

**FRIENDS OF THE ROSAMOND GIFFORD ZOO
AT BURNET PARK, INC.
and CATERING AT THE ZOO, LLC**

Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2024

**FRIENDS OF THE ROSAMOND GIFFORD ZOO AT BURNET PARK, INC.
and CATERING AT THE ZOO, LLC**

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December 31, 2024

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors of
Friends of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park, Inc. and
Catering at the Zoo, LLC
Syracuse, New York

Opinion

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Friends of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park, Inc. and Catering at the Zoo, LLC, a component unit of Onondaga County, which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as of December 31, 2024, and the related consolidated statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the consolidated financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Friends of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park, Inc. and Catering at the Zoo, LLC as of December 31, 2024, and the change in their net assets and their cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Friends of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park, Inc. and Catering at the Zoo, LLC and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Consolidated Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Friends of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park, Inc. and Catering at the Zoo, LLC's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the consolidated financial statements are issued.



Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the consolidated financial statements.

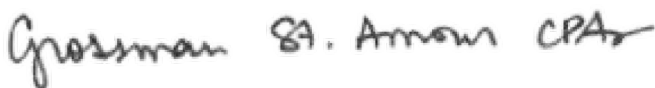
In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Friends of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park, Inc. and Catering at the Zoo, LLC's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Friends of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park, Inc. and Catering at the Zoo, LLC's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Report on Summarized Comparative Information

We have previously audited Friends of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park, Inc. and Catering at the Zoo, LLC's December 31, 2023 consolidated financial statements, and we expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those audited consolidated financial statements in our report dated May 20, 2024. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023 is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited consolidated financial statements from which it has been derived.



Syracuse, New York
April 30, 2025

**FRIENDS OF THE ROSAMOND GIFFORD ZOO AT BURNET PARK, INC.
and CATERING AT THE ZOO, LLC**

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

**December 31, 2024
(with Comparative Totals for December 31, 2023)**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,422,889	\$ 2,746,594
Pledges and other receivables, current portion	53,007	21,237
Due from related party	31,250	-
Prepaid expenses and other assets	88,144	101,752
Inventories	227,946	169,100
Total current assets	<u>2,823,236</u>	<u>3,038,683</u>
Investments	<u>5,053,644</u>	<u>4,697,629</u>
Certificates of deposit	<u>263,073</u>	<u>251,038</u>
Pledges and other receivables, net of current portion	<u>26,000</u>	<u>26,986</u>
Furniture and equipment, net	<u>86,944</u>	<u>79,758</u>
	<u><u>\$ 8,252,897</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 8,094,094</u></u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 95,203	\$ 139,550
Accrued salaries and payroll expenses	142,700	114,485
Deferred revenue	463,947	482,694
Due to Onondaga County	73,239	113,527
Total current liabilities	<u>775,089</u>	<u>850,256</u>
Net assets:		
Without donor restrictions	1,617,054	1,881,548
With donor restrictions	5,860,754	5,362,290
Total net assets	<u>7,477,808</u>	<u>7,243,838</u>
	<u><u>\$ 8,252,897</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 8,094,094</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

