

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL ZOO COMMITTEE OF THE
METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

July 7, 1988

Committee Members Present: Councilors Sharron Kelley (Chair),
Larry Cooper (V. Chair) and Corky
Kirkpatrick

Committee Members Absent: Councilor Tom DeJardin

Chair Kelley called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

1. Consideration of Minutes

Motion: Councilor Cooper moved to approve the minutes of
May 5, 1988.

Vote: A vote on the motion resulted in all three Councilors
present voting aye. Councilor DeJardin was absent.

The motion carried.

2. Discussion of Long-Term Construction and Financial Plans

Ray Phelps, Finance & Administration Director, reported he would soon begin a process of working with the Committee and Zoo staff to examine all current, written policies and procedures relating to Zoo construction and financing. These policies and procedures would then be consolidated into one, cohesive document. As part of this process bond levies, rates, other revenue sources, debt service management, contingency amounts, and other financial management matters would be reviewed. Mr. Phelps explained the Zoo would be the first major department to undergo such a review. Solid Waste and the General Fund operations would follow. He said Neil Saling, Construction Projects Manager and Convention Center Project Director, would work with staff and the Committee during the review. He anticipated staff would complete its initial review of existing policies within six weeks.

Councilor Kirkpatrick thought the project necessary and exciting. She was concerned, however, about the process for determining which new facilities would be built at the Zoo. She pointed out that a recent Oregonian article had announced the Zoo had plans to develop a breeding facility for endangered species. She noted that type of facility had not been included in the Zoo Master Plan which had traditionally been adopted by the Council. Also, the Zoo Committee had not discussed the potential project.

Mr. Phelps responded the Council had approved the facility by adoption of the FY 1988-89 budget. He said the fiscal and construction review process would address the process for how new facilities were developed and approved.

Chair Kelley thought the review process should address the Zoo's continuing dependence on levies. She also said the Zoo Committee would take a more active role in reviewing proposed budgeted programs for FY 1989-90.

3. Aquarium Feasibility Study Update

Chair Kelley announced City of Portland Commissioner Mike Lindberg had requested the \$50,000 Aquarium Feasibility Study be funded with \$25,000 contributed by the Portland Development Commission and \$25,000 by the City of Portland. She further explained it was originally intended Metro would contribute \$25,000. However, Commissioner Lindberg had determined that because he wanted the study conducted in a particular way, he would not request Metro involvement other than having Zoo Director Sherry Sheng serve on the study committee.

Councilor Kirkpatrick regretted Metro's lack of involvement in the project, saying it was not in the region's best interest. An aquarium was a regional facility, not a City of Portland facility, she explained. She suggested the Committee express its views in a letter to Commissioner Lindberg.

Chair Kelley reported Commissioner Lindberg had initially proposed a blue ribbon committee to conduct the study. The Zoo Committee had suggested the study committee be expanded to include a broader representation of the community. When the Commissioner had declined that suggestion, she had suggested a additional advisory committee be appointed to include representation from the Friends of the Zoo and Metro. The Commissioner declined that suggestion but offered to seat a Zoo Committee member on the blue ribbon committee.

Councilor Cooper thought it appropriate for Metro to be represented on the committee since Metro would probably assume responsibility for the facility and because of the impact of an aquarium on the Zoo. He noted Commissioner Lindberg had probably not been enthusiastic about Metro participation on the study committee because some Metro Councilors were not convinced an aquarium was a good idea.

Ray Barker, Council Analyst, asked if the study committee would conduct a public hearing as part of its process. He noted the Zoo Committee had previously expressed concern that the public have an opportunity to express its views. Chair Kelley was unsure of the process.

Chair Kelley agreed that Metro should be represented on the blue ribbon study committee because the District could eventually run the aquarium. She acknowledged, however, the reservations of Council members about whether the agency was prepared to run such a facility. Councilor Cooper agreed but pointed out that membership on the committee would also serve to protect the Zoo's interests. He also hoped the City would conduct a public hearing to determine if the public wanted an aquarium.

Chair Kelley explained the study process would not begin until the fall. It was the Committee's consensus that Mr. Barker would prepare a draft letter to Commissioner Lindberg communicating the Committee's requests and concerns. The Committee would review the letter at its August meeting.

4. Consideration of Resolution No. 88-953, for the Purpose of Entering into a Contract with Waste-Go Services for Zoo Waste Disposal Services

Alan Goff, Facilities Management Manager, reviewed staff's report concerning the contractor selection process and need for the service. He explained that disposal service charges were quoted separately and were subject to Metro increasing its rates.

Councilor Kirkpatrick noted the second low bid had been submitted by Baldwin Sanitary, a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE), and was only 50 cents less than the rate quoted by Waste-Go. She asked if staff had considered awarding the contract to Baldwin. Kay Rich, Zoo Assistant Director, explained staff had recommended awarding the contract to the lowest bidder. This type of contract did not have a DBE participation goal, he said.

In response to Councilor Kirkpatrick's question, Mr. Goff said he would find out why Waste-Go's disposal fee had been quoted lower than the other two bidders.

Councilor Kirkpatrick asked if the Zoo budget provided for a \$45 per ton increase in disposal fees effective November 1, 1988. Mr. Goff said the increase had not been projected. Mr. Rich added that funds could be transferred from contingency to cover than unforeseen expense.

Motion: Councilor Kirkpatrick move to recommend the Internal Affairs Committee adopt Resolution No. 88-953.

Vote: A vote on the motion resulted in all three Councilors present voting aye. Councilor DeJardin was absent.

The motion carried.

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Councilor Kirkpatrick suggested the contracting policy be reviewed to determine if the Council could award contracts to a DBE not submitting the lowest bid. Chair Kelley reported that a task force was currently meeting to study contracting policies as they related to the DBE program. The task force's findings would be forwarded to the Council, she said.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



A. Marie Nelson
Clerk of the Council

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