

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL ZOO COMMITTEE
OF THE METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

October 18, 1988

Committee Members Present: Councilors Sharron Kelley (Chair),
Gary Hansen and Corky Kirkpatrick

Committee Members Absent: Councilors Tom DeJardin (V. Chair) and
Larry Cooper

Chair Kelley called the meeting to order at 4:40 p.m.

1. Consideration of Minutes

Motion: Councilor Hansen moved to approve the minutes of
September 6, 1988.

Vote: A vote on the motion resulted in all three Councilors
present voting aye. Councilors Cooper and DeJardin
were absent.

The motion carried and the minutes were approved.

2. Consideration of Resolution No. 88-995, for the Purpose of
Authorizing a Purchase Contract with Elder Leasing for a
Modular Structure

Chair Kelley announced the item had been pulled from the agenda at
the request of General Counsel. Staff had initially requested the
contract be awarded on a sole source basis but Counsel had
determined the project should be competitively bid. The Committee
would be asked to consider a contract award once bids were received
and evaluated.

3. Report on Zoo Graphics and Logo

Sherry Sheng, Zoo Director, reported that as a result of the
Council's request during last year's budget review process, Zoo and
Public Affairs staff were working to present a coordinated public
image that would tie the Zoo to Metro. The Zoo's name had been
changed to "Metro Washington Park Zoo." Projects completed to date
included refurbishing the Zoo entrance; installing a Zoo/OMSI/
Western Forestry Center sign to reflect the new name; and redesigning
the Zoo's logo for use on Zoo vehicles and stationery. Ms. Sheng
explained that additional renovations and improvements would be made
next year to interpretive graphics and directional signs after an
extensive evaluation.

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Update on the Aquarium Feasibility Study

At the Chair's request, Ms. Sheng presented a brief update on the status of the project. She had continued to meet with Steve Lowenstein of City of Portland Commissioner Mike Lindberg's office and Bruce Allen of the Portland Development Commission to discuss the content of the feasibility study. Commissioner Lindberg was working to identify individuals for a blue ribbon study committee and to develop a process for appointing members. Membership would consist of individuals living in the Portland metropolitan area, she said, and the committee would probably begin its work in 1989. Ms. Sheng explained she would serve as staff to the committee, would evaluate the committee's work and would continue to update the Zoo Committee on developments.

Discussion Concerning Animal and Zookeeper

Councilor Hansen noted he had read a recent Oregonian article where zookeepers in San Diego had beaten an elephant in an attempt to control the animal. He questioned how the Council could ensure that type of behavior would not occur in the Metro Washington Park Zoo and other zoos.

Ms. Sheng responded that the Metro Zoo had a good staff training program and very clear protocol concerning how keepers were expected to relate to animals and how emergency situations should be handled. She explained that positive reinforcement of animals, rather than negative, was fostered. She also pointed out the Zoo was fortunate to have animal holding facilities that allowed keepers to safely administer health care to the animals without having to handle them. Such mechanical restraining devices served to protect both the workers and the animals, she said. The Metro Zoo was the official keeper of the Asian elephant stud book and as such, was in a proactive position of sharing information about elephant handling with keepers around the world.

Councilor Kirkpatrick suggested the Committee review its goals to ensure they addressed issues of animal care.

There was no other business and the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



A. Marie Nelson
Clerk of the Council

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