review how the Giant Pandas were brought to the Toronto Zoo previously, including the public and private partnerships involved.

(Motion by Councillor Ainslie)

5. Requested the Acting Chief Executive Officer to send out a Press Release on the Zoo Board's support of the mission in China to pursue the possibility of acquiring pandas for the Zoo, including information on the recent letters of support received from the Prime Minister's Office.

(Motion by Councillor Mammoliti)

127. Solar Thermal Energy Project

The Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo considered a report (November 17, 2009) from the Chief Operating Officer respecting the Toronto Zoo partnering with the City of Toronto and Glenbarra Energy on a project to install solar thermal panels on the roof of the Operations Complex.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board authorize the Chief Executive Officer to approve the Solar Thermal Project with the City of Toronto and Glenbarra Renewable Energy Solutions Inc. as outlined in the report.

On motion by Councillor Ainslie, the Board approved the recommendation contained in the report (November 17, 2009) from the Chief Operating Officer.

128. Food Services Contract Renewal

The Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo considered a report (October 21, 2009) from the Chief Operating Officer outlining the terms negotiated with Compass Group Canada for a proposed five-year extension to the Food Services Agreement.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Food Services Management Agreement with Compass Foods Ltd., be approved for a further five (5) year period, with an up-front investment of \$800.0 thousand and a \$250.0 thousand donation by the Operator to be applied against the investment cost which will be amortized over the term of the Agreement.

On motion by Councillor Ainslie, the Board approved the recommendation contained in the report (October 21, 2009) from the Chief Operating Officer.

129. Update on the Search Process for Executive Director of Development

The Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo considered a report (November 13, 2009) from the Chief Operating Officer providing an update on the status of the recruitment process for the Executive Director of Development, the senior staff position responsible for fundraising at the Zoo.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the report be received for information.

On motion by Councillor Ainslie, the Board:

1. Received for information the report from the Chief Operating Officer.
2. Directed that Members of the Board of Management meet with the Executive Director of Development once he/she has been appointed.

130. Appointment of Chief Executive Officer

On motion by Councillor Ainslie, the Board directed that the Chair of the Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo be included as a member of the selection committee pertaining to the hiring of a new Chief Executive Officer for the Toronto Zoo.

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The Board adjourned its meeting at 11:10 a.m.

Chair