**FRIENDS OF THE ROSAMOND GIFFORD ZOO AT BURNET PARK, INC.
and CATERING AT THE ZOO, LLC**

Consolidated Statement of Activities

**For the Year Ended December 31, 2024
(with Summarized, Comparative Totals for the Year Ended December 31, 2023)**

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	
			2024	2023
Support:				
Contributions and grants	\$ 564,215	\$ 596,596	\$ 1,160,811	\$ 956,527
Special events net of direct expenses of \$140,135 and \$172,849 in 2024 and 2023, respectively	210,147	-	210,147	257,097
Total support	774,362	596,596	1,370,958	1,213,624
Revenue:				
Memberships	667,709	-	667,709	651,644
Sale of merchandise net of cost of sales of \$685,512 and \$710,782, in 2024 and 2023, respectively	1,232,030	-	1,232,030	1,338,097
Program fees	401,917	-	401,917	353,466
Rental/catering income net of cost of sales of \$150,260 and \$161,135 in 2024 and 2023, respectively	690,265	-	690,265	741,391
Net appreciation/(depreciation) in market value of investments	-	275,000	275,000	449,871
Interest and dividend income	138,644	81,015	219,659	150,507
Total revenue	3,130,565	356,015	3,486,580	3,684,976
Net assets released from restrictions	454,147	(454,147)	-	-
Total support and revenue	4,359,074	498,464	4,857,538	4,898,600
Expenses:				
Program services:				
Zoo support	1,576,935	-	1,576,935	1,482,595
Gift shop	217,827	-	217,827	197,127
Educational programs	465,973	-	465,973	415,236
Facility rentals/catering	610,145	-	610,145	660,035
Total program services	2,870,880	-	2,870,880	2,754,993
Supporting services:				
Management and general	867,411	-	867,411	819,345
Fundraising/membership	885,277	-	885,277	734,295
Total supporting services	1,752,688	-	1,752,688	1,553,640
Total expenses	4,623,568	-	4,623,568	4,308,633
Change in net assets	(264,494)	498,464	233,970	589,967
Net assets at beginning of year (note 1)	1,881,548	5,362,290	7,243,838	6,653,871
Net assets at end of year	\$ 1,617,054	\$ 5,860,754	\$ 7,477,808	\$ 7,243,838

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

**FRIENDS OF THE ROSAMOND GIFFORD ZOO AT BURNET PARK, INC.
and CATERING AT THE ZOO, LLC**

Consolidated Statement of Functional Expenses

**For the Year Ended December 31, 2024
(with Summarized, Comparative Totals for the Year Ended December 31, 2023)**

	Program Services				Total	Supporting Services		Total	Total	
	Zoo Support	Gift Shop	Educational Programs	Facility Rentals/ Catering	Program Services	Management and General	Fundraising/ Membership	Supporting Services	2024	2023
Salaries	\$ 528,908	\$ 139,228	\$ 326,172	\$ 401,353	\$ 1,395,661	\$ 543,587	\$ 398,516	\$ 942,103	\$ 2,337,764	\$ 2,091,580
Employee benefits	51,080	10,680	46,757	38,896	147,413	56,575	39,377	95,952	243,365	201,597
Payroll taxes	47,351	11,583	27,293	32,867	119,094	43,121	32,291	75,412	194,506	173,761
Total salaries and related expenses	627,339	161,491	400,222	473,116	1,662,168	643,283	470,184	1,113,467	2,775,635	2,466,938
Payroll fees	2,837	2,118	4,754	3,646	13,355	17,071	3,177	20,248	33,603	29,076
Professional fees and contracted service	335,047	-	15,988	22,874	373,909	25,213	80,346	105,559	479,468	355,185
Supplies and minor equipment	125,932	9,126	19,341	52,581	206,980	19,233	17,755	36,988	243,968	344,832
Telephone	-	-	1,316	689	2,005	1,280	628	1,908	3,913	3,213
Postage	-	9	6	245	260	773	38,546	39,319	39,579	40,436
Printing and public relations	20,688	1,763	3,691	1,724	27,866	35,701	100,485	136,186	164,052	140,654
Travel, conferences and staff education	43,059	1,930	532	4,084	49,605	19,091	9,998	29,089	78,694	67,590
Equipment maintenance and rental	118,473	3,928	5,236	23,267	150,904	73,991	49,120	123,111	274,015	295,828
Insurance	14,537	6,357	6,940	8,026	35,860	27,287	9,052	36,339	72,199	56,837
Onondaga County share	30,000	-	-	-	30,000	-	86,520	86,520	116,520	119,918
Projects and exhibit support	201,425	-	-	-	201,425	-	-	-	201,425	237,450
Bad debt expense	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,173
Miscellaneous expense	44,667	29,230	5,605	19,893	99,395	2,703	19,466	22,169	121,564	125,529
Total before depreciation expense	1,564,004	215,952	463,631	610,145	2,853,732	865,626	885,277	1,750,903	4,604,635	4,294,659
Depreciation expense	12,931	1,875	2,342	-	17,148	1,785	-	1,785	18,933	13,974
Total functional expenses	<u>\$ 1,576,935</u>	<u>\$ 217,827</u>	<u>\$ 465,973</u>	<u>\$ 610,145</u>	<u>\$ 2,870,880</u>	<u>\$ 867,411</u>	<u>\$ 885,277</u>	<u>\$ 1,752,688</u>	<u>\$ 4,623,568</u>	<u>\$ 4,308,633</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

