

THE COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, June 14, 2023

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Katie Wolfe Lloyd called the meeting, which was held at the Zoo's Africa Events Center, to order at 4:08 PM.

Attendance was noted as follows:

Davis, Victor, Rev. Dr.	A	Moore, Brian	P
DeHays, Brad	P	Moore, Rustin	P
Donovan, M.D. Joseph W.	P	Morrison, Karen	P
Fortener, Stephanie	E	O'Grady, Pam	P
Gusty, Dan	E	O'Mara, Brian	P
Hastings, Adriana	P	Reese, Bernita	P
Hightower, Stephanie	E	Schmid, Tom (ex-officio)	P
Jackson, Brent	P	Shumate, Keith	P
Lloyd, Katie Wolfe	P	Sundararajan, Raja	E
Mallory, Lark	P	Talarek, Zachary	P
Massanova, Jennifer	E	Wunsch, E. J.	P
McConnell II, John H.	P		
Mentel, Sean	P		

Zoo staff attending: Senior Vice President of Finance, Angel Mumma; Senior Vice President of Operations and Sustainability, Jen Ryan; Senior Vice President of Human Resources, Carman Wirtz; Vice President of Marketing and Communications, Nicolle Gomez Racey; Board Liaison, Suzy Lucci, and Recording Secretary, Sarah Doepke.

Also in attendance at the meeting: Mary Rose, Lonnie Walp

II. **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

John H. McConnell asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the March 8, 2023 Board of Directors meeting. There being none, a motion to approve the minutes was made by Karen Morrison and seconded by Brent Jackson. The minutes were approved as presented.

Following the approval of the minutes, Mary Rose made remarks about her time on the Zoo Board. Tom Schmid thanked Ms. Rose for all she has helped the Zoo to accomplish.

III. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Adriana Hastings asked Angel Mumma to give a financial update covering revenue and expenses. Ms. Mumma gave the Board an overview of our new financial dashboards – this is a summarized report that stakeholders and staff can use to get a snapshot of the finances for the Zoo, Zoombezi Bay, and The Wilds. Ms. Mumma then gave an overview of the financial summary document and highlights through May. Overall, we are in a good position moving into summer.

The Board discussed three resolutions:

- Mr. Schmid presented a memo to the Board indicating that while we are not fully audited and closed out of 2022, we expect surplus cash of \$12.9 million. Mr. Schmid's memo outlined the request to use \$10 million of this excess cash for various capital improvement needs including the framework process, North America Trek, bonobo habitat renovation, and projects at The Wilds.

- Resolution approving the disbursement of levy funds – at their meeting today, the Levy Oversight Committee approved two resolutions. The first finishes the balance remaining from December 2022, for \$512,977.09. The second resolution covered the expenses from January 1 through April of 2023, for \$6,323,045.00.
- Resolution to add Tom Schmid and Angel Mumma onto the John Hancock life insurance policy the Zoo holds. Former staff members were the only ones listed on the policy (they have since been removed), and John Hancock is requiring Board approval to add Mr. Schmid and Ms. Mumma. Moving forward, we will have duplicate signers on the policy.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report and all three resolutions was introduced by Rustin Moore. The motion was seconded by Pam O'Grady and approved.

IV. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- Audit Committee:
 - Brent Jackson gave a presentation on the recent surprise audit. The recommendation for surprise audits was made by Plante Moran in their review of our internal controls. Mr. Jackson gave an overview of the scope of the audit as well as the results.
 - Ms. Mumma informed the Board that our regular audit by Clark Schaeffer Hackett is currently underway. The auditors recently spent three days on grounds. The Audit Committee will meet at the end of June; we hope to have draft audit materials at that point in time.

V. GOVERNANCE

Katie Wolfe Lloyd informed the Board that we continue to look at the membership of our committees. If you have suggestions for a particular committee, please reach out.

VI. CONSERVATION UPDATE

Mr. Schmid stated that when it comes to conservation work, in the past we have focused primarily on giving smaller grants to many different organizations. Moving forward, we will be focusing on fewer, more impactful projects. Mr. Schmid detailed the projects we will focus on in the near future, including creating a new Gorilla Doctors facility; partnering with Uganda wildlife authorities and the International Elephant Foundation to recover snares that target lions, giraffe, and elephants; furthering Dr. Randy Junge's work on lemur health in Madagascar; and creating an IUCN center for species survival for Asian elephants. Additionally, in the coming weeks, we will be announcing a new Wilds Center for Conservation for North American Bison – we are working with other zoos and state agencies to rehome the bison produced at The Wilds, in line with our conservation mission.

VII. BOARD GOVERNANCE ACTION ITEM

A. Fisher Board Fellow

- Karen Morrison informed the Board that the Governance Committee recommends Lonnie Walp as the next Fisher Board Fellow. A motion to approve this recommendation was introduced by Pam O'Grady and seconded by Rustin Moore. The motion was approved.

VIII. CEO UPDATE

Tom Schmid gave the Board an update on several topics:

- Evolv security system – we received a \$1.4 million grant to fund part of this project. We will install the system in mid-fall and hope to have it up and running by mid-winter.


- In the next few weeks, we will begin using EasyBoard as a Board information platform. This will be a great resource for this group and will reduce the amount of paper we use for Board materials.
- Strategic Plan Update – we spent a good couple of days with our management team last month working on the development of our strategic plan. We retained Robin Keith as a facilitator for this session.
- Mr. Schmid reviewed the results of our recent employee engagement survey with the Board.
- Important upcoming dates to remember: Zoofari (June 17); Wine for Wildlife (July 15); Rwandan Fete (September 30), and Fall Safari at The Wilds (October 6).

Following this update, PGAV gave a high level look at the work that has been done so far on the 2040 Framework. Additionally, PGAV gave a market area overview and visitor metrics. Finally, the Board participated in a blue sky visioning exercise.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn the meeting was introduced by Brent Jackson. The motion was seconded by Adriana Hastings and approved. The meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM.


Katie Wolfe Lloyd, Chairperson


Sarah Doepke, Recording Secretary