San Francisco Zoological Society ("SFZS"): Annual Meeting of Members and Election of Board of Directors

October 6, 2020
1:30 p.m.
Via Teleconference and “Zoom”
(due to the COVID Pandemic and the City’s Limited Attendance at SF Zoo & Gardens)

Attendees:

Officers: Ed Poole, Esq.; Bill Hudson, Esq.; Ed Oates, Tanya Peterson, Esq.; and Vince Grubbs (CFO).

Board: Julia Heidmann, Bill Hudson, Ed Oates, Ed Poole, and Scott Setrakian.

Staff: Tanya Peterson, Esq.; Joe Fitting, Vince Grubbs, Vitus Leung, Chris Connors, Jason Watters, Ph.D.; and Tim Wu, Esq.

Guests: SFZS Docents, Members, and employees of the San Francisco Zoological Society.

Election of SFZS Directors

SFZS Board Secretary Ed Oates presented the following slate of nominees for the Board of Directors:

For a three-year term ending September 2023: Josh Adler, MD; Elena Asturias, David Dixon, John Flynn, Sarah Gammill, Mindy Henderson, Arthur Humphrey, Donna Egan Kampschuur, and Ed Oates.

In addition, Oates thanked the following, non-renewing members for their service: Jim Hays, Ken Kyogoku, Greg Malin, Kevin Marchetti, Shawn O’Neill and Edward Sickel.

Secretary Oates then stated that, as the Society has 23,000 members of record and the number of persons nominated to serve as directors is not more than the number of directors to be elected, pursuant to Section 4.5 of the Society’s Bylaws, the nominated directors have been elected.

Nomination of SFZS Officers

Secretary Oates presented the nomination of SFZS officers. The nominees are: Ed Poole for Chair of the Board of Directors; Bill Hudson for Vice Chair; Ed Oates for Secretary; CEO and Executive Director Tanya Peterson; and Chief Financial Officer Vince Grubbs. MSA

CEO’s Report

CEO and Executive Director Tanya Peterson welcomed all to the meeting and thanked attendees for being supporters of SF Zoo & Gardens. She then introduced a video providing an overview of SF Zoo’s
response to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent directive from SF Mayor’s Office to shelter-in-place and close SF Zoo to the public for several months. Highlights included how animal care staff provided enrichment for the animals and how the Zoo’s Marketing department worked to engage the public during the shutdown. Lastly, the SF Zoo received approval to open to the public on a limited basis, and the resulting safety protocols were reviewed, including on-line reservations and face covering requirements. (Video)

Members Questions and Comments:

SFZS members in good standing were asked to provide questions and/or comments. One member had questions about animal behavior during the shutdown, to which VP of Animal Wellness, Dr. Jason Watters, replied. Another member asked for an update on construction projects to which Deputy Director Joe Fitting provided an overview of several ongoing construction projects, including the Great Ape exhibit, Snow Leopard exhibit and Madagascar exhibit. Members also asked about parliamentary rules; updated by-laws and the City’s “Ocean Beach Master Plan” and its impact on the Great Highway to which Board Chair Ed Poole replied. Lastly, SFZS Board Secretary Ed Oates paid tribute to late SFZS Board Vice-Chair Jim Ludwig.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AT 2:00 p.m.