

**Columbus Zoological Park Association
and Subsidiaries**

Consolidating Financial Statements

December 31, 2024

(with Comparative Totals for December 31, 2023)

(with Independent Auditors' Report)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Independent Auditors' Report	1-2
Consolidating Financial Statements:	
Consolidating Statement of Financial Position	3-4
Consolidating Statement of Activities	5-6
Consolidating Statement of Functional Expenses	7-8
Consolidating Statement of Cash Flows	9-10
Notes to the Consolidating Financial Statements	11-37

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Trustees
Columbus Zoological Park Association and Subsidiaries
Powell, Ohio

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying consolidating financial statements of the Columbus Zoological Park Association and Subsidiaries (the Association) which comprise the consolidating statement of financial position as of December 31, 2024, and the related consolidating statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the consolidating financial statements.

In our opinion, the consolidating financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Columbus Zoological Park Association and Subsidiaries as of December 31, 2024, and the changes in their net assets and their cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the consolidating financial statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Columbus Zoological Park Association and Subsidiaries, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of management for the consolidating financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidating financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of consolidating financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidating financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Association's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the consolidating financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the consolidating financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidating financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the consolidating financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidating financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidating financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the consolidating financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Association's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co.

Columbus, Ohio
June 27, 2025

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
December 31, 2024 (with Comparative Totals as of December 31, 2023)

	2024				2023
	Columbus Zoo	The Wilds	Zoombezi Bay	Eliminations	Consolidated Totals
					Consolidated Totals
Assets					
Current assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 47,739,653	9,012,700	2,852,301	-	59,604,654
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for credit losses of \$100,000 and \$233,333, respectively (NOTE 3)	7,312,861	112,348	16,400	-	7,441,609
Accounts receivable, related party	181,895	1,371	135,990	(319,256)	-
Current portion of unconditional promises to give and grants receivable (NOTE 4)	3,825,363	76,000	-	-	3,901,363
Prepaid expenses	1,498,477	263,703	215,885	-	1,978,065
Inventory (NOTE 5)	302,389	224,107	33,135	-	559,631
	<u>60,860,638</u>	<u>9,690,229</u>	<u>3,253,711</u>	<u>(319,256)</u>	<u>73,485,322</u>
Property and equipment:					
Land	8,462,970	6,549,138	-	-	15,012,108
Leasehold / land improvements	289,044,999	3,956,090	-	-	293,001,089
Recreational facilities	9,481,576	19,392,635	34,115,695	-	62,989,906
Operations equipment	20,043,645	1,785,369	2,510,717	-	24,339,731
Motorized fleet	3,342,221	846,387	-	-	4,188,608
Construction in progress	25,350,989	2,877,696	2,517,776	-	30,746,461
	<u>355,726,400</u>	<u>35,407,315</u>	<u>39,144,188</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>430,277,903</u>
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(175,493,103)</u>	<u>(13,927,755)</u>	<u>(24,600,663)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(214,021,521)</u>
	<u>180,233,297</u>	<u>21,479,560</u>	<u>14,543,525</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>216,256,382</u>
Other assets:					
Beneficial interest in assets held by others (NOTE 7)	1,053,647	417,942	-	-	1,471,589
Interest rate swap (NOTE 15)	-	-	630,091	-	630,091
Investments (NOTE 7)	67,242,839	-	-	-	67,242,839
Unconditional promises to give, less current portion, net and grants receivable (NOTE 4)	1,109,463	-	-	-	1,109,463
Operating leases right-of-use assets (NOTE 16)	82,440	-	3,423,893	(3,423,893)	82,440
Other assets (NOTE 10)	3,558,282	-	-	(3,000,500)	557,782
	<u>73,046,671</u>	<u>417,942</u>	<u>4,053,984</u>	<u>(6,424,393)</u>	<u>71,094,204</u>
	<u>\$ 314,140,606</u>	<u>31,587,731</u>	<u>21,851,220</u>	<u>(6,743,649)</u>	<u>360,835,908</u>

See accompanying notes to the consolidating financial statements.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (CONTINUED)
December 31, 2024 (with Comparative Totals as of December 31, 2023)

	2024				2023
	Columbus Zoo	The Wilds	Zoombezi Bay	Eliminations	Consolidated Totals
Liabilities and net assets					Consolidated Totals
Current liabilities:					
Accounts payable	\$ 7,976,240	153,246	295,902	-	8,425,388
Accounts payable, related party	135,990	181,895	1,371	(319,256)	-
Accrued payroll and related liabilities	4,719,595	195,500	140,477	-	5,055,572
Accrued interest	-	-	23,914	-	23,914
Accrued taxes	66,303	40,004	122,942	-	229,249
Deferred revenue (NOTE 12)	8,010,333	862,664	252,193	-	9,125,190
Wage continuation (NOTE 13)	904,004	-	-	-	904,004
Current portion of notes payable (NOTE 15)	-	-	1,100,000	-	1,100,000
Current portion of operating lease liabilities (NOTE 16)	80,360	-	227,528	(227,528)	80,360
	<u>21,892,825</u>	<u>1,433,309</u>	<u>2,164,327</u>	<u>(546,784)</u>	<u>24,943,677</u>
Long-term liabilities:					
Notes payable, less current portion (NOTE 15)	-	-	9,900,000	-	9,900,000
Deferred tax liability (NOTE 11)	-	-	884,000	-	884,000
Operating lease liabilities, less current portion (NOTE 16)	9,825	-	3,196,365	(3,196,365)	9,825
	<u>9,825</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,980,365</u>	<u>(3,196,365)</u>	<u>10,793,825</u>
Net assets:					
Without donor restrictions	279,553,553	24,222,497	-	-	303,776,050
With donor restrictions (NOTE 17)	12,684,403	5,931,925	-	-	18,616,328
Members' equity	-	-	3,000,500	(3,000,500)	-
Retained earnings	-	-	2,706,028	-	2,706,028
	<u>292,237,956</u>	<u>30,154,422</u>	<u>5,706,528</u>	<u>(3,000,500)</u>	<u>325,098,406</u>
	<u>\$ 314,140,606</u>	<u>31,587,731</u>	<u>21,851,220</u>	<u>(6,743,649)</u>	<u>360,835,908</u>

See accompanying notes to the consolidating financial statements.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
Year Ended December 31, 2024 (with Comparative Totals for Year Ended December 31, 2023)

	2024				2023
	Columbus Zoo	The Wilds	Zoombezi Bay	Eliminations	Consolidated Totals
Changes in net assets without donor restrictions:					Consolidated Totals
Revenue and support:					
Tax levy, Franklin County	\$ 20,382,763	-	-	-	20,382,763
Gate admissions	20,084,281	5,184,445	7,225,946	-	32,494,672
General contributions and grants	2,851,374	1,125,731	-	(200,000)	3,777,105
Sponsorship revenue	2,034,948	16,452	213,400	-	2,264,800
Membership dues	13,450,076	381,829	1,398,031	-	15,229,936
Rent income - Zoombezi Bay, LLC	300,000	-	-	(300,000)	-
Ride admissions	2,522,757	-	-	-	2,522,757
Education	2,147,831	-	-	-	2,147,831
Donated materials, facilities and services	919,790	1,138,084	-	(1,090,498)	967,376
Gift shop sales	1,803,246	751,707	112,256	-	2,667,209
Golf course revenue	2,226,360	-	-	-	2,226,360
Food service revenue	3,410,855	510,372	946,101	-	4,867,328
Auxiliary activities	7,996,907	240,103	2,781,029	(2,989,700)	8,028,339
Gain (loss) on interest rate swap	-	-	15,963	-	15,963
Loss on disposal of asset	(49,867)	-	(1,417,587)	-	(1,467,454)
Investment income, net	7,247,471	398,874	123,556	-	7,769,901
Net assets released from restrictions	4,214,140	247,479	-	-	4,461,619
	<u>91,542,932</u>	<u>9,995,076</u>	<u>11,398,695</u>	<u>(4,580,198)</u>	<u>108,356,505</u>
					<u>106,850,568</u>

See accompanying notes to the consolidating financial statements.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)
Year Ended December 31, 2024 (with Comparative Totals for Year Ended December 31, 2023)