**FRIENDS OF THE ROSAMOND GIFFORD ZOO AT BURNET PARK, INC.
and CATERING AT THE ZOO, LLC**

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

(with Summarized, Comparative Totals for the Year Ended December 31, 2023)

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Change in net assets	\$ 233,970	\$ 589,967
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation expense	18,933	13,974
Net (appreciation)/depreciation in market value of investments	(275,000)	(449,871)
Bad debt expense	-	11,173
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Pledges and other receivables, net	(30,784)	28,067
Due from related party	(31,250)	-
Prepaid expenses and other assets	13,608	(35,069)
Inventories	(58,846)	(46,507)
Accounts payable	(44,347)	(3,099)
Accrued salaries and payroll expenses	28,215	6,356
Deferred revenue	(18,747)	74,145
Due to Onondaga County	(40,288)	23,446
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>(204,536)</u>	<u>212,582</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchase of furniture and equipment	(26,121)	(55,164)
Purchase of certificates of deposit	(12,035)	(251,038)
Proceeds from sales of securities	198,943	284,538
Purchases of securities	(279,956)	(257,116)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>(119,169)</u>	<u>(278,780)</u>
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(323,705)	(66,198)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>2,746,594</u>	<u>2,812,792</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>\$ 2,422,889</u>	<u>\$ 2,746,594</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

**FRIENDS OF THE ROSAMOND GIFFORD ZOO AT BURNET PARK, INC.
and CATERING AT THE ZOO, LLC**

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of Operations

Friends of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park, Inc. (the Friends) is a non-profit corporation established in 1970 to stimulate the interest of the public in the extension and improvement of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park (the Zoo) and, where possible, to assist in the expansion of the Zoo facilities. The Zoo is operated by Onondaga County, New York, therefore the Friends is treated as a component unit of Onondaga County.

The Friends collects membership fees and runs a gift shop and HoneyBee Café, which are located at the Zoo. Educational programs are also conducted and a periodic publication, MyZoo Magazine, is published. The Friends also solicits volunteers for the Zoo and provides support for upgrading of Zoo exhibits.

Catering at the Zoo, LLC (LLC), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Friends, was formed for the purpose of conducting the catering business at the Zoo. The Friends is the sole member of LLC.

Consolidated Financial Statement Presentation

The consolidated financial statements are presented on the accrual basis of accounting. The consolidated financial statements include certain prior year summarized comparative information in total but not by net asset class. Such information does not include sufficient detail to constitute a presentation in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with the Friends' consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023 from which the summarized information was derived.

These consolidated financial statements include financial information of the Friends of Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park, Inc. and Catering at the Zoo, LLC. All intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

Prior Period Reclassification

The accompanying consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023 have been reclassified to properly present net assets with and without donor restrictions.

	December 31, 2023 <u>As Previously Reported</u>	Prior Period <u>Reclassification</u>	December 31, 2023 <u>As Reclassified</u>
Net assets:			
With donor restrictions	\$ 4,801,089	\$ 561,201	\$ 5,362,290
Without donor restrictions	\$ 2,442,749	\$ (561,201)	\$ 1,881,548

**FRIENDS OF THE ROSAMOND GIFFORD ZOO AT BURNET PARK, INC.
and CATERING AT THE ZOO, LLC**

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Use of Estimates

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Friends considers short-term investments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Balances are maintained at various financial institutions and are insured up to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) limits.

