

Audubon Commission & Audubon Nature Institute Board Joint Executive/Finance/Audit Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

8:30 am

Zoo Presidents' Room

Xavier Angel, Treasurer and Finance Committee Chairman from the Audubon Commission, began the meeting by asking if there were any members of the public were present. There were none. Attending from the Commission were Xavier Angel, Sally Shushan, Ashley Francis, and Lex Kelso. From the Audubon Nature Institute Board were Willard Dumas, Vincent Palumbo, Leslie Gottsegen, Megan Eustis, Peter Moss, Joe Jaeger, Bernard Vanderlinden, Ludovico Feoli, Sandy Villere, and Bart Farris.

Ms. Laurie Conkerton, EVP and CAO, then introduced Ms. Dawn Laborie of LaPorte CPAs to present the draft audited financials. The audits were sent to all committee members for review prior to the meeting.

Ms. Laborie presented the draft audits for the Audubon Commission dated December 31, 2021 and 2020. There were no internal control findings, compliance findings, material weaknesses, or significant deficiencies. During the presentation, it was noted that there is a need for an ethics training policy and sexual harassment training policy for Commissioners. Both will be addressed soon.

Ms. Laborie then presented the Audubon Nature Institute draft financial audits dated December 31, 2021 and 2020. There were no internal control finding, compliance findings, material weaknesses, or significant deficiencies. The Shuttered Venues Operating Grant received triggered a major federal program audit. There were no compliance or internal controls findings for that single audit.

Finally, Ms. Laborie briefly presented the Audubon Nature Institute Foundation draft financial audits dated December 31, 2021 and 2020. The presentation was for informational purposes only. The Foundation will approve separately by email.

After the presentation, Mr. Ron Forman, President and CEO of Audubon Nature Institute, gave a quick update on capital projects and operations.

Dr. Willard Dumas, Audubon Nature Institute Chairman, asked for a motion to accept the Audubon Nature Institute audits as presented. Motion passed unanimously (Farris/Feoli).

Mr. Angel asked for a motion to accept the Commission audits as presented. Motion passed unanimously (Francis/Shushan).

Both boards will fully approve in their next meetings. After some discussion among the group, and there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned shortly after 9:30 am.