

MINUTES OF THE SPRING RIVER ZOO REVIEW COMMITTEE
City Hall - 425 N. Richardson
October 7, 2019 - 4:30 PM

Call to Order

Acting Chair, Judy Stubbs called the October 7, 2019 meeting to order at 4:37 p.m.

The following were present:

Members: Acting Chair, Councilor Judy Stubbs, Councilor Jacob Roebuck, and Staff Liaison, Marge Woods. Committee Chair, Councilor Angela Moore, arrived after the start of the meeting.

Staff present: Joe Neeb, City Manager; Mike Matthews, Deputy City Manager; Kevin Dillon, Project and Facility Director; Jim Burress, Parks Director; Marge Woods, Zoo Superintendent; Trent Moore, Facilities Maintenance Supervisor; Andrea Cole, Head Zookeeper; Caitlyn Lenz, Zoo Education Coordinator; and Gina Montague, Administrative Assistant Senior.

Public present: Barry Foster, City Counselor; Kerry Moore, Vicki Burress, Kelly Smith, Bonnie Bitzer, Friends of Spring River Zoo and Allison Penn, Roswell Daily Record.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Roebuck motioned to approve the agenda as presented; Acting Chair Stubbs was the second, a voice vote was unanimous, the motion passed with Councilor Moore absent.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

1. Member Roebuck motioned to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2019 meeting, and Acting Chair Stubbs was the second. A voice vote was unanimous, and the motion passed with Councilor Moore absent.

ACTION ITEMS

2. Discuss and consider approval of Capital Projects and the Big Cat exhibit
Joe Neeb began the discussion by introducing the Zoo's new education coordinator, Caitlyn Lenz. She told the Commission a little bit about herself and her background. Next, Andrea Cole, head Zookeeper, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the work that has been done on the exhibits, and what is planned in the immediate future for those exhibits. Kevin Dillon, Project and Facility Director, spoke about the expected timeline for the Big Cat exhibit with the groundbreaking on November 2nd, in conjunction with Bret the Mountain lions' Birthday Party. Work will probably begin in December with the expectation of finishing the exhibit late summer 2020. Joe Neeb then reminded the Commission that the next phase in the Master Plan is to begin the Bear/Mountain Lion Exhibit, explaining that we need to begin working on the funding for this project. No motions were made at this time.
3. Discuss and consider approval of recent City Council decisions regarding cost recovery.
Joe Neeb let the Commission know that for the next meeting, Zoo staff will be presenting the costs associated with charging admission to the Zoo. They will present a "menu of options" as there has been a debate about whether to include the park in the Zoo or keep it separate. They

will be discussing ideas and methods for reaching cost recovery goals set by City Council. He stated that as this is a temporary Committee, the November meeting will probably be the last. No motions were made at this time.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

None

CHAIR COMMENTS / REPORTS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Kelly Smith, a member of Friends of the Zoo, reported that the Octobearfest, held on October 5th sold 600 tickets, and they will be donating \$14,000 to the Zoo for capital projects, from the proceeds. She reported it was a very successful event, and the Friends received many compliments from attendees. She also stated that this event is not only significant in the amount of money that is made for the Zoo but also the exposure the Zoo received from having that many people in the Zoo, learning about the Zoo and its programs.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

Next Committee meeting: November 4, 2019, at 4:30 p.m.