

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Sunday April 14, 2019 2:00PM**  
**MINUTES – APPROVED August 25, 2020**

**Location:** High Park Forest School

**Board Members:** John Formosa, Simone Stock, Chris Diceman, Sarah Doucette, Mat Scolozzi (not present), Tarang Khare (not present), Luana DiCandia (not present), Esme Markle, Catherine Murray, Gayle Christie

**Chair:** John Formosa

**Minutes Transcribed By:** Catherine Murray

**Meeting Opened:** Motion to Open Meeting: 2:30 pm

**1. Introduction by Sarah Doucette [prior to Item 1]**

- i. Existing Board of Directors: Simone Stock, John Formosa, Chris Diceman, Tarang Khare, Sarah Doucette, Mat Scolozzi, Tarang Khare, Luana DiCandia, Esme Markle, Catherine Murray, Gayle Christie
- ii. Recognition of volunteers and zookeepers, and the Board of Directors
- iii. Recognition of City Members: Doug Bennet of Partnership office (provides guidance with Master Plan), Sara Street, Executive Director of High Park Nature Centre; Bhutla Karpoche, NDP MPP for this riding; Teresa Lubinski, TCDSB Trustee;
- iv. Sarah Doucette: thank you to all those who donate time or money to the Zoo. High school students can obtain volunteer hours at the zoo (ages 15+)
- v. Regrets: Janie Romoff, General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation; Arif Virani, MP for High Park sends his regrets; Genvieve Oger, French Public Board Trustee; Robin Pilkey, TDSB Trustee

**2. Welcome & confirmation of quorum**

- Ten (10) members are in attendance, and quorum is confirmed.

**3. Meeting called to order and approval of Agenda**

- Motion to approve agenda. Moved by: Sarah. Seconded by: Simone. Motion carried.

**4. Approval of minutes from Annual General Meeting, March 25, 2018**

- Motion to approve minutes. Moved by: Simone. Seconded by: Sarah. Motion carried.

**5. Vision, Mission, Values**

- Vision: to keep the zoo running and free.
- Values: Accountable: audited financial statements; Professional: conduct ourselves at all times; Collaborate: work collectively together to achieve our goals; Community-Oriented: Engagement with community; increases the amount of visitors.

**6. Financial Statements and Auditor's reports**

- Motion to approve 2018 draft financial statements. Moved by: John; Seconded by: Simone. Motion carried.

## 7. Appointment of Auditor for 2019

Board wishes tender the work out. Motion to allow Board to tender the work out and either choose new or existing auditors for 2019. Moved by: Simone; Seconded by: Esme. Motion carried.

## 8. Amendment of By-Laws to Increase Size of Board

- Motion to amend Article 7.1 of the By-Laws to increase size of board from a range of 5 -9 Directors, to a range of 5-14 Directors. This allows us to have Sarah Doucette and an additional Director elected at this meeting, and leaves room for additional Directors if necessary in the future. Moved by: Esme; Seconded by: Chris.

## 9. Election of 2018 Board of Directors

- Introductions of Board of Directors
- Re-election of Board Members for additional 2-year terms:
  - John Formosa
  - Simone Stock
  - Chris Diceman
  - Luana DiCandia
  - Esme Markle
- Re-election of Board Member of additional 1-year term:
  - Catherine Murray
- Election of new Board Members for 2-year terms:
  - Sarah Doucette
  - Ana Sainz
- Motion to elect the Directors. Moved by: Gayle; Seconded by: Gloria. Voted and approved by all members. Motion carried.
- Motion to elect Catherine Murray for 1-year term. Moved by: Esme; Seconded by: Simone. Voted and approved by all members. Motion carried.
- Current Board Members with a 1-year term remaining:
  - Mat Scolozzi
  - Tarang Khare
  - Gayle Christie
- Ex-Officio City Councillor Gord Parks

## 10. Reports

- **Report from the Chair:**
  - Master Plan - Enhance & Sustain
    - Operating Fund – Programming, e.g., grant applications and capital (short term)
    - Capital Fund – Enhancement, e.g., Master Plan, benches, Llama Pen, corporate sponsors (medium term)