Investments

Investments are carried at market value based on quoted market prices. Interest and dividends, realized and unrealized gains and losses accrue to net assets with donor restrictions. Realized and unrealized gains and losses are reported in the aggregate as net appreciation or depreciation in market value of investments on the consolidated statement of activities.

Allowance for Credit Losses

The Friends and LLC follow FASB ASU 2016-13 *Financial Instruments - Credit Losses*, which requires organizations to measure all expected credit losses for financial instruments held at the reporting date based on historical experience, current conditions, and reasonable and supportable forecasts. The majority of receivables are pledges and contributions, which are scoped out of this standard. Other accounts receivable amounts are not material.

Contributions of Nonfinancial Assets

The Friends and LLC follow FASB ASU 958: Presentation and Disclosure by Not-for-Profit Entities for Contributed Nonfinancial Assets, which increases the transparency of contributed nonfinancial assets through enhanced presentation and disclosure requirements.

Non-financial contributions are reflected as special events support with offsetting expense in the accompanying consolidated financial statements at estimated value where an objective valuation basis is available. During 2024 and 2023, various goods and services were donated for fundraising activities and support services. Contributed goods are recognized at the retail cost to purchase at the time of the donation. The approximate value of these goods and services was \$11,500 and \$31,900 for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, respectively. There were no donor imposed restrictions placed on these contributions for 2024 or 2023.

**FRIENDS OF THE ROSAMOND GIFFORD ZOO AT BURNET PARK, INC.
and CATERING AT THE ZOO, LLC**

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Contributions of Nonfinancial Assets (continued)

A substantial number of volunteers donate their time to assist the Friends in its programs and fundraising activities. During the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, approximately 8,400 and 8,800 hours have been donated, respectively. No amounts have been reflected in the accompanying consolidated financial statements for these donated services, as no objective basis is available to measure the value of such services.

Revenue Recognition

The Friends and LLC follow the provisions of ASC 606, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*, except for contributions and grants which follow ASC 958-605, *Not-for-Profit Entities – Revenue Recognition*. Under ASC 606, revenue is recognized when a customer obtains control of promised goods or services in an amount that reflects the consideration the entity expects to receive in exchange for those goods or services. In addition, the standard requires disclosure of the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from contracts with customers.

The Friends and LLC have the following significant streams of revenue:

Contributions and grants received are recorded as support with or without donor restrictions based on the nature of donor restrictions. Unconditional promises to give cash and other assets are reported at fair value at the date the promise is received. Reserves are recorded when specific receivables are deemed to be uncollectible. Conditional promises to give and indications of intentions to give are reported at fair value at the date the gift is received. The gifts are reported with donor restrictions if they are received with donor stipulations that limit the use of the donated assets. When a donor restriction expires, that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified as net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restriction. Donor restricted contributions and grants whose restrictions are met within the same year as received are reflected as contributions and grants without donor restrictions.

Membership benefits are typically valid for one year after the membership is purchased. Membership revenue is recognized pro-rata on a monthly basis over the term of the membership. Any unrecognized membership revenue is recorded as deferred revenue in the accompanying consolidated statement of financial position at the end of the year.

Special Events, Program Fees, and Rental/Catering Income is recognized at the time the associated event occurs. Any payments of deposits or tickets sold prior to the event or program date are recorded in deferred revenue in the accompanying consolidated statement of financial position at the end of the year.

Sale of merchandise primarily consists of sales of inventory in the Zoo gift shop. Revenue is recognized at the time the sale is made. Returns of merchandise after the sale is made are not typically significant.

