



Friends of Philly Zoo Elephants

October 22, 2008

Barbara Baker, D.V.M.
President and Chief Executive Officer
Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium
One Wild Place
Pittsburgh PA 15206

VIA FACSIMILE (412-665-3661) and FIRST CLASS MAIL

Dear Dr. Baker,

This letter is to request clarification regarding the size of the elephant exhibit and certain questions regarding elephants housed at the Pittsburgh Zoo.

On July 22, 2008, I called the Pittsburgh Zoo to find out the size of the elephant exhibit. I spoke with someone named Tracy, who claimed the size of the exhibit is irrelevant and she would not provide the information to me. When I asked to speak to someone to learn more about why this information would not be disclosed, I was told someone named Connie George would call me. Since July, I have called the Pittsburgh Zoo and Connie George several times to follow up but have not received a return phone call. Would you please let me know the size of the elephant exhibit, or explain why it is not publicly available?

Also, it is my understanding that Jackson, the bull elephant currently living at the Pittsburgh Zoo, will be sent to the breeding facility sometime this month to prepare to breed with Kallie and Bette. Will he be staying at the breeding facility, or will he return to the Pittsburgh Zoo? I have received conflicting information regarding his permanent home: one zoo employee told me he will stay at the breeding facility, where he has a one-acre yard and his own barn; another employee advised that he will only be at the breeding facility for brief periods while he mates with female elephants and his quarters at the facility consist of a small yard and cement stall. Would you please explain the plans for housing Jackson?

Thank you for your time. Please call me at 610-733-1248 if you need to reach me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marianne Bessey', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Marianne Bessey