	2024				2023
	Columbus Zoo	The Wilds	Zoombezi Bay	Eliminations	Consolidated Totals
Expenses:					Consolidated Totals
Program services:					
Animal care, research and conservation	19,576,374	2,788,773	-	(393,475)	21,971,672
Other programs	46,958,832	6,940,403	-	(1,590,713)	52,308,522
	66,535,206	9,729,176	-	(1,984,188)	74,280,194
Support services:					
Management and general	11,848,126	1,100,004	12,733,393	(2,476,037)	23,205,486
Fundraising	2,406,300	154,577	-	(119,973)	2,440,904
	80,789,632	10,983,757	12,733,393	(4,580,198)	99,926,584
Change in net assets without donor restrictions - prior to income taxes	10,753,300	(988,681)	(1,334,698)	-	8,429,921
Federal income tax benefit (expense)	-	-	397,000	-	397,000
Change in net assets without donor restrictions	10,753,300	(988,681)	(937,698)	-	8,826,921
Changes in net assets with donor restrictions:					
Contributions and grants	5,877,233	3,835,944	-	-	9,713,177
Investment income	-	27,929	-	-	27,929
Net assets released from restrictions	(4,214,140)	(247,479)	-	-	(4,461,619)
Change in net assets with donor restrictions	1,663,093	3,616,394	-	-	5,279,487
Total change in net assets	12,416,393	2,627,713	(937,698)	-	14,106,408
Net assets at beginning of year	279,821,563	27,526,709	6,644,226	(3,000,500)	310,991,998
Net assets at end of year	\$ 292,237,956	30,154,422	5,706,528	(3,000,500)	325,098,406

See accompanying notes to the consolidating financial statements.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
Year Ended December 31, 2024 (with Comparative Totals for Year Ended December 31, 2023)

2024							
	Columbus Zoo					The Wilds	
	Program Services		Supporting Services			Program Services	
	Animal Care, Research and Conservation	Other Programs	Management and General	Fundraising	Total	Animal Care, Research and Conservation	Other Programs
Salaries and wages	\$ 9,779,266	17,077,312	3,922,699	1,073,995	31,853,272	1,597,823	2,882,210
Fringe benefits and payroll taxes	2,985,650	6,087,691	655,278	443,043	10,171,662	577,663	711,933
Contracted operations	-	1,244,800	-	-	1,244,800	-	-
Advertising and promotion	-	1,351,197	41,319	-	1,392,516	-	195,193
Animal care and acquisitions	2,823,148	46,677	-	-	2,869,825	257,314	-
Depreciation and amortization	38,164	10,415,996	1,023,804	117,525	11,595,489	-	811,954
Donated materials, facilities and services	8,412	866,968	41,387	3,024	919,791	18,516	28,070
Federal income tax expense	-	46,000	-	-	46,000	-	(1,400)
Fees for services	85,395	752,535	4,589,094	77,393	5,504,417	104,337	428,843
Food and beverage cost of sales	-	-	-	-	-	-	319,015
Gift shop cost of sales	-	-	-	-	-	-	295,507
Golf course cost of sales	-	143,881	-	-	143,881	-	-
Insurance	-	1,118,871	124,319	-	1,243,190	-	132,823
Interest	2,336	4,931	1,038	346	8,651	-	-
Other operating expenses	171,675	496,006	525,793	56,423	1,249,897	95,583	327,315
Office expenses	246,734	454,313	378,128	121,145	1,200,320	31,151	46,438
Project costs	542,031	981,992	6,197	470,238	2,000,458	-	-
Repairs and maintenance	315,066	3,111,255	192,230	-	3,618,551	4,034	350,346
Research and conservation	2,359,700	-	-	-	2,359,700	78,731	58,023
Staff development and travel	218,797	119,418	94,673	15,149	448,037	23,621	10,730
Utilities	-	2,638,989	252,167	28,019	2,919,175	-	343,403
	<u>\$ 19,576,374</u>	<u>46,958,832</u>	<u>11,848,126</u>	<u>2,406,300</u>	<u>80,789,632</u>	<u>2,788,773</u>	<u>6,940,403</u>

See accompanying notes to the consolidating financial statements.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES (CONTINUED)
Year Ended December 31, 2024 (with Comparative Totals for Year Ended December 31, 2023)

	2024					2023	
	The Wilds			Zoombezi Bay	Eliminations	Consolidated Totals	Consolidated Totals
	Supporting Services						
	Management and General	Fundraising	Total	Management and General			
Salaries and wages	\$ 490,631	88,780	5,059,444	3,617,915	-	40,530,631	36,981,167
Fringe benefits and payroll taxes	185,065	31,193	1,505,854	1,004,506	-	12,682,022	11,337,100
Contracted operations	-	-	-	-	(1,244,800)	-	-
Advertising and promotion	-	-	195,193	948,055	-	2,535,764	2,468,882
Animal care and acquisitions	-	-	257,314	-	-	3,127,139	2,915,097
Depreciation and amortization	90,217	-	902,171	2,123,114	-	14,620,774	14,401,206
Donated materials, facilities and services	-	1,000	47,586	-	-	967,377	1,139,442
Federal income tax expense	-	-	(1,400)	-	-	44,600	90,883
Fees for services	188,065	-	721,245	1,960,475	(1,744,900)	6,441,237	5,099,739
Food and beverage cost of sales	-	-	319,015	-	-	319,015	350,636
Gift shop cost of sales	-	-	295,507	-	-	295,507	312,741
Golf course cost of sales	-	-	-	-	-	143,881	130,275
Insurance	14,758	-	147,581	191,882	-	1,582,653	1,507,197
Interest	-	-	-	417,820	-	426,471	461,497
Other operating expenses	33,871	21,124	477,893	930,171	(300,000)	2,357,961	2,619,334
Office expenses	50,370	12,480	140,439	51,158	-	1,391,917	1,278,359
Project costs	-	-	-	-	-	2,000,458	2,672,436
Repairs and maintenance	-	-	354,380	808,513	-	4,781,444	4,179,863
Research and conservation	-	-	136,754	-	(1,290,498)	1,205,956	2,021,657
Staff development and travel	8,871	-	43,222	10,242	-	501,501	483,822
Utilities	38,156	-	381,559	669,542	-	3,970,276	4,025,075
	\$ 1,100,004	154,577	10,983,757	12,733,393	(4,580,198)	99,926,584	94,476,408

See accompanying notes to the consolidating financial statements.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
Year Ended December 31, 2024 (with Comparative Totals for Year Ended December 31, 2023)

	2024				2023
	Columbus Zoo	The Wilds	Zoombezi Bay	Eliminations	Consolidated Totals
Cash flows from operating activities:					
Change in net assets	\$ 12,416,393	2,627,713	(937,698)	-	14,106,408
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash and cash equivalents from operating activities:					
Depreciation and amortization	11,595,489	902,171	2,123,114	-	14,620,774
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments	(3,859,161)	(49,751)	-	-	(3,908,912)
Change in value of life insurance policy	20,812	-	-	-	20,812
Change in value of franchise fees	-	-	-	-	-
Loss on disposal of asset	49,867	-	1,417,587	-	1,467,454
Contributions restricted for long-term investment	-	(10,000)	-	-	(10,000)
Donated stock	(73,804)	-	-	-	(73,804)
Non-cash lease expense	4,497	-	-	-	4,497
Credit loss recovery	(50,000)	(83,333)	-	-	(133,333)
In kind donation of property and equipment	-	-	-	-	-
(Gain) loss on interest rate swap agreement	-	-	(15,963)	-	(15,963)
Effects of change in operating assets and liabilities:					
Accounts receivable	1,256,398	1,901,620	2,540,909	(3,740,518)	1,958,409
Promises to give and grants receivable	324,943	(2,214)	-	-	322,729
Prepaid expenses	(336,699)	(65,053)	(74,934)	-	(476,686)
Inventory	(5,530)	(76,140)	(4,235)	-	(85,905)
Deferred tax	-	-	(397,000)	-	(397,000)
Accounts payable	(1,693,045)	204,789	260,209	3,740,518	2,512,471
Accrued expenses	482,225	(27,659)	49,755	-	504,321
Deferred revenue	(200,106)	(166,778)	37,820	-	(329,064)
Wage continuation	30,570	-	-	-	30,570
Net cash flows from operating activities	19,962,849	5,155,365	4,999,564	-	30,117,778

See accompanying notes to the consolidating financial statements.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATING STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (CONTINUED)
Year Ended December 31, 2024 (with Comparative Totals for Year Ended December 31, 2023)

	2024				2023
	Columbus Zoo	The Wilds	Zoombezi Bay	Eliminations	Consolidated Totals
Cash flows from investing activities:					Consolidated Totals
Purchase of property and equipment	(33,178,541)	(3,067,307)	(2,982,488)	-	(39,228,336)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment	60,889	-	37,000	-	97,889
Payments made for intellectual property	(150,000)	-	-	-	(150,000)
Proceeds from sales and maturities of investments	16,412,589	5,068	-	-	16,417,657
Purchases of investments	(15,349,867)	(260,892)	-	-	(15,610,759)
Net cash flows from investing activities	(32,204,930)	(3,323,131)	(2,945,488)	-	(38,473,549)
Cash flows from financing activities:					
Principal payments on notes payable	-	-	(1,100,000)	-	(1,100,000)
Proceeds from contributions restricted to endowment	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Net cash flows from financing activities	-	10,000	(1,100,000)	-	(1,090,000)
Net change in cash	(12,242,081)	1,842,234	954,076	-	(9,445,771)
Cash and cash equivalents beginning of year	59,981,734	7,170,466	1,898,225	-	69,050,425
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 47,739,653	9,012,700	2,852,301	-	59,604,654
<u>Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flow Information</u>					
Interest paid	\$ 8,651	-	421,355	-	430,006
Taxes paid	\$ 46,000	600	-	-	46,600

See accompanying notes to the consolidating financial statements.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

1. NATURE AND SCOPE OF BUSINESS:

The consolidating financial statements of the Columbus Zoological Park Association and Subsidiaries (collectively the Association) include the following entities, collectively referred to as the Association:

The Columbus Zoological Park Association (the Zoo) was organized in 1930 as a not-for-profit organization. The functions of the Association are to conduct captive breeding of endangered and threatened species, provide conservation education programs to the community, support global conservation programs and offer affordable family recreation opportunities. The Zoo funds are utilized for these functions.

