

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL ZOO COMMITTEE  
OF THE METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

Regular Meeting  
February 1, 1990

Committee members present: Jim Gardner (Chair), Ruth McFarland  
(Vice Chair), and Tom DeJardin

Committee members absent: David Knowles and Mike Ragsdale

Chair Gardner called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. He announced item no. 3 would be considered first.

3. Resolution No. 90-1216, Authorizing an Exemption to Metro Code Chapter 2.04.043 Competitive Bidding Procedures and Authorizing Payment of Purchase order No. 5529FM to the Best Lock Company Under Metro Code Chapter 2.04.060 Sole Source Contract Provisions

Jessica Marlitt, Council Analyst, presented the report to the Committee. She explained Contract Review Board authorization was required because the work was done on a sole source basis and exceeded \$2,500. The locking system used was Best Lock, which was inherited from the City of Portland when responsibility for the Washington Park Zoo was transferred from the City to Metro. Because the locks will accept only Best Lock cores and keys and they are only provided by one company, Best Lock Company of Gresham was contracted to do the work. Ms. Marlitt said staff originally estimated the project would cost under \$10,000 and was identified as a sole source contract. At the time of the original purchase order, the contract provision for sole source purchases over \$2,500 had not been adopted by the Council. Due to more extensive work than anticipated, there was still an outstanding amount of \$7,036.59 due the Best Lock Company. She told the Committee to date Best Lock Company had been paid \$15,952.12.

Motion: Councilor DeJardin moved to recommend Council adoption of Resolution No. 90-1216.

Vote: Councilors DeJardin, Gardner and McFarland voted aye.

The motion carried unanimously. Chair Gardner noted Councilor DeJardin would present the recommendation to the Council.

1. Update on Zoo Tax Base and Serial Levy Campaign Committee Formation

Sherry Sheng, Washington Park Zoo Director, gave an update on the tax base and serial levy, and explained to the Committee the

progress of the Citizen Campaign Committee. She read the names of people on the "Be a Zookeeper" Campaign Committee and said the steering group was comprised of representatives from Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties. They have met once and established a budget and selected the Hallock Agency to run the campaign. She also passed out a fact sheet on Zoo tax funding to the Committee. Chair Gardner asked what the minimum budget was. Ms. Sheng said the range was \$100,000 to \$200,000.

## 2. Briefing on Zoo Strategic Planning Process and Results

In briefing the Committee on Zoo strategic planning, Ms. Sheng explained the objective was to allow staff to look at what they currently do, how it affects the community, and to plan accordingly. She said the cost of the consultant's services would be approximately \$9,000. The process consisted of an employee task force and a leadership group (management staff) which gathered information from various sources and together came up with eight declared values and a vision (Caring Now for the Future of Life) for the Zoo. The eight values were:

1. Animals connect people to the whole of life.
2. Diversity is essential to the balance of life.
3. The roots of meaningful actions are caring relationships.
4. We meet life's challenges through discovery, exploration and caring.
5. Fun is basic.
6. We live our values.
7. The future depends on our reverence for life.
8. Every person makes a difference in the value of life.

Ms. Sheng said the eighth value was to be the central theme for the Children's Zoo. She said the process revealed the need to have consistent, written handbooks and the need to set priorities. In response to questions from Councilor McFarland, Ms. Sheng said the response from employees had been very positive. She had deliberately chosen people who were vocal and sometimes negative in an attempt to bring out the best in everyone. Chair Gardner asked if the consultant was finished with his work. Ms. Sheng said he was basically finished. There was still the task of forming staff work teams, since the expectation was not to do problem solving solely by management. Chair Gardner noted the vision and eight values seemed to be something the whole agency could adopt and live by.

## 4. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

Chair Gardner told the Committee he planned to work with Ms. Sheng on upcoming agenda items, making sure the Committee had all

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information needed to minimize unnecessary delays. He then asked if any Committee members had suggestions for items they would like to have considered on future agendas. He noted suggestions could be submitted in writing at a future date.

Councilor McFarland said she worked with disadvantaged children and asked Ms. Sheng if the Zoo had any resources available for such groups. Ms. Sheng said there were many resources including admission discounts and a curriculum packet, and she suggested interested groups contact Zoo staff directly.

Ms. Marlitt said Council staff was working on improving communications between the Committee, Council staff and Zoo staff.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ann Brunson  
Committee Clerk

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