



ZOOMUSEUMDISTRICT

*Metropolitan Zoological Park and Museum District*

## **Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Metropolitan Zoological Park and Museum District**

*May 21, 2024, 12:00 PM, via Zoom at 5700 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63112*

Mr. Thomas Mummert, Vice Chair of the Metropolitan Park and Museum District, called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.

Upon roll call, the following members were present/absent:

Christine Chadwick, Absent	Bradley Bakker, Present
Darnetta Clinkscale, Present	Michelle Harris, Absent
Shelia Hudson, Present	Jill Nowak, Absent
Thomas Mummert, Present	Kenneth Powell, Present

Others in Attendance: ZMD employees Matthew Pollock, Adrienne Mack, Florette Hampton, and Legal Counsel, Jennifer Byrne.

Mr. Mummert asked for public comments from those in attendance. No comments resulted.

Mr. Mummert welcomed the Missouri History Subdistrict Commissioners, Missouri Historical Society Trustees, Management team, and other guests. The meeting was turned over to the History Museum.

Presentation by Missouri History Museum officials. The following was discussed:

- Sandra Moore, Chair of Missouri Historical Society Board of Trustees– Welcomed the ZMD, thanked the team, and shared reflections on the past year.
- Jeremy Colbert, Chair Missouri History Museum Subdistrict – Highlighted the opening of the new museum shop and restaurant, re-vamping of the north lawn and thanked the ZMD for their continued support.
- Dr. Jody Sowell, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Missouri Historical Society – started the presentation with a brief history of the 150th anniversary of the Eads Bridge and the World Fair Exhibit opened on April 27, 2024 as of today it has been seen by 20,000 people. Mr. Sowell highlighted 2023 In-Person Visitor Attendance, 2023 In-Person Residency Statistics, and

2024 Attendance Goals. He spotlighted The Campaign; the goal is to raise \$50M at this point they have raised \$20M, the 2023 accomplishments that included 2023-2024 Exhibits, new books published, New to STL 101 tours and highlighted other exhibits. Mr. Sowell concluded with a special thank you to the St. Louis City and County taxpayers.

- Christina Renz, Chief Financial Officer of the Missouri Historical Society - stated the finances are strong as she highlighted 2024 Budget, which included contributions and other revenue-based projects, 4.5 % endowment draw, staff compensation/benefits and increased facilities insurance by 6%. She shared information regarding the different Capital Projects.
- Dara Taylor, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) Managing Director- shared the DEIA is the center of the Missouri Society's mission. emphasized the Community-Wide DEIA Commitments, African American History Initiative, and continued efforts to make MHS accessible to all.

Mr. Mummert thanked everyone for the presentation.

Board Members asked questions and a discussion ensued.

A motion to approve April 16, 2024 regular Board Meeting Minutes was made by Kenny Powell and seconded by Darnetta Clinkscale. The Chair asked for discussion; no discussion ensued. The minutes were unanimously approved with members saying "Aye".

Mr. Mummert asked Mr. Pollock for an Executive Directors report.

Mr. Pollock discussed the April financials and explained the increase in legal costs.

Mr. Bakker, Community Relations Committee Chair, shared that the committee met and is, working on in-house/promotional materials to promote the ZMD.

Mr. Powell shared that the other subdistricts DEAI met on May 3, 2024, and that the Science Center hired Dr. Lamar Warren as the new DEAI Director.

Ms. Bryne had nothing to report.

No Old Business or New Business to report.

There being no further business of the Board, Mr. Bakker moved that the regular meeting be adjourned Mr. Powell seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

*Brad Bakker*

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Bradley Bakker  
Secretary