The International Center for the Preservation of Wild Animals, Inc. (the Wilds) is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1984. The function of the Wilds is to provide appropriate care for wildlife including threatened and endangered species, specifically those that require large, natural spaces and herd numbers, to provide conservation education programs to the community, conduct local, regional, and global conservation science, train the next generation of conservation scientists, and provide family recreation opportunities. Cumberland Bison, LLC is a not-for-profit organization that manages bison herds. The Wilds is the sole member of Cumberland Bison, LLC. Generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America require consolidated financial statements when one organization exerts control over another organization. The financial statements of Cumberland Bison, LLC have been consolidated with those of the Wilds. The effects of all intercompany transactions have been eliminated.

Zoombezi Bay, LLC (the Company) is a for profit Ohio limited liability company organized on October 13, 2006. The Company renovated and expanded an acquired water park and made significant improvements to create a water park featuring water slides, a wave pool, action river, private cabanas, an interactive water area for toddlers, and a multi-level play structure incorporating slides, a net climb, activity pool, and a 1,000 gallon tipping water bucket.

The activities of the Association are administered by its Board of Trustees. Pursuant to the revised Code of Regulations, approved by Franklin County and the City of Columbus in March, 2023, the Board of the Zoo shall consist of not fewer than eight (8) and not more than nineteen (19) persons. There shall be four (4) members of the Board appointed by the Franklin County Board of Commissioners and four (4) members appointed by the City of Columbus by its Mayor and with the concurrence of City Council.

Franklin County (the County) voters renewed a .75 mill levy that began in 2016 to support the Zoo. This levy runs for ten years and expires in 2025. The levy generated approximately \$20,000,000 in both 2024 and 2023.

By contract with the City of Columbus (the City), the Association has agreed to undertake the operation, management, and development of the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium. This contract is effective through December 31, 2037 unless canceled by either the City or the Association prior to that time.

All material related party balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

Basis of presentation

The consolidating financial statements of the Association have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (U.S. GAAP). The Association is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to the following net asset classifications:

- *Net assets without donor restrictions:* Net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed restrictions and may be expended for any purpose in performing the primary objectives of the Association. These net assets may be used at the discretion of the Association's management and the Board of Trustees.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

- *Net assets with donor restrictions:* Net assets subject to stipulations imposed by donors and grantors. Some restrictions are temporary in nature; those restrictions that are likely to be met by the actions of the Association or by the passage of time. Other donor restrictions are perpetual in nature, whereby the donor has stipulated the funds be maintained in perpetuity and only the related investment income is without donor restriction.

Cash and cash equivalents

For purposes of the statements of cash flows, the Association considers all unrestricted highly liquid investments with an initial maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Accounts receivable and allowance for credit losses

The Association grants credit to corporations and organizations located primarily in central Ohio and surrounding regions. Accounts receivable are stated at the amount management expects to collect from outstanding balances. Management provides for probable uncollectible amounts through a provision for credit losses and an adjustment to a valuation allowance based on its assessment of the current status of individual accounts. Balances that are still outstanding after management has used reasonable collection efforts are written off through a charge to the valuation allowance and a credit to accounts receivable.

Allowance for credit losses is an estimate based upon historical account write-off trends, facts about the current financial condition of the debtor, forecasts of future operating results based upon current trends and macroeconomic factors. Credit quality is monitored through the timing of payments compared to payment terms and known facts regarding the financial condition of debtors. Accounts receivable balances are charged off against the allowance for credit losses after recovery efforts have ceased.

Promises to give and grants receivable

Unconditional promises to give are recognized as revenues in the period received and as assets, decreases of liabilities, or expenses depending on the form of the benefits received. Promises to give are recorded at net realizable value. Conditional promises to give are recognized when the conditions on which they depend are met.

Inventory

Inventory is determined by physical count and is priced at the lower of cost or net realizable value. Cost has been determined using the first-in, first-out method

Investments

Investments in publicly traded securities are reflected in the consolidating financial statements at fair value based on quoted market prices. Investment funds managed by the Commonfund contain commingled trusts, which are not listed on national markets or over-the-counter markets for which quoted market prices are readily available. Management estimates the fair value of their investments in commingled trusts based on the net asset values (NAV). The net asset values are provided by the fund administrator and may include information based on historical cost appraisals, obtainable prices for similar assets, or other estimates. Investments in private investment companies are valued at the latest net asset value made available by the fund manager or administrator prior to the valuation date, which is believed to approximate fair market value.

Derivative financial instruments

The Association recognizes the derivative financial instruments (interest rate swaps) as either an asset or liability at fair value (Note 9) on the consolidating statement of financial position with the changes in the fair value reported in the consolidating statement of activities.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

Property and equipment

Property and equipment is recorded at cost and include additions and improvements that extend the useful lives of the assets. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the shorter of the useful lives of the assets or the term of the lease. It is the Zoo's policy to capitalize expenditures for items in excess of \$7,500. It is the Wilds' and the Company's policy to capitalize expenditures for items in excess of \$5,000. Property and equipment donated to the Association is recorded at the fair value at the date of the gift. All repairs and maintenance are expensed in the period incurred.

Depreciation is provided on the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets as follows:

Machinery and equipment	5-15 years
Rides and attractions	7-20 years
Buildings and building, land and lease improvements	5-30 years

A portion of the land and buildings located at the Zoo are the property of the City of Columbus and are not included in these financial statements. Improvements prior to 1991 were expensed as incurred due to the Association operating under a month-to-month lease with the City of Columbus. Subsequent to 1991, building acquisitions are recorded as leasehold improvements.

A parcel of land encompassing 140 acres of the Zoo property and parking lot is being donated through a lease with the City of Columbus. The fair market value of this lease donation is \$492,906 in 2024 and \$478,122 in 2023 and is included in donated materials, facilities and services in the statement of activities.

A parcel of land encompassing 117 acres of the golf course property is being donated through a lease with the City of Columbus. The fair market value of this lease donation is \$412,069 in 2024 and \$399,709 in 2023 and is included in donated materials, facilities and services in the statement of activities.

The Association reports gifts of land, building, and equipment as net assets without donor restrictions support, unless explicit donor stipulations specify how the donated assets must be used. Gifts of long-lived assets with explicit restrictions that specify how the assets are to be used, and gifts of cash or other assets that must be used to acquire long-lived assets, are reported as net assets with donor restrictions support. Absent explicit donor stipulations about how long those long-lived assets must be maintained, the Association reports expirations of donor restrictions when the donated or acquired long-lived assets are placed in service.

Zoological collection

Animal transactions that involve cash are recorded as income or expense on the accrual basis of accounting in the period the animal was shipped or received, while transactions that do not involve cash are necessarily excluded. The value of the zoological collection is not carried as an asset on the consolidating statements of financial position of the Association.

Recognition of donor restrictions

Support that is restricted by the donor is reported as an increase in net assets without donor restrictions if the restriction expires in the reporting period in which the support is recognized. All other donor-restricted support is reported as an increase in net assets with donor restrictions. When a restriction expires, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

Donated Materials, Facilities and Services

Significant materials, facilities and services are donated to the Association by various individuals and organizations. Donated materials are recorded at fair market value at the date of donation, and have been included in revenue and expenses for the respective years. Approximately 96,500 and 117,400 hours of donated services were received in 2024 and 2023, respectively, but were not recognized in the financial statements because they did not meet the criteria for recognition under FASB (Financial Accounting Standards Board) Accounting Standards Codification relating to revenue recognition by not-for-profit organizations.

Revenue recognition

The Association derives revenue from customers for admissions, memberships, attractions, parking, programs, commissions, a portion of special events, gift certificates and other. These revenues are recognized when control of these products or services is transferred to its customers and members, in an amount that reflects the consideration the Association expects to be entitled to in exchange for those products and services. Incidental items that are immaterial in the context of the contracts are recognized as expense. The Association does not have any significant financing components as payment is received at or shortly after the point of sale. Costs incurred to obtain a contract will be expensed as incurred when the amortization period is less than a year.