**FRIENDS OF THE ROSAMOND GIFFORD ZOO AT BURNET PARK, INC.
and CATERING AT THE ZOO, LLC**

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Revenue Recognition (continued)

The following tables presents the beginning and ending balances from contracts with customers, primarily from memberships, special events and catering:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Accounts receivable from contracts:		
Accounts receivable as of January 1:	\$ 3,098	\$ 8,463
Accounts receivable as of December 31:	\$ 39,007	\$ 3,098
Contract liabilities:		
Deferred revenue as of January 1:	\$ 482,694	\$ 408,549
Deferred revenue as of December 31:	\$ 463,947	\$ 482,694

Bequests

Bequests are recorded as income when the will is probated and the money is received. No amounts have been reflected in the consolidated financial statements for bequest notifications.

Inventories

Inventories consist of store merchandise for resale in the gift shop, and supplies for the HoneyBee Café and catering services. They are stated at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined by the weighted-average method for gift shop inventory, and on a first-in, first-out method for the HoneyBee Café and catering services. The Friends and LLC have determined that no allowance for obsolete inventory is required at December 31, 2024 or 2023.

Furniture and Equipment

Furniture and equipment are recorded at cost or, if donated, at the fair market value at the date of gift. Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life for each of the respective assets, generally five years. Maintenance and repairs are charged to expense when incurred; major renewals and betterments greater than \$5,000 are capitalized. When furniture and equipment are retired or otherwise disposed of, the related costs and accumulated depreciation are removed from the accounts and any gain or loss is recorded in the consolidated statements of activities.

**FRIENDS OF THE ROSAMOND GIFFORD ZOO AT BURNET PARK, INC.
and CATERING AT THE ZOO, LLC**

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Classification of Net Assets

The net assets of the Friends have been classified as without donor restriction or with donor restriction on the basis of the existence and/or nature of any donor imposed restrictions. When the donor restriction expires, that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restriction and reported in the consolidated statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions. Donor-restricted contributions whose restrictions are met within the same year as received are reflected as contributions and net assets without donor restriction. See Note 7.

Availability and Liquidity

The following is a summary of the Friends' consolidated financial assets available to meet cash needs for general expenditures within one year for the years ended December 31:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,422,889	\$ 2,746,594
Pledges and other receivables, current portion	53,007	21,237
Inventories	227,946	169,100
Investments	<u>5,053,644</u>	<u>4,697,629</u>
Less, net assets with donor restrictions	<u>(5,860,754)</u>	<u>(5,362,290)</u>
Consolidated financial assets available to meet cash needs for general expenditures within one year	<u><u>\$ 1,896,732</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,272,270</u></u>

As part of the Friends' liquidity management, it has a policy to structure its consolidated financial assets to be available as its general expenditures, liabilities, and other obligations come due. In addition, excess cash is invested in short-term investments including money market accounts.

Methods Used for Allocation of Expenses Among Program and Supporting Services

The consolidated financial statements present expenses by function and natural classification. Expenses directly attributable to a specific functional area of the Friends are reported as expenses of those functional areas. Certain categories of expenses that are attributable to one or more program or administrative services of the Friends are allocated. Those expenses mainly relate to salaries, which are allocated directly based on timesheets prepared for each employee by pay period, and facilities expenses and depreciation which are allocated based on square footage.

**FRIENDS OF THE ROSAMOND GIFFORD ZOO AT BURNET PARK, INC.
and CATERING AT THE ZOO, LLC**

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Income Taxes

The Friends is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is not a private foundation within the meaning of Section 509(a) of the Code.

The Friends evaluates all significant tax positions as required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. As of December 31, 2024, the Friends does not believe that it has taken any tax positions that would require the recording of any additional tax liability nor does it believe that there are any unrealized tax benefits that would either increase or decrease within the next year, including the determination of the Friends' tax-exempt status. The Friends' information and income tax returns are subject to examination by taxing authorities for a period of three years from the date they are filed. It is the Friends' policy to recognize any interest and penalties as expenses in the year assessed.

