

Riverbanks Park Commission
Meeting Minutes
15 July 2021

Attendance Report

Commissioners Present: Bob Davidson, Deneen Shockley, Mike Velasco, Mary Howard, Jan Stamps, Alana Williams,

Commissioners Absent: Phil Bartlett

Staff Present: Tommy Stringfellow, Christie Vondrak, Katie Eaton, Lochlan Wooten

Guest Presentation: Lander Hiott of Parker Poe Consulting attended the meeting to give the Commission an update recent lobbying efforts and to share plans and ideas for future opportunities.

Call to Order

Chairman Davidson called the meeting to order.

Reading of the Minutes

The June 17, 2021 commission minutes were approved as distributed.

Chairman's Remarks

Chairman Davidson remarked that the months of June and July are looking very strong which is very encouraging to see.

President & Chief Executive Officer's Report

President and CEO Tommy Stringfellow provided the following report:

- June financial review:
 - Attendance ended the year with 940,940 just shy of the attendance goal of 1 million.
 - Revenue numbers reflected an increase in revenue, above budget.
 - Membership numbers and membership revenue are well over budget- a very encouraging trend to see
 - Government support includes the \$1.5M from PRT.
 - Expenses- almost \$1M in savings from budget to actual.
 - Howard motioned to approve the June financials, Williams second, m/c unanimous.
- Cliff Bourke, previously on the Riverbanks Society Board has been appointed to the Riverbanks Commission as a Richland County representative. He will start next month at the August Commission Meeting.
- AZA Accreditation Inspection is scheduled for the week of August 23.
- Approval needed for a new HVAC system in Tusker's restaurant.
 - Stamps motioned to approve \$75K additional funds for a replacement HVAC system in the Tuskers restaurant, Howard second, m/c unanimous

Chief Administrative Officer's Report:

CAO Christie Vondrak provided the following report:

- We hosted a virtual Town Hall on July 1 to roll out the tiered raises for staff, uniform allowance for staff, pay changes and longevity pay and thank you bonus. The news was very well received. Thank you again to the commission for approving and supporting our staff.
- Riverbanks has its first case of a staff member contracting covid while fully vaccinated.
- Next week is National Zoo Keeper week! We will be highlighting our Zoo Keepers on social media and celebrating them all week.

Chief Administrative Officer's Report:

COO Lochlan Wooten provided the following report:

- Saddened to share the news of the passing of our dear tapir, Daniella. She will be greatly missed. We will be assessing that exhibit area and barn and starting conversations of best use of that area.
- AZA Accreditation Inspection will be the week of August 23. The inspectors will meet with the Commission for lunch on August 26th.
- Satch Krantz Conservation Fund is taking sponsorship request from staff for project funding. This is a great opportunity with staff to connect and participate in our mission.
- Lexington Medical Center has signed on for a partnership as our first Official Wellness Partnership. Will have a mile long walking loop to encourage community members to focus on health.
- Wooten shared updated renderings of the Aquarium-reptile complex and targeting a closure date in mid to late august.

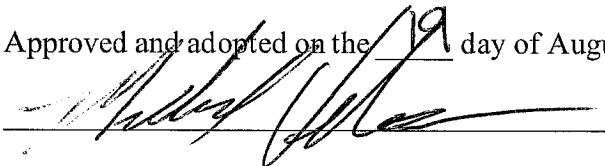
Executive Session

Davidson motioned to enter executive session to discuss a personnel matter; Stamps seconded.

Following executive session, the commission voted to award a performance-based bonus to Stringfellow.

The meeting was adjourned.

Approved and adopted on the 19 day of August 2021.


_____, Secretary