Special events revenue includes both contract revenue and a contribution component. The portion of the gross proceeds paid by the participant that represents payments for the direct cost of the benefits received by the participant at the event is the contract revenue component. Unless a verifiable objective means exists to demonstrate otherwise, the fair value of meals and entertainment provided at special events is measured at the actual cost to the Association. The contribution component is the excess of the gross proceeds over the fair value of the direct donor benefit. Special event fees collected by the Association in advance of its delivery are initially recognized as deferred revenue and recognized as special event revenue after delivery of the event.

Revenue from performance obligations satisfied at a point in time consists of admissions, attractions, parking, education, sales, golf course revenue, commissions, a portion of special events and other. Admissions and parking are recognized at the time the visitation takes place. Revenue from commissions and attractions is recognized upon delivery of the good or services. Revenue from programs and special events is generally recognized at the time the program or event takes place.

Revenue from performance obligations satisfied over time consists of memberships and sponsorship revenue. Members pay the contract amount in full at the time of purchase. Membership fees are non-refundable and are recognized as revenue ratably over the term of the one-year membership. Sponsorship revenue is recognized over the term of the contract.

Deferred revenue relates to the advance consideration received from sponsorships, program fees, membership dues and gift certificates. Contract assets and liabilities of the Zoo consist of \$14,704,590 in accounts receivable and \$9,493,257 in deferred revenue as of January 1, 2023. Contract assets and liabilities of the Wilds consist of \$2,287,907 in accounts receivable and \$1,213,600 in deferred revenue as of January 1, 2023.

Prior year contract liabilities recognized by the Zoo in the years ending December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023 were \$8,210,439 and \$9,493,257, respectively. Prior year contract liabilities recognized by the Wilds in the years ended December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023 were \$1,029,442 and \$1,213,600, respectively.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

Zoombezi Bay derives its revenues primarily from admission into the park. For season passes, the Company recognizes revenue over the corresponding season. Revenues are presented net of sales taxes collected from guests and remitted to taxing authorities. Food, beverage, gift, souvenir sales and commissions on such sales are recognized at the point and time that control over the product is transferred to the customer.

The Wilds derives its revenue primarily from park admissions and memberships. Revenues are recognized as goods and services are transferred to its customers, in an amount that reflects the consideration the Wilds expects to be entitled to in exchange for those products and services. Sales tax and other taxes the Wilds collects concurrent with revenue-producing activities are excluded from revenue. Incidental items that are immaterial in the context of the contract are recognized as expense. Incidental items that are immaterial in the context of the contract are recognized as expense. The Wilds does not have any significant financing components as payment is received at or shortly after the point of sale.

Direct related activities (gift shop and food services sales) earned by the Wilds are based on the satisfaction of performance obligations at a point in time. Revenue from performance obligations satisfied at a point in time are recognized when control transfers to the customer. Revenues are earned based on contracted sales prices. The Wilds transfers control and records revenue for product sales upon transfer of the product to the customer.

Membership dues are earned by the Wilds based on the satisfaction of performance obligations over time. Revenue from performance obligations satisfied over time are recognized using the output method. Under this method, the Wilds measured completion of the total performance obligation as time elapses because the members are granted access to the Wilds on an ongoing basis.

The Wilds also receives revenue from government and other grants and contributions from individuals and corporations. Revenue from grants received by the Wilds is only recognized after the terms of the grant have been met and related expenditure of funds has been made if the grant meets the requirements of a conditional contribution. Revenue from grants that meet the requirements of a contribution is recognized when the unconditional commitment is made by the grantor.

The following table disaggregates the Association's revenue based on the timing of satisfaction of performance obligations for the years ended December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023:

	2024					2023
	Columbus Zoo	The Wilds	Zoombezi Bay	Eliminations	Total	Total
Revenue from:						
Performance obligations satisfied at a point in time \$	40,192,237	6,686,627	11,065,332	(2,989,700)	54,954,496	53,602,475
Performance obligations satisfied over time	<u>15,485,024</u>	<u>398,281</u>	<u>1,611,431</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,494,736</u>	<u>17,373,949</u>
\$	<u><u>55,677,261</u></u>	<u><u>7,084,908</u></u>	<u><u>12,676,763</u></u>	<u><u>(2,989,700)</u></u>	<u><u>72,449,232</u></u>	<u><u>70,976,424</u></u>

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

Income taxes

Zoombezi Bay, with the consent of its stockholder, has elected under the Internal Revenue Code to be a C-Corporation. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to timing differences resulting from income and expense items reported for financial accounting and tax purposes in different periods. Zoombezi Bay is subject to certain state and local income taxes, therefore, a provision for state and local income taxes has been included in these financial statements.

Advertising expense

The Association's policy is to expense advertising costs as the costs are incurred.

Functional allocation of expenses

The costs of providing the various programs and activities have been summarized on a functional basis in the statements of activities. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the programs and supporting services benefited. The expenses that are allocated include depreciation, insurance and utilities and a portion of staff salaries; all of which were allocated based upon management's estimated use of these items.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Leases

The Association considers an arrangement a lease if, at inception, the arrangement transfers the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration. Under leasing standards, control is defined as having both the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from use of the asset and the right to direct the use of the asset. Management only reassesses its determination if the terms and conditions of the contract are changed.

Operating leases are included in operating lease right-of-use (ROU) assets, current portion of operating lease obligation, and operating lease obligation on the consolidating statement of financial position.

The lease term reflects the noncancellable period of the lease together with periods covered by an option to extend or terminate the lease when management is reasonably certain that it will exercise such option.

The Association uses the risk-free rate for a period of time similar to the lease term, determined at the lease commencement date, in determining the present value of lease payments. The risk-free rate is used as the information necessary to determine the rate implicit in the lease and if the Association's incremental borrowing rate is not readily available. The Association has lease agreements with lease and non-lease components, which are generally accounted for as a single lease. Lease expense for operating leases is recognized on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Short-term leases are less than one year without purchase or renewal options that are reasonable certain to be exercised and are recognized on a straight-line basis over the lease term. The right-of-use asset is tested for impairment.

Subsequent events

The Association evaluates events and transactions occurring subsequent to the date of the consolidating financial statements for matters requiring recognition or disclosure in the consolidating financial statements. The accompanying consolidating financial statements consider events through June 27, 2025, the date on which the consolidating financial statements were available to be issued.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

3. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE:

Accounts receivable at December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023 are summarized as follows:

	2024				2023
	Columbus Zoo	The Wilds	Zoombezi Bay	Total	Total
Admissions and concessions	\$ 1,023,649	-	-	1,023,649	224,849
Franklin County levy	5,158,681	-	-	5,158,681	6,483,515
Other	1,230,531	112,348	16,400	1,359,279	2,791,654
	7,412,861	112,348	16,400	7,541,609	9,500,018
Less: allowance for credit losses	(100,000)	-	-	(100,000)	(233,333)
	<u>\$ 7,312,861</u>	<u>112,348</u>	<u>16,400</u>	<u>7,441,609</u>	<u>9,266,685</u>

The Association had the following activity for its allowance for credit losses for accounts receivable for the year ended December 31, 2024:

	Columbus Zoo	The Wilds	Zoombezi Bay	Total
Beginning balance	\$ 150,000	83,333	-	233,333
Adjustment to loss provision	(50,000)	(83,333)	-	(133,333)
	<u>\$ 100,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>100,000</u>

4. PROMISES TO GIVE AND GRANTS RECEIVABLE:

The Association's promises to give and grants receivable at December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023 are due as follows:

	2024				2023
	Columbus Zoo	The Wilds	Zoombezi Bay	Total	Total
Less than one year	\$ 3,825,363	76,000	-	3,901,363	3,164,073
One to five years	1,130,000	-	-	1,130,000	2,227,500
	4,955,363	76,000	-	5,031,363	5,391,573
Less: Present value discount of 3%	(20,537)	-	-	(20,537)	(58,018)
	<u>\$ 4,934,826</u>	<u>76,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,010,826</u>	<u>5,333,555</u>

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

5. INVENTORY:

Inventory at December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023 is summarized as follows:

	2024				2023
	Columbus Zoo	The Wilds	Zoombezi Bay	Total	Total
Animal food	\$ 207,547	-	-	207,547	204,575
Fuel oil and gasoline	4,670	7,600	-	12,270	12,331
Warehouse	57,029	-	-	57,029	45,783
Gift shop merchandise	-	192,731	-	192,731	124,623
Pro shop, restaurant and concession merchandise	33,143	23,776	-	56,919	57,514
Uniforms	-	-	33,135	33,135	28,900
	<u>\$ 302,389</u>	<u>224,107</u>	<u>33,135</u>	<u>559,631</u>	<u>473,726</u>

6. LAND DONATION:

The Wilds received a donation of 9,119 acres of land in southeastern Ohio to be used as the location for the wild animal refuge and park. This donation was received in two segments, 5,892 reclaimed acres were deeded to the Wilds on June 27, 1989. The 5,892 acres were recorded at their total appraised value at the date of the donation (\$300 per acre). On April 1, 2005, an additional 3,227 acres were deeded to the Wilds. This land donation was recorded at the appraised value of the land on April 1, 2005, \$5,392,223 (\$1,671 per acre). Both conveyances of land to the Wilds included a clause that stated the donor of the land would retain all mineral and mining rights in perpetuity and retain ownership of all leases, easements and permits. The Wilds sold 2,033 of the 9,119 acres to the Columbus Zoological Park Association. See disclosure of the Wild's relationship with the Columbus Zoological Park Association (Note 24).