LLC is a disregarded entity for federal income tax purposes; therefore, all tax attributes flow through to the Friends as the sole member. LLC's activities, which include providing catering services and facility rental, are considered unrelated to the Friends' exempt purpose. As such, any income derived from LLC's activities, less allocable expenses, is considered unrelated business income to the Friends. Income taxes paid on unrelated business income are included in facility rental/catering expense on the consolidated statement of activities.

Risks and Uncertainties

The Friends maintains cash balances at various financial institutions in New York. Accounts at each institution are insured by the FDIC. At times throughout the year, cash balances exceeded the insured limits.

Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market, and credit risk. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities and the level of uncertainty related to changes in the value of investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in risk in the near term would materially affect the amounts reported in the consolidated statement of financial position and the consolidated statement of activities.

**FRIENDS OF THE ROSAMOND GIFFORD ZOO AT BURNET PARK, INC.
and CATERING AT THE ZOO, LLC**

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

2. Investments

Investments consist of money market savings and index mutual funds which are carried at fair value. A summary of investments at December 31 is as follows:

	2024		2023	
	Market	Cost	Market	Cost
Money market funds	\$ 266,978	\$ 266,978	\$ 112,307	\$ 112,307
Mutual fund investments:				
Domestic equity	1,889,839	1,075,528	1,754,431	1,207,492
International equity	586,210	526,286	572,633	505,545
Fixed income funds	1,900,901	2,144,202	1,894,230	2,085,538
Equity Securities:	409,716	266,865	364,028	262,601
	<u>\$ 5,053,644</u>	<u>\$ 4,279,859</u>	<u>\$ 4,697,629</u>	<u>\$ 4,173,483</u>
Unrealized appreciation		<u>\$ 773,785</u>		<u>\$ 524,146</u>

3. Fair Value Measurements

The Friends' investments are reported at fair value in the accompanying consolidated statement of financial position. The methods used to measure fair value may produce an amount that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although the Friends believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

The fair value measurement accounting literature establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. This hierarchy consists of three broad levels: Level 1 inputs consist of unadjusted quoted process in active markets for identical assets and have the highest priority, Level 2 inputs consist of observable inputs other than quoted prices for identical assets, and Level 3 inputs are unobservable and have the lowest priority. The Friends uses appropriate valuation techniques based on the available inputs to measure the fair value of its investments. When available, the Friends measures fair value using Level 1 inputs because they generally provide the most reliable evidence of fair value. No Level 2 or Level 3 inputs were used to measure fair value at December 31, 2024 or 2023.

**FRIENDS OF THE ROSAMOND GIFFORD ZOO AT BURNET PARK, INC.
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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

3. Fair Value Measurements (continued)

Level 1 Fair Value Measurements - The fair values of mutual funds and equity securities are based on the closing price reported in the active market where the individual securities are traded, when available.

The following tables set forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Friends' consolidated investments at fair value as of December 31, 2024 and 2023:

As of December 31, 2024				
	Assets Measured at Fair Value	Fair Value Hierarchy Level		
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Money market funds	\$ 266,978	\$ 266,978	\$ -	\$ -
Mutual fund investments:				
Domestic equity	1,889,839	1,889,839	-	-
International equity	586,210	586,210	-	-
Fixed income funds	1,900,901	1,900,901	-	-
Equity Securities:	409,716	409,716	-	-
Total investments at fair value	<u>\$ 5,053,644</u>	<u>\$ 5,053,644</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
As of December 31, 2023				
	Assets Measured at Fair Value	Fair Value Hierarchy Level		
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Money market funds	\$ 112,307	\$ 112,307	\$ -	\$ -
Mutual fund investments:				
Domestic equity	1,754,431	1,754,431	-	-
International equity	572,633	572,633	-	-
Fixed income funds	1,894,230	1,894,230	-	-
Equity Securities:	364,028	364,028	-	-
Total investments at fair value	<u>\$ 4,697,629</u>	<u>\$ 4,697,629</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