- iii. Endowment Fund – Sustainability, e.g., foundation and legacy donors (long term)
- Fundraising Strategy:
  - Government; Corporations; Foundations; In Kind; Community.
- Master Plan Phasing
  - Phase 1: \$4.2M, Llama building, washroom facilities, Deer Pen Rd, green initiatives, heritage building remediation, storm water management
  - Phase 2: \$8.3M, animal exhibit upgrades, accessibility upgrades, First Nations exhibit, small playground, entry gates & signage
  - Phase 3: \$10.1M, exhibit upgrades 2, accessibility upgrades, entry gates/signage, new animal pavillion
- Master Plan Funding Status
  - Municipal, Provincial and Federal funding in Phases 1, 2 and 3.
  - Phase 0: Funded in progress
    - LP Building about \$120K short.
    - Starting Funding Campaign for 2019
    - Targeting Community, Foundations and Corporations for Master Plan (125 sponsors at \$1,000 each)
  - Phase 1:
    - Doing Llama building this year; working on final permitting and tender process underway.
    - Deer Pen Road underway at 90%
    - \$3.2M Unfunded
  - Phase 2 and 3: unfunded
- Thank you to current partners: Honey and Griggs family foundations, City of Toronto, DTAH, GeoPro
- **Report from the Treasurer:**
  - Generated over \$90,000 of revenue
  - Peacock Gala raised \$18.9K
  - Received a grant of \$10K
  - Invested \$22,500 in capital improvements; our strategy has been to fund the soft costs
  - Ended year with over \$550,000 of total assets
  - 2018 Capex: Phase 1 soft costs of \$17K; Phase 0 hard costs of \$5.5K
  - Attendance: people counters have had some snags; visitor numbers have been pretty consistent with previous years at 600,000 (except year of the PanAm games). The Friends are committing to be on top of the people counters, which require ongoing monitoring and maintenance.
  - 2018 volunteer hours: started a bit later last year because of the weather. Estimate 1644 volunteer hours for 2018 (up from 1433 for 2017).

## 11. Scotiabank Marathon

- Won honourable mention; raised over \$2,800
- Thank you to Champions Vanessa Martin, Bridget Burns and Elizabeth Berger; volunteers; Gotta Dace Dancers, stage decoration from High Park greenhouse, and mad skillz of DJ Insurgent Stock High Park dancers,
- October 20, 2019 is next race for this year.

## 12. Grants

- Successful grants: Tourism Fund – received final \$5Kk after submitting final report; received \$3K from High Park Western Beaches Fund for Gala printing costs
- Pending grants: New Building Canada Fund (provincial and federal) – Community, Culture and Recreation Infrastructure Stream has been delayed and expected to be open for applications starting Q3 of 2019; applications to High Park Western Beaches Fund made in the amount of \$6K for programming activities and promotional materials
- Unsuccessful grants: Ontario Trillium Fund and Cultural Spaces Fund – did not meet criteria, but will try OTF again

## 13. Communications

- Peacock Gala:
  - September 20, 2018 at Sunnyside Pavillion
  - raised \$19,000; performance by Shakura S'Aida; surprise appearance from Robert John Fleming (1873 Toronto Mayor) and John Howard
  - Support and sponsorships from the community; donations for silent auction
- Beer launch in Partnership with High Park Brewery: launched Peacock Pilsner, lots of great coverage
- Continued increased presence on social media; pictures sent in by zoo visitors which were shared with followers; currently over 1,100 followers on Instagram and Twitter, and 2,400 on Facebook
- Visitor testimonials submitted stories, observations and memories in honour of the Gala; selections published in the booklet provided to attendees of the Gala and written selections continue to be used in promotional material/social media, and grant reports and applications

## 14. Master Plan Process

- Phase 0: have installed temporary shelters for the animals to get ready to renovate/rebuild the existing cabins
  - Llama Building funds are about \$500,000
  - \$250,000 from Section 42
  - \$50,000 from Parks Capital
  - \$65,000 from Friends
  - \$15,000 from Province (MCTS)
  - \$120,000 required – targeting community, corporations and foundations; seeking 1000 sponsors at \$125 each; will provide donor recognition at the Llama Building

### **15. Peacock Pilsner Launch**

- collaboration with High Park Brewery to create “Peacock Pilsner”
- Portion of proceeds will go to Friends of High Park Zoo
- Launched on December 8, 2018
- Food from Mad Mexican and music with Parkside Drive
- Peacock Pilsner now available at LCBO, High Park Brewery and some restaurants in the neighbourhood

### **16. Q&A**

- Ana: you have developed a funding strategy, but it seems to live in the heads of Board members. Looking for a sit-down to articulate what we have done and who we can approach, and create pitch decks. Add to May 7 agenda: have *ad hoc* meeting to come up with funding strategy

### **17. Adjournment**

- Motion to adjourn the meeting. Moved by: Gayle. Seconded by: Sarah. Motion Carried.
- Meeting adjourned at 3:56 PM.