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

7. INVESTMENTS AND BENEFICIAL INTEREST:

The Association invests available cash pursuant to investment guidelines established by the Board of Trustees. At December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023 investments are summarized as follows:

	Consolidated Totals	
	2024	2023
U.S. Treasury notes	\$ 14,243,816	14,497,617
Fixed income corporate bonds	15,993,327	14,996,187
Beneficial interest in assets held by others	1,471,589	1,067,816
Common stock	-	819
Funds managed by Commonfund:		
Commingled equity funds	13,701,895	13,161,104
Commingled fixed income funds	6,023,799	5,879,202
Commingled real asset funds	1,106,638	1,218,571
Alternative investment funds:		
Commingled hedge funds	3,757,029	3,432,341
Investment in limited liability company	596,060	823,882
Investment in limited partnerships	11,820,275	10,461,071
	<u>\$ 68,714,428</u>	<u>65,538,610</u>

Beneficial interest in assets held by others are funds held by the Columbus Foundation and the Muskingum County Community Foundation, collectively referred to as the Foundations. These funds are subject to the variance power of the Board of Trustees of the Foundations. The variance power permits the Foundations' Board of Trustees, in its sole discretion, to redirect all or part of the funds' income and/or assets to another organization.

8. FUNDS HELD BY THE MUSKINGUM COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION:

The Wilds is a beneficiary of multiple funds held at the Muskingum County Community Foundation (the Community Foundation). The Community Foundation has been granted variance power over all of these funds which permits the Community Foundation's Board of Trustees, in its sole discretion, to redirect all of part of the funds' income and/or assets to another organization. Under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, when a donor gives assets to an organization ("recipient entity") to be held and used for the benefit of another unaffiliated beneficiary, but explicitly grants the recipient entity variance power, the specified unaffiliated beneficiary should not recognize its potential for future distributions from the assets held by the recipient entity until such distributions are received, at which time the distributions should be recognized as contributions by the beneficiary. One exception to the variance power rule occurs when an entity transfers assets to a recipient entity and specifies itself as the beneficiary. Because of the reciprocal nature, that transfer is not considered a contribution so the transferring entity or beneficiary continues to show the assets in its financial statements.

The William J. Williams Fund was established within the Community Foundation with contributions received by the Wilds. The fair value of the funds held at the Community Foundation was \$417,942 and \$112,367 at December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively. These funds are recorded as "beneficial interest in assets held by others" on the consolidating statements of financial position because they were originally transferred to the community Foundation by the Wilds for the benefit of itself.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

Three other funds have been established within the community Foundation with net income (interest and dividends less fees) or a portion of the available balance to be distributed annually to the Wilds for unrestricted use. Because the donors granted the community Foundation variance power, these funds are not included in the consolidating financial statements. The fair value of these funds held at the Community Foundation was \$248,596 and \$234,371 at December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively. The Wilds recognized total contribution revenue of \$8,958 and \$3,887 in 2024 and 2023, respectively, from these funds.

9. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS:

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. A fair value measurement assumes that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability occurs in the principal market for the asset or liability or, in the absence of principal market, the most advantageous market. Valuation techniques that are consistent with the market, income or cost approach are used to measure fair value. The fair value hierarchy prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value into three broad levels:

- Level 1 inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities the Association has the ability to access at the measurement date.
- Level 2 inputs (other than quoted prices included within Level 1) are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs for the asset or liability and rely on management's own assumptions about the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability.

The level of the fair value hierarchy within which a fair value measurement in its entirety falls is based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety.

The following are descriptions of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. Significant transfers between the fair value levels are determined at the end of the reporting period. There were no significant transfers between fair value levels in 2024 or 2023.

- *U.S. Treasury notes/Corporate bonds* – Valuation is determined using quoted prices for identical or similar assets in active markets, with additional consideration to contractual cash flows, benchmark, yields and credit spreads.
- *Beneficial interest in assets held by others* – Valuation is determined by the underlying interest in funds held by the Columbus Foundation and the Muskingum County Community Foundation, which are primarily invested in marketable securities with quoted market prices, without management adjustment.
- *Funds managed by Commonfund* – Valuation is determined using the NAV as reported by Commonfund, manager of the funds. These assets have not been categorized in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts presented are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value hierarchy to the amounts presented in the accompanying statement of financial position.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

Assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis at December 31, 2024 were as follows:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>NAV</u>
Columbus Zoo					
U.S. Treasury notes	\$ 14,243,816	14,243,816	-	-	-
Fixed income corporate bonds	15,993,327	-	15,993,327	-	-
Common stock	-	-	-	-	-
Beneficial interest in assets held by others:					
Equity funds	1,053,647	-	-	1,053,647	-
Funds managed by Commonfund:					
Commingled equity funds	13,701,895	-	-	-	13,701,895
Commingled fixed income funds	6,023,799	-	-	-	6,023,799
Commingled real asset funds	1,106,638	-	-	-	1,106,638
Alternative investment funds:					
Commingled hedge funds	3,757,029	-	-	-	3,757,029
Investment in limited liability company	596,060	-	-	-	596,060
Investment in limited partnerships	<u>11,820,275</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,820,275</u>
	<u>\$ 68,296,486</u>	<u>14,243,816</u>	<u>15,993,327</u>	<u>1,053,647</u>	<u>37,005,696</u>
The Wilds					
Beneficial interest in assets held by others:					
Equity funds	\$ <u>417,942</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>417,942</u>	<u>-</u>
Zoombezi Bay					
Interest rate swap	\$ <u>630,091</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>630,091</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

Assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis at December 31, 2023 were as follows:

	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	NAV
Columbus Zoo					
U.S. Treasury notes	\$ 14,497,617	14,497,617	-	-	-
Fixed income corporate bonds	14,996,187	-	14,996,187	-	-
Common stock	819	819	-	-	-
Beneficial interest in assets held by others:					
Equity funds	955,449	-	-	955,449	-
Funds managed by Commonfund:					
Commingled equity funds	13,161,104	-	-	-	13,161,104
Commingled fixed income funds	5,879,202	-	-	-	5,879,202
Commingled real asset funds	1,218,571	-	-	-	1,218,571
Alternative investment funds:					
Commingled hedge funds	3,432,341	-	-	-	3,432,341
Investment in limited liability company	823,882	-	-	-	823,882
Investment in limited partnerships	10,461,071	-	-	-	10,461,071
	<u>\$ 65,426,243</u>	<u>14,498,436</u>	<u>14,996,187</u>	<u>955,449</u>	<u>34,976,171</u>
The Wilds					
Beneficial interest in assets held by others:					
Equity funds	\$ <u>112,367</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>112,367</u>	<u>-</u>
Zoombezi Bay					
Interest rate swap	\$ <u>614,128</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>614,128</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Certain investments are commingled funds held and managed by Commonfund. The investment objective of these funds are as follows:

- The commingled equity funds consist of two funds, 1) Fidelity 500 Index Fund 2) Commonfund OCIO Global Equity LLC Fund, both of which attempt to approximate, before expenses, the performance of the S&P 500 Index over the long term. The redemption frequency of these funds is monthly, with five business days notice.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

- The commingled fixed income funds consist of five funds: 1) CF Credit Series, an investment program consisting of fixed income credit securities that seeks to produce total returns in excess of its benchmark. The redemption frequency of this fund is 15% of NAV monthly, with five business days notice or any amount with 90 calendar days notice. 2) CFI High Quality Bond Fund, which invests in investment grade bonds and other fixed income securities in an attempt to outperform the U.S. Bond market. The redemption frequency of this fund is weekly or monthly, with five business days notice. 3) City National Bank DDA, which can be redeemed daily. 4) City National Rochdale Government MM Fund, which seeks an investment return that approximates the performance of its benchmark index (Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index) over the long term. The redemption frequency of this fund is daily, with two business days notice. 5) Fidelity U.S. Bond Index Fund, which seeks to provide investment results that correspond to the aggregate price and interest performance of the debt securities of its benchmark. The redemption frequency of this fund is daily, with one business days notice.
- The commingled real asset funds consists of two funds: 1) CF Reit Portfolio, LLC Fund, which seeks to provide a net rate of return in excess of its benchmark by allocating capital to experienced external investment managers. The redemption frequency of this fund is monthly, with 5 business days notice and 2) GMO Resources Class R6 Fund, which is managed using an "indexing" investment approach, by which it seeks to replicate, before expenses, the performance of its benchmark index over the long term. The redemption frequency of this fund is daily, with two business days notice.
- The commingled hedge funds consist of one fund, Global Absolute Alpha Company, that seeks to provide investors with long-term returns over a full market cycle that are favorable to capital, equity and credit markets on a risk-adjusted basis. The redemption frequency of this fund is quarterly, with 65 calendar days notice (limited to 25% of NAV per quarter).