**FRIENDS OF THE ROSAMOND GIFFORD ZOO AT BURNET PARK, INC.
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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

4. Pledges and Other Receivables

Receivables at December 31 are as follows:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Pledges receivable	\$ 40,000	\$ 45,125
Accounts receivable	<u>39,007</u>	<u>3,098</u>
	<u><u>\$ 79,007</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 48,223</u></u>

Pledges expected to be collected within one year are recorded at their net realizable value. Pledges that are expected to be collected in future years are recorded at the present value of estimated future cash flows. Adjustment to present value is not material and was not recorded at December 31, 2024 or 2023. The Friends records the long-term pledges receivable as income in the year the pledge is made.

Future pledges receivable are expected to be received in the following years ending December 31:

2025	\$ 14,000
2026	12,000
2027	2,000
2028	2,000
2029	2,000
Thereafter	<u>8,000</u>
	<u><u>\$ 40,000</u></u>

5. Furniture and Equipment

Furniture and equipment are allocated to various activities as follows:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Zoo support	\$ 37,247	\$ 37,247
Gift shop	41,051	34,301
Education	62,118	62,118
Catering	347,504	328,133
Management & general	<u>121,202</u>	<u>121,202</u>
	609,122	583,001
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(522,178)</u>	<u>(503,243)</u>
	<u><u>\$ 86,944</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 79,758</u></u>

Depreciation expense for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023 was approximately \$18,900 and \$14,000, respectively.

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6. Agreements with Onondaga County

The Friends have an agreement with Onondaga County (the County) regarding membership, whereby free admission is part of the benefits that members of the Friends receive. A portion of the membership fees collected is paid to the County to help defray the expense of this benefit and is also shown on the consolidated financial statements as membership supporting services. In 2024 and 2023, these expenses were approximately \$86,500 and \$83,500, respectively.

The Friends also have an agreement with Onondaga County to operate the HoneyBee Café at the Zoo, for the convenience of the Zoo visitors. The Friends pay the County \$30,000 each year from the profits of the café and is shown as zoo support in program services on the consolidated financial statements. The Zoo owed the County \$7,500 and \$30,000 for these payments at December 31, 2024 and 2023, respectively, which is recorded as due to Onondaga County on the accompanying consolidated statement of financial position.

The amounts due to Onondaga County for these fees at December 31 consisted of the following:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Memberships	\$ 65,739	\$ 83,527
HoneyBee Café	<u>7,500</u>	<u>30,000</u>
	<u>\$ 73,239</u>	<u>\$ 113,527</u>

7. Net Assets

Net assets without donor restrictions

Net assets without donor restrictions are used for the day-to-day operations of the Friends. Board designated net assets represent funds voluntarily set aside by the Board. They consist of the following for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Undesignated, available for general operations	\$ 1,530,110	\$ 1,801,790
Net furniture and equipment	<u>86,944</u>	<u>79,758</u>
	<u>\$ 1,617,054</u>	<u>\$ 1,881,548</u>

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Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

7. Net Assets (continued)

Net assets with donor restrictions

Net assets at December 31, 2024 and 2023 have been restricted by donor stipulation for the following purposes:

	2024	2023
Restricted for programs:		
Restricted for future projects	768,443	\$ 621,747
Restricted for the education outreach program	38,667	42,914
	<u>\$ 807,110</u>	<u>\$ 664,661</u>
Restricted by endowment:		
Rosamond Gifford Charitable Corporation		
Endowed Education Program	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000
Endowment, for camperships/scholarships	11,445	11,445
Estate proceeds, earnings to be used for		
educational programs at the Zoo	67,132	67,132
Endowment, for general operating	5,090	5,090
Cumulative investment income less expenditures	2,969,977	2,613,962
	<u>\$ 5,053,644</u>	<u>\$ 4,697,629</u>
 Total net assets with donor restrictions	 <u>\$ 5,860,754</u>	 <u>\$ 5,362,290</u>

