

MINUTES

Annual General Meeting AEECL, September 18th 2015, 08.30-10.30, Wroclaw, Poland

Present: Frank Rietkerk, Apenheul (President); Gary Batters, Zoological Society of East Anglia (Vice President); Brice Lefaux, Zoo Mulhouse (Treasurer); Achim Johann, Naturzoo Reine (Board Member); Jennie Westander, Parken Zoo Eskilstuna (Assistant Secretary); Frantisek Pribrsky, Zoo Ostrava; Petr Colas, Zoo Ostrava; Macie Kempa, Opole Zoo; Yitzhak Yadid, Bioparco di Roma; Sebastien Verdin, Le Parc des Felins; Jan Vermeer, Parc Animalier de St Croix; Katarzyna Byczyk, Poznan Zoo; Andreas Pauly, Tierpark Berlin; Derek Grove, Dudley Zoo; Stanislav Lhota, Ústí nad Labem Zoo; Jirí Balek, Ústí nad Labem Zoo; Emmanuel Mouton, Calviac Zoo; Jana Pluhackova, Zoo Ostrava; Jean-Pascal Guery, La Vallee des Singes; Laure Pelletier, Beauval Zoo; Margaux Pizzo, Museum of Besancon; Florence Perroux, La Palmyre Zoo; Delphine Rouillet, Parc Zoologique de Paris; Nic Dunn, Shaldon Wildlife Trust; Richard Francke Zoo Saarbrücken

Apologies: Christoph Schwitzer, Bristol Zoo Gardens (Secretary); Bryan Carroll, Bristol Zoo Gardens; Sandra Reichler-Danielowski, Zoo Heidelberg

Minutes kept by Jennie Westander.

Welcome

Frank opened the meeting and welcomed all attendants. He also thanked the Prosimian TAG Chair, Achim Johann, for kindly providing the slot in the program for AEECL.

Minutes

The minutes from last year's Annual General Meeting was approved.

Accounts and Budget

Brice Lefaux presented last year's budget and talked about the current situation. He reminded all that the membership fee needs to be paid early in the year due to the weather situation and work load at different times of the year. Furthermore, it was made clear that there is no more "money in the mattress" and we are all happy for the anonymous Italian man who made a donation.

Brice Lefaux further presented the new monthly Skype meeting routines with Guy Randriatahina, the programme director in Madagascar.

The situation with Joleijn was cited by Brice Lefaux and Frank Rietkerk.

Annual report 2014

Frank Rietkerk presented the Annual report and discussed some parts in particular. He emphasized that infrastructure and sustainable tourism are important parts.

Presentation: Breeding station

Brice Lefaux presented the suggestions regarding a breeding station and this raised several comments and questions which are summarized below.

- Important not to build on land that we do not own.
- What to do with rescued animals that we cannot take care of.
- How to breed blue-eyed, better to work on protecting an area.
- Maintenance needs to be included in the budget as well as external expertise and veterinary costs.
- Better to set up releasing station.
- Possibility to cooperate with Ivoloine.
- Better to set up in area where more education is needed and available to visitors, perhaps better with natural area rather than center.
- Conservation in focus rather than saving individuals.
- Education is a very important part.
- Important not to work in different places with different projects. Instead better to work together with Durrell and MFG.

The attendants were asked to raise hands if positive to the idea. No hands were raised. Concluding remarks regarding a breeding station: A semi-captive center in town, an interpretation center, is a better idea. Durrell is positive to collaboration. The board will take all comments into consideration and will distribute a voting document. It is important not to build only because there is money. There must also be a clear long-term goal. The funding plan will be distributed.

Presentation: MFG meeting

Jennie Westander presented briefly in the place of Christoph Schwitzer from the MFG meeting held in Isle of Wight Zoo (UK) earlier this year. On this meeting it was clear that there was a general enthusiasm among MFG members regarding the prospect of transfers of blue-eyed black lemurs from Ivoloine to the US and later from the US to Europe and collaboration with AEECL and EAZA institutions was seen very positive.

Presentation: Research

Jennie Westander presented briefly in the place of Christoph Schwitzer five different research activities conducted by PhD-students and MSc-students.

Board election

It was decided that the board election will be made by email.

AOB

- Emmanuel Mouton from Calviac zoo presented briefly their scholarship for six pupils go to secondary school. 500 Euro per year per pupil.
- Guy Randriatahina, the programme director in Madagascar would very much like to come to the meetings but is in need of funding (Brice Lefaux)
- Info pack for members will soon be ready and distributed (Brice Lefaux)

The next AGM will be in Belfast in September 2016.