At December 31, 2024, the Association is committed to invest an additional \$5,520,030 of funds in their alternative investments with private investment companies. The Association cannot withdraw from the partnership investments prior to their termination, pursuant to the partnership agreements. The Association can withdraw from the limited liability company with 120 days notice.

10. OTHER ASSETS:

In 2017, the Zoo entered into a license agreement with its retired Director Emeritus. The agreement provides the Zoo with irrevocable, perpetual rights to the name, image and likeness of its Director Emeritus. This license agreement created an intellectual property asset with a value of \$1,374,336. Intellectual property is amortized to match the net present value of the liability over a useful life of 10 years. Intellectual property, net of accumulated amortization, is included in other assets on the statements of financial position. Amortization of intellectual property for the years ended December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023 was \$141,347 and \$138,577, respectively. Accumulated amortization of intellectual property was \$1,083,101 at December 31, 2024 and \$941,754 at December 31, 2023.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

Future amortization expense is as follows:

<u>Year Ending:</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2025	144,175
2026	<u>147,060</u>
\$	<u><u>291,235</u></u>

The remaining portion of other assets is made up of the cash surrender value of life insurance as disclosed in Note 13.

11. PROVISION FOR INCOME TAXES:

The Zoo and the Wilds are tax-exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code except that Federal income tax is provided on unrelated business income. Unrelated business income results from operation of a recreational facility, amusement rides area, unrelated parking area, exclusive provider contract revenue, rent income from a related party and management services provided to a related party. Income tax expense for the Association on unrelated business income was \$46,600 and \$154,377 for the years ended December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively. The Association does not believe its consolidating financial statements include any uncertain tax positions.

The Zoo has a Federal net operating loss available for carryforward to future years. The estimated Federal loss carryforward is \$141,127 as of December 31, 2024.

The Company elected to be treated as a C-corporation for Federal income tax purposes. The operations are taxable for Federal income tax purposes. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the temporary differences between the financial statements and the tax basis of assets and liabilities at the enacted tax rates expected to be in effect when such amounts are realized and settled. The effective tax rate used to calculate deferred taxes was 21% in 2024 and 2023. The principal items causing the differences are depreciation, a net operating loss carryforward and an interest rate swap. Income tax expense is the amount payable or refundable for the period plus or minus the change during the period in deferred tax assets and liabilities.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are classified as long-term based on ASU (Accounting Standards Update) 2015-17, Income Taxes (Topic 740): *Balance Sheet Classification of Deferred Taxes*.

Provision for Federal income taxes is summarized as follows:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Current Federal tax benefit (expense)	\$ <u><u>397,000</u></u>	<u><u>(240,000)</u></u>

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

The components of the deferred tax asset (liability) are as follows:

		2024	2023
Deferred tax asset:			
Net operating loss carry forward	\$	1,478,000	1,584,000
Accrued interest rate swap		132,000	129,000
Interest expense limitation		29,000	-
Deferred tax liability:			
Accumulated depreciation		(2,523,000)	(2,994,000)
Net deferred tax liability	\$	(884,000)	(1,281,000)

The Company has a Federal net operating loss available for carryforward to future years. The estimated Federal loss carryforward is \$6,898,772, which will begin to expire in 2028.

12. DEFERRED REVENUE:

Deferred revenue, which is considered a contract liability, consists of the following at December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023:

		2024			2023	
		Columbus Zoo	The Wilds	Zoombezi Bay	Total	Total
Membership dues	\$	6,700,696	148,254	252,193	7,101,143	7,225,579
Sponsorships		269,865	-	-	269,865	292,854
Deposits and program fees for future events		985,291	283,798	-	1,269,089	1,481,656
Gift certificates		54,481	430,612	-	485,093	454,165
	\$	8,010,333	862,664	252,193	9,125,190	9,454,254

13. WAGE CONTINUATION AGREEMENT:

The Association has a wage continuation agreement with its former Executive Director. The agreement provides for 10 annual installments to the heirs of the former Executive Director upon his death. The obligation for this agreement, based on current life expectancy tables, is reported as a liability of \$904,004 and \$873,434 on the consolidating statements of financial position at December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively. The change in the liability associated with this agreement is reflected as expense of \$30,570 and \$29,536 in the consolidating statements of activities for the years ended December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively. The Association has purchased a life insurance policy to fund this obligation. The death benefit is \$1,000,000.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

14. LINES OF CREDIT:

The Wilds has a line of credit secured by the Wilds' assets that allows for a maximum borrowing of \$1,000,000. Interest on this line is at term SOFR plus 1.25%. The Wilds is required to make monthly interest payments, and the principal balance is due by July 15, 2025. The Zoo is a guarantor of this line of credit. At December 31, 2024, the outstanding balance under this line of credit was \$0.

The Zoo has a line of credit that allows for a maximum borrowing of \$10,000,000. Interest on the line is at SOFR plus 1.25% and the principal balance is due by July 15, 2025. At December 31, 2024, the outstanding balance under this line of credit was \$0.

15. NOTES PAYABLE:

The Company was indebted under the following notes payable at December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Fifth Third Bank - draw/term note payable entered into on December 31, 2013. Monthly principal payments of \$64,167 plus interest at a rate of SOFR plus 0.11%: 4.49% at December 31, 2024 and 5.49% at December 31, 2023. Final payment is due June 30, 2029.	\$ 7,700,000	8,470,000
Fifth Third Bank - draw/term note payable entered into on December 31, 2013. Monthly principal payments of \$27,500 plus interest at a rate of SOFR plus 0.11%: 4.49% at December 31, 2024 and 5.49% at December 31, 2023. Final payment is due June 30, 2029.	<u>3,300,000</u>	<u>3,630,000</u>
	<u>\$ 11,000,000</u>	<u>12,100,000</u>

Aggregate annual maturities of notes payable are summarized as follows:

<u>Year Ending:</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2025	\$ 1,100,000
2026	1,100,000
2027	1,100,000
2028	1,100,000
2029	1,100,000
Thereafter	<u>5,500,000</u>
	<u>\$ 11,000,000</u>

The above loan agreements require the Association to comply with certain financial covenants. The Association was in compliance at December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

On June 17, 2019, the Association entered into an interest rate swap with an effective date of June 8, 2019, on an amortizing notional amount of \$17,050,000. The notional amount was \$11,000,000 and \$12,100,000 at December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively. The swap agreement is a contract to exchange variable interest rate payments for fixed rate payments over the life of the instrument. The purpose of the swap is to limit the Association's exposure to increases in interest rates on the notional amount of bank borrowings over the term of the swap. Under the terms of the swap (which expires June 8, 2029), the Association pays monthly a fixed interest rate of 2.20%.

The interest rate swaps were issued at market terms so that it had no fair value inception. The carrying amount of the swaps have been adjusted to fair value at December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, which, because of changes in forecasted levels of the SOFR rate, resulted in reporting an asset of \$630,091 and \$614,128 at December 31, 2024, and December 31, 2023, respectively, for the fair value of the future net payments forecasted under the swap. Gain (loss) on the interest rate swap was \$15,963 and (\$267,076) for 2024 and 2023, respectively.

16. OPERATING LEASES:

The Association has a lease with the City of Columbus and Franklin County for land and buildings. The lease expires on December 31, 2037 and provides for annual rental payments of \$10, the total of which was paid in full at the inception of the lease.

The Association also leases various equipment under operating lease arrangements which expire in various years through October 2029.

Zoombezi Bay leases approximately 23 acres of land from the Zoo. The lease expires on December 31, 2037.

As of December 31, 2024, the Association has not entered into any material leases expected to commence in 2025.

For the year ended December 31, 2024, the Association had the following recorded in operating expenses associated with lease arrangements:

	2024				2023
	Columbus Zoo	Zoombezi Bay	Eliminations	Total	Total
Operating lease expense	\$ 96,875	300,000	(300,000)	96,875	114,303
Variable lease expense	<u>273,848</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>273,848</u>	<u>222,597</u>
	<u>\$ 370,723</u>	<u>300,000</u>	<u>(300,000)</u>	<u>370,723</u>	<u>336,900</u>

	2024		2023	
	Columbus Zoo	Zoombezi Bay	Columbus Zoo	Zoombezi Bay
Other information:				
Weighted-average remaining lease term in years for operating leases	1.3 years	13 years	1.75 years	14 years
Weighted-average discount rate for operating leases	3.81%	2.05%	2.91%	2.05%

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

The following is an analysis of maturities of lease liabilities as of December 31:

<u>Year Ending:</u>	2024			
	<u>Columbus Zoo</u>	<u>Zoombezi Bay</u>	<u>Eliminations</u>	<u>Total</u>
2025	\$ 82,569	300,000	(300,000)	82,569
2026	3,720	300,000	(300,000)	3,720
2027	3,720	300,000	(300,000)	3,720
2028	3,720	300,000	(300,000)	3,720
2029	-	300,000	(300,000)	-
Thereafter	-	2,400,000	(2,400,000)	-
Total minimum lease payments	93,729	3,900,000	(3,900,000)	93,729
Less imputed interest	3,544	476,107	(476,107)	3,544
Total operating lease liability	\$ 90,185	3,423,893	(3,423,893)	90,185

Non-cash lease expense on the statement of cash flows includes the amortization of the lease right-of-use asset of \$92,321 and \$108,226, offset by a change in the lease liability of \$87,824 and \$103,110 for the years ended December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively.

