



GreatZoo.org



ButterflyHouseAquarium.org

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**CONTACT**

Denise DePaolo  
Marketing & PR Director  
[DDePaolo@GPZoo.org](mailto:DDePaolo@GPZoo.org)

## Zoo and Butterfly House Merge

**SIOUX FALLS:**

We are thrilled to announce the creation of **Sioux Falls Zoo & Aquarium Board of Directors**, the unified governing body for the Great Plains Zoo (GPZ) and Butterfly House & Aquarium (BHA).

The SFZA Board of Directors is comprised of some members of the previous GPZ and BHA boards, in addition to mayoral appointees and at-large members. They are listed below.

Alissa Bretsch	Melissa Fossell	Jennifer Kirby	Mckenzy Raterman
Margaret Carmody	Darin Hage	De Knudson	Andrea Smith
Tracy Dahl-Webb	Ryan Howlett	Jeanelle Lust	Ryan Tysdal
Molly Daniel	Jeff Hugunin	Laura Mitchell	
Tina Davis	Jeannie Iannello	George Mollner	
Matt Ditmanson	Don Kearney	David O'Hara	

**[Quote about the board being individuals with unique and meaningful ties to the community, how excited we are to navigate this opportunity together, etc. Let's keep it to 2-3 lines.]**

Both GPZ and BHA will continue to operate in their current locations on their respective campuses, with plans to bring both organizations to the GPZ campus after a multi-year renovation is complete.

Members can already enjoy the benefits of the merger with a [Monarch-level membership](#). Monarch is available for all membership types – Individual, Senior, Dual, and Family – and allows a full year of admission and membership benefits for both GPZ and BHA.

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*The Great Plains Zoo is an accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) – a leader in wildlife conservation. Fewer than 10% of animal institutions in the United States have met the high standards for AZA accreditation.*

*The Butterfly House & Aquarium is a non-profit organization dedicated to inspiring the conservation of the vital building blocks of sea, sky, and land.*

Our Mission: Creating connection and protecting our natural world