8. Endowment Funds

The Friends follows the New York Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (NYPMIFA) for endowment management. In accordance with NYPMIFA regulations, the Friends records all accumulated appreciation of endowment assets as net assets with donor restrictions until the funds are appropriated for spending. Depreciation of endowment assets reduces net assets with donor restrictions to the extent unrealized gains have been accumulated and then reduces net assets without donor restrictions. Under NYPMIFA guidelines, the Friends, with donor approval and Board approval, has the option to spend below the Historic Dollar Value (HDV) of the individual endowments; however, the Board of the Friends has historically followed a policy that it is prudent to maintain the HDV of all endowment funds to maintain purchasing power of the donor-restricted endowment funds. Under NYPMIFA, unless an endowment fund grant instrument specifically requires the Friends to maintain the purchasing power of such fund, the Friends are not charged with doing so.

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8. Endowment Funds (continued)

Historically, the Friends has followed a spending practice that only the interest and dividend earnings generated by the endowment funds will be available for spending. Accumulated appreciation on the funds will be reinvested in the fund. Should the market value of an individual endowment fund account fall below its HDV, unless the endowment grant specifically requires that the Friends must at all times maintain HDV, the Board believes that the Friends is not required to immediately replace any lost value below HDV. In the event that current value, as shown at the year-end annual reporting date does fall below HDV, it is the Board's current policy to not spend any funds, either from earnings or investment gains, until the HDV is reestablished. From time to time, the fair value of assets associated with individual donor-restricted endowment funds may fall below the level that the Friends are required to retain as a fund of perpetual duration. There were no deficiencies at December 31, 2024.

Following is a reconciliation of the endowment fund for the years ended December 31:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Balance at beginning of year (note 1)	\$ 4,697,629	\$ 4,275,180
Investment earnings	356,015	449,871
Endowment spending	<u>-</u>	<u>(27,422)</u>
Balance at end of year	<u>\$ 5,053,644</u>	<u>\$ 4,697,629</u>

The endowment fund balance is included in net assets on the consolidated statement of financial position at December 31 as follows:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Net assets with donor restrictions:		
Cumulative investment income less expenditures	\$ 2,969,977	\$ 2,613,962
Net assets restricted by endowment	<u>2,083,667</u>	<u>2,083,667</u>
	<u>\$ 5,053,644</u>	<u>\$ 4,697,629</u>

9. Retirement Plan

The Friends has a 401(k) defined contribution retirement plan for its employees. The Friends will match 25% of the employees' contributions, up to 6% of their gross salary. The employees become vested in the plan over a five-year period. The retirement expenses for the Friends in 2024 and 2023 were approximately \$10,200 and \$8,500, respectively, and is included in employee benefits on the consolidated statement of functional expenses.

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10. Related Parties

The Friends occupy space in the building that is owned and operated by the Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park (an Onondaga County Park). They are not charged rent for this space.

The Friends donated approximately \$478,800 and \$614,000 for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, respectively, to the Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park for improvements and assistance in the expansion of the Zoo. These expenditures are recorded in the consolidated statement of functional expenses based on the nature of the donation.

11. Commitments and Contingencies

The Friends is raising funds for a Garden Project which will enhance areas within the zoo. As of December 31, 2024, approximately \$313,900 has been raised and is included in cash and cash equivalents and net assets with donor restrictions on the accompanying consolidated statement of financial position.

The Friends from time to time is involved in various legal actions arising in the normal course of business. In the opinion of management, such matters will not have a material effect upon the consolidated financial position of the Friends, however there can be no assurances.

12. Subsequent Events

The Friends has evaluated subsequent events through April 30, 2025, which is the date the consolidated financial statements were available to be issued. There were no material subsequent events that required recognition or disclosure in these consolidated financial statements.