Zoombezi Bay's lease payments within operating activities were \$300,000 for both the years ended December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively.

17. NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS:

Net assets with donor restrictions are restricted for the following purposes at December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023:

	2024				2023
	<u>Columbus Zoo</u>	<u>The Wilds</u>	<u>Zoombezi Bay</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
Conservation and education projects	\$ 3,405,007	185,393	-	3,590,400	4,674,530
Building and exhibit improvements	6,684,367	5,420,743	-	12,105,110	3,835,213
Earnings on donor restricted endowment funds available for appropriation	-	65,789	-	65,789	42,926
Animal purchases	82,243	-	-	82,243	40,930
Endowment funds	-	260,000	-	260,000	250,000
For subsequent periods	2,512,786	-	-	2,512,786	4,493,240
	\$ 12,684,403	5,931,925	-	18,616,328	13,336,839

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

18. BOARD DESIGNATED NET ASSETS:

At December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, board designated net assets were available for the following purposes:

	2024	2023
Endowment	\$ 38,202,331	35,931,620
Conservation funding	-	1,000,000
	<u>\$ 38,202,331</u>	<u>36,931,620</u>

19. ENDOWMENT FUNDS:

The Association's endowment consists of fifteen individual funds established for a variety of purposes. Its endowment includes funds designated by the Board of Trustees to function as endowments. As required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, net assets associated with endowment funds, including funds designated by the Board of Trustees to function as endowments, are classified and reported on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.

Interpretation of relevant law

The Board of Trustees of the Association has interpreted the State of Ohio's Uniform Prudent Management Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA) as requiring the preservation of the fair value of the original gift as of the gift date of the donor-restricted endowment funds absent explicit donor stipulations to the contrary. As a result of this interpretation, the Association classifies as net assets with donor restrictions to be maintained in perpetuity (a) the original value of gifts donated to the endowment, (b) the original value of subsequent gifts to the endowment, and (c) accumulations to the endowment made in accordance with the direction of the applicable donor gift instrument at the time the accumulation is added to the fund. The remaining portion of the endowment fund with donor restrictions that is not required to be maintained in perpetuity is classified as net assets with donor restrictions until those amounts are appropriated for expenditure by the organization in a manner consistent with the standard of prudence prescribed by UPMIFA.

In accordance with UPMIFA, the Association considers the following factors in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds:

1. The duration and preservation of the donor-restricted endowment fund
2. The purposes of the Association and the donor-restricted endowment fund
3. General economic conditions
4. The possible effect of inflation and deflation
5. The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments
6. Other resources of the Association
7. The investment policies of the Association

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

Endowment net asset composition by type of fund is as follows at December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
With donor restrictions	\$ 325,789	292,927
Without donor restrictions	<u>38,202,331</u>	<u>35,931,620</u>
	<u>\$ 38,528,120</u>	<u>36,224,547</u>

Changes in endowment net assets for the years ended December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023 are as follows:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Endowment net assets at beginning of year		
With donor restrictions	\$ 292,927	266,226
Without donor restrictions	35,931,620	33,938,836
Investment return		
With donor restrictions	22,862	16,701
Without donor restrictions	3,414,326	3,415,160
Contributions		
With donor restrictions	10,000	10,000
Without donor restrictions	10,000	72,119
Appropriation of endowment assets for expenditure		
Without donor restrictions	<u>(1,153,615)</u>	<u>(1,494,495)</u>
Endowment net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 38,528,120</u>	<u>36,224,547</u>

Funds with deficiencies

From time to time, the fair value of assets associated with individual donor-restricted endowment funds may fall below the level that the donor or UPMIFA requires the Association to retain as a fund of perpetual duration. In accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, deficiencies of this nature are reported in net assets with donor restrictions. There were no such deficiencies as of December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023.

Return objectives and risk parameters

The Association has adopted investment and spending policies for endowment assets that attempt to provide a predictable stream of funding to programs supported by its endowment while seeking to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets. The Zoo expects its endowment funds, over time, to provide an average rate of return of approximately 6% annually after fees. Actual returns in any given year may vary from this amount. The Wilds endowment assets are invested in a conservative U.S. based money market account to provide fixed returns. The Wilds expects its endowment funds, over time, to provide an average rate of return of approximately 2.5% annually after fees. Actual returns in any given year may vary from this amount.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

Strategies employed for achieving objectives

To satisfy its long-term rate-of-return objectives, the Association relies on a total return strategy in which investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and an allocation that places a greater emphasis on equity-based investments to achieve its long-term return objectives within prudent risk constraints.

Spending policy and how the investment objectives relate to spending policy

The Association has a policy of appropriating for distribution each year 4.5% of its endowment fund's total value based upon the trailing 3-year average through the calendar year end preceding the fiscal year in which the distribution is planned. In establishing this policy, the Association considered the long-term expected return on its endowment. Accordingly, over the long term, the Association expects the current spending policy to allow its endowment to grow at an average of 1.5% annually. The Wilds has a policy of appropriating for distribution each year the aggregate funding amount utilized to satisfy donor restrictions. The policies are consistent with the Associations' objective to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets held in perpetuity or for a specified term as well as to provide additional real growth through new gifts and investment return.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

20. CONTRIBUTED NONFINANCIAL ASSETS:

	2024				2023		Donor	Valuation Techniques
	Columbus Zoo	The Wilds	Eliminations	Total	Total	Utilization	Restrictions	and Inputs
Professional services:								
Zoo property and parking lot	\$ 492,905	-	-	492,905	478,122	Program Visitor services, management and general	No associated donor restrictions	Based on current market rates for services
Golf course property	412,069	-	-	412,069	399,709		No associated donor restrictions	Based on current market rates for services
Animal care and treatment	8,412	211,992	(193,476)	26,928	117,383	Program Management and general	No associated donor restrictions	Based on current market rates for services
Management and general	-	431,136	(431,136)	-	-		No associated donor restrictions	Based on current market rates for services
Visitor services	-	137,656	(137,656)	-	5,758	Program	No associated donor restrictions	Based on current market rates for services
Exhibits and grounds	-	28,070	-	28,070	11,250	Program	No associated donor restrictions	Based on current market rates for services
Fundraising	-	120,973	(119,973)	1,000	510	Fundraising	No associated donor restrictions	Based on current market rates for services
Education	-	208,257	(208,257)	-	3,263	Program	No associated donor restrictions	Based on current market rates for services
Donated goods:								
Special events food and beverage	-	-	-	-	113,579	Fundraising Management and general	No associated donor restrictions	Based on current market rates for goods
Office supplies and equipment	3,380	-	-	3,380	-		No associated donor restrictions	Based on current market rates for goods
Special events prizes and supplies	3,024	-	-	3,024	9,868	Fundraising	No associated donor restrictions	Based on current market rates for goods
	\$ 919,790	1,138,084	(1,090,498)	967,376	1,139,442			

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

21. PAYROLL AND RELATED COSTS:

Fringe benefits include all state and federal payroll taxes, retirement cost and group health, dental and life insurance. Association employees earn vacation, sick leave and compensatory pay as they earn their regular salaries and wages. The benefits may be carried over indefinitely, with certain limitations. Upon termination, employees are entitled to payments for amounts earned and not yet received. Approximately forty percent of the Zoo's employees are covered by a collective bargaining agreement expiring December 31, 2024.

As discussed in Note 22, the Zoo contributes to OPERS. This system provides post-retirement health care coverage to age and service retirees with 20 or more years of qualifying Ohio service credit. Health care coverage for disability recipients and primary survivor recipients is available. A portion of each employer's contribution to OPERS is set aside for the funding of post-retirement health care. The Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for employer contributions. The employer contribution rate for 2024 and 2023 was 14% of covered payroll with 0% being the portion used to fund health care for both years.

22. RETIREMENT PLANS:

The Zoo contributes to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS), a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement system comprised of three separate pension plans: the Traditional Plan – a defined benefit plan; the Combined Plan – a combination defined benefit/defined contribution plan; and the Member-Directed Plan – a defined contribution plan. OPERS provides retirement, disability, survivor and death benefits and annual cost-of-living adjustments to members of the Traditional and Combined Plans. Members of the Member-Directed Plan do not qualify for ancillary benefits. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by state statute per chapter 145 of the Ohio Revised Code. OPERS issues a publicly available, stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information.

