

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL REGIONAL FACILITIES AND METRO OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Thursday, June 14, 2001
Oregon Zoo
Skyline Room

Members Present: Rex Burkholder (Chair), Rod Park

Members Absent: Carl Hosticka (Vice Chair) (excused)

Others Present: Zoo personnel, Oregon Zoo Foundation and MCCI representatives

Chair Burkholder called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

1. Resolution No. 01-3075, For the Purpose of Confirming the Appointment of George Bell to the Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission.

Motion: Councilor Park moved to recommend Council approval of Resolution No. 01-3075.

Vote: Chair Burkholder and Councilor Park voted aye. The vote was 2 aye/0 nay/0 abstain, and the motion to recommend approval passed unanimously of those present. Councilor Hosticka was absent from the vote.

Chair Burkholder assigned Councilor Park to carry the resolution to the full Council.

2. Zoo Dialogue/Worksession

Chair Burkholder asked for informal dialogue from various departments to educate this committee about Metro's operations, as well as provide an opportunity for the departments to give some thought and reflection about issues facing their departments, and what kinds of policy decisions might be facing the Council. He also invited anyone who cares about the issues to add to the discussion. He encouraged additional comments, by e-mail, phone, or mail to him.

Tony Vecchio, Zoo Director, commented on the Zoo's mission; conservation, education, recreation, and research. **Kathy Kiaunis**, Deputy Zoo Director reflected on the things the zoo provides to the community, and **Bob Pung**, Metro Committee for Citizen Involvement (MCCI), spoke about the excellent accessibility at the Zoo for physically challenged folks and how easy it is for him to get to the Zoo on MAX.

Paula McCall, Education Manager/Volunteers, gave an overview of the volunteer programs at the Zoo and **Kenny Morris** and **Jan Landis**, volunteers, talked about their experiences at the Zoo as "animal talkers".

Roger Yerke, Education Manager/Programs, talked about the objectives of the education department and the many programs the Zoo provides to the schools and for

Regional Facilities & Metro Operations Committee

Thursday, June 14, 2001

Page 2

the public. He talked about recruiting youth to volunteer at the Zoo, through social service and other agencies. **Michael Lahti**, Zoo Animal Presenter (ZAP) and Urban Nature Overnights (UNO) volunteer, told the committee how much working with the Zoo animals has meant to him, and **Berk Moss**, Science Coordinator, Beaverton School District, explained the working partnership between the Beaverton School District and the Zoo and the programs they coordinate.

Joe D'Alessandro, Portland, Oregon Visitors Association (POVA), talked about the economic impact of the Zoo, the state's number one gated attraction for tourists. He commented on the outstanding conference/meeting facilities at the Zoo.

Mike Keele, Assistant Zoo Director & General Curator, gave an overview of various conservation programs and projects at the Zoo, and **Blair Csuti, Ph.D.**, Conservation Program Coordinator, talked about research and conservation projects the Zoo has undertaken with other agencies and educational institutions. **Dave Eshbaugh**, Executive Director, Audubon Society of Portland, and **Heather Nelson Kent**, Metro Parks & Greenspaces, told of collaborations and working partnerships with the Zoo and the goodwill the projects create in the community.

Kim Freed, Oregon Zoo Foundation Director of Development, gave an overview of the Oregon Zoo Foundation and talked about their mission and fundraising efforts for the Zoo. **Paul Schlesinger**, Oregon Zoo Foundation Board member, gave some history of the Friends of the Washington Park Zoo and their merger with the Zoo's development office to become the Oregon Zoo Foundation. **Jim Mark** and **Jim Claypool**, Oregon Zoo Foundation Board members, explained the role of the Oregon Zoo Foundation and commented on the pleasure they receive from working on the board.

3. Councilor Communications

Chair Burkholder commented that the Zoo was a fantastic place because of the people who work there. He noted that the Zoo had come a long way since they were known as the Portland Animal Farm 25 years ago.

He distributed cards with contact information inviting interested people to express their ideas and opinions on land-use and transportation issues through a Metro survey being taken until June 29, 2001.

Chair Burkholder adjourned the meeting at 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Grant
Council Assistant

Regional Facilities & Metro Operations Committee

Thursday, June 14, 2001

Page 3

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF JUNE 14, 2001

| DOCUMENT DATE | DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION | DOCUMENT No. |
|----------------------|---|---------------------|
| JUNE 12, 2001 | MEMO TO: REGIONAL FACILITIES AND METRO OPERATIONS COMMITTEE FROM: TONY VECCHIO, ZOO DIRECTOR RE: JUNE 14, 2001 REGIONAL FACILITIES MEETING AGENDA | RFOM061401-01 |
| JUNE 14, 2001 | MEMO TO: REX BURKHOLDER FROM: TONY VECCHIO RE: OREGON ZOO STATUS REPORT | RFOM061401-02 |
| FY 2000-2001 | OREGON ZOO ORGANIZATIONAL CHART | RFOM061401-03 |
| JUNE 14, 2001 | SPEAKING POINTS FROM BLAIR CSUTI RE: CONSERVATION AND RESEARCH AT THE OREGON ZOO | RFOM061401-04 |
| N/A | SPEAKING POINTS FROM KIM FREED RE: OREGON ZOO FOUNDATION | RFOM061401-05 |
| N/A | DIALOGUE/WORKSESSION SCHEDULE | RFOM061401-06 |

TESTIMONY CARDS

None.