The required employer contributions (percentage of wages earned) varies each year. For the years ending December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, the contribution percentages ranged between 14% of wages and 23% of wages depending on the hire date of employees. Contributions are required for both full-time and part-time employees. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended, up to maximum amounts, by the OPERS Board. Total employer contributions for the years ended December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023 were \$3,813,299 and \$3,537,880, respectively.

The risks of participating in these multi-employer plans are different from single-employer plans in the following aspects:

- Assets contributed to multi-employer plans by one employer may be used to provide benefits to employees of other participating employers.
- If a participating employer stops contributing to the plan, the unfunded obligations of the plan may be borne by the remaining participating employers.
- If the Zoo chooses to stop participating in some of its multi-employer plans, the Zoo may be required to pay those plans an amount based on the unfunded status of the plan, referred to as a withdrawal liability.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

OPERS' 2023 actuarial pension valuation (most recent valuation) showed a funded status of 84% with the unfunded liability expected to be funded within 15 years. This falls within the green zone of the Pension Protection Act zone status (greater than 80% funded).

The Wilds has a defined contribution 401(k) plan. All employees who have attained the age of 21 and who have completed three months of service are eligible to participate in the plan. The Wilds makes matching contributions of 100% of the first 2% of the participant's compensation and 25% of the next 6% of participant's compensation. Participants are immediately vested in their contributions and are fully vested in employer matching and discretionary contributions after completing six years of service. Contribution expense was \$68,547 and \$37,404 in 2024 and 2023, respectively.

The Company has established a 401(k) retirement plan for its employees. All employees who have attained the age of 21 and who have completed three months of service are eligible to participate in the plan. Employees may elect to defer a portion of their yearly compensation, up to statutory limits. The Company makes matching contributions equal to 100% of the contributions up to 2% of the employee's compensation and 25% of the next 6% of the employee's compensation. Additional amounts may be contributed to the plan at the discretion of the Company. Participants are immediately vested in their contributions and are fully vested in employer matching and discretionary contributions after completing six years of service. Total expense under the plan was \$46,705 and \$19,424 in 2024 and 2023, respectively.

23. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE ZOO AND ZOOMBEZI BAY:

The Zoo is the sole member of the Company. By being the sole member, the Zoo has the authority to elect the Board of Directors of the Company and therefore controls the Company.

The Zoo and the Company have several service agreements whereby the Zoo provides services to the Company and the Company provides services to the Zoo. The Zoo provides services to the Company in the areas of finance and accounting, information technology, human relations and benefits administration, purchasing and warehousing, marketing and advertising, maintenance and security. The amount the Zoo received for these services was \$1,589,000 and \$1,588,900 in 2024 and 2023, respectively. The Company, under two service agreements, provides services to the Zoo in the areas of golf course management, operation of the admissions complex and guest relations area, and rides operation. The amount the Company received for these services was \$1,400,700 and \$960,405 in 2024 and 2023, respectively.

As part of the agreement for the Zoo providing services to the Company, there is an allocation of admissions revenue and season pass sales. This allocation is based on the ability of the guests of the Company having the right to visit the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium. This allocation is included in ticket revenue (\$1,806,487 and \$1,592,726 in 2024 and 2023, respectively) and in season pass revenue (\$349,508 and \$357,213 in 2024 and 2023, respectively) in the statements of activities.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

In addition to the service agreements between the Company and the Zoo, there is a lease agreement for the land being utilized by the Company. The lease calls for the Company to pay \$300,000 per year for the utilization of the 23 acres the water park encompasses. The lease term expires in 2037. Included on the Company's statement of financial position are accounts receivable of \$135,990 and \$2,680,760 at December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively, from the Zoo. The intercompany account is used to transfer the aforementioned items, as well as transferring expenses to the Company that are initially paid by the Zoo such as inventory, payroll, credit card payments, utilities and insurance.

The Zoo is guarantor of both outstanding loans disclosed in Note 15. The Zoo has not been required to make any payments on these loans and does not expect to be required to make any payments in the future. The loans will mature on June 30, 2029.

24. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE ZOO AND THE WILDS:

The Zoo is the sole member of the Wilds. By being the sole member, the Zoo has the authority to elect the Board of Trustees of the Wilds and therefore controls the Wilds.

The Wilds and the Zoo are currently operating under the terms of a service agreement that renews automatically for one or more additional one year terms, unless either party gives 60 day written notice of intent to terminate or renegotiate the agreement. This agreement has the Zoo providing services to the Wilds in the areas of education, animal health, finance and accounting, information technology, human relations and benefit administration, purchasing, marketing and advertising, retail operation, food service operation, development and fundraising and facility planning and design. The Wilds recorded in-kind revenue (included in general contributions and grants) and an increase of payroll wages and benefits of \$1,090,498 and \$947,569 in 2024 and 2023, respectively, for the services provided to the Wilds in these areas.

At December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, the Wilds had accounts payable to the Zoo of \$181,895 and accounts receivable from the Zoo totaling \$1,379,013, respectively. The intercompany account is used to transfer membership revenue and contributions to the respective organization as well as expenses to the Wilds that are initially paid by the Zoo such as payroll and insurance.

The Zoo provided unrestricted support to the Wilds in the amount of \$200,000 and \$1,600,000 in 2024 and 2023, respectively.

25. CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK:

The Association maintains its cash and cash equivalents at financial institutions that are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation up to \$250,000 as of December 31, 2024 and 2023. At times, these accounts may exceed these federally insured limits. However, the Association has not experienced any losses in such accounts and does not believe it is exposed to any significant credit risk on cash or cash equivalents.

26. LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY:

The Association monitors its liquidity so that it is able to meet its operating needs and other contractual commitments while maximizing the investment of its excess operating cash.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

The Association has the following financial assets that could be readily made available within one year of the date of the statement of financial position to fund general expenditures:

	2024				2023
	Columbus Zoo	The Wilds	Zoombezi Bay	Total	Total
Financial assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 47,739,653	9,012,700	2,852,301	59,604,654	69,050,425
Accounts receivable, net	7,312,861	112,348	16,400	7,441,609	9,266,685
Promises to give, net and grants receivable	4,934,826	76,000	-	5,010,826	5,333,555
Investments and beneficial interest	68,296,486	417,942	-	68,714,428	65,538,610
	<u>128,283,826</u>	<u>9,618,990</u>	<u>2,868,701</u>	<u>140,771,517</u>	<u>149,189,275</u>
Less those unavailable for general expenditure within one year, due to:					
Restricted by donor for purpose	(12,684,403)	(5,931,925)	-	(18,616,328)	(9,250,644)
Noncurrent promises to give	(1,109,463)	-	-	(1,109,463)	(2,171,696)
Noncurrent deferred revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Board designated conservation funding	-	-	-	-	(1,000,000)
Board designated endowments	(38,202,331)	-	-	(38,202,331)	(35,931,620)
Perpetual endowment	-	(260,000)	-	(260,000)	(250,000)
	<u>(51,996,197)</u>	<u>(6,191,925)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(58,188,122)</u>	<u>(48,603,960)</u>
Financial assets available to meet cash needs for general expenditures within one year	\$ <u>76,287,629</u>	<u>3,427,065</u>	<u>2,868,701</u>	<u>82,583,395</u>	<u>100,585,315</u>

Financial assets are considered unavailable when illiquid or not convertible to cash within one year or because the governing board has set aside the funds for a specific contingency reserve or a long-term investment as board designated endowments. The Association has a policy to structure its financial assets to be available as its general expenditures, liabilities, and other obligations come due. The Association also has secured lines of credit (Note 14), which it could draw upon in the event of an anticipated liquidity need. In addition to financial assets available to meet general expenditures over the year, the Association operates with a balanced budget and anticipates covering its general expenditures by collecting sufficient memberships, admissions, and other revenues, by utilizing donor restricted resources from current and prior years gifts and by appropriating the investment return on its board designated endowments, as needed. The statement of cash flows identifies the sources and uses of the Association's cash and shows a positive cash balance generated by operations of \$30,117,778 and \$35,192,164 for years ending December 31, 2024 and 2023, respectively.

27. GENERAL LITIGATION:

The Association is periodically involved in disputes and claims that arise in the ordinary course of business and in connection with its ongoing activities. In accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, any gain or loss contingency will only be recorded if the outcome is probable and the amounts can be reasonably estimated. At the present time, the outcome of such claims/disputes is not subject to accurate determination and they are not considered to be material to the financial statements taken as a whole.

COLUMBUS ZOOLOGICAL PARK ASSOCIATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024 and 2023

28. COMMITMENTS:

The Association has a 10-year concessionary agreement where the concessionaire will provide food service, catering and retail merchandising services in exchange for a commission on gross receipts.

At December 31, 2024, the Association had outstanding commitments of approximately \$900,000 to purchase construction services and materials for projects under construction.

