[MS-0436.002.014.018]

CITIZENS INTERRACIAL COMMITTEE OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY
520 "E" Street - Room 609
San Diego, California - 92101

January 29, 1965

Mr. E. Minton Fetter, M.D., President
San Diego Zoological Society
P.O. Box 551
San Diego, California

Dear Dr. Fetter:

As you know the Citizens Interracial Committee of San Diego County has as some of its major objectives that of:

1. Serving as a forum for open discussion on all subjects related to inter-faith, inter-ethnic, and interracial matters.
2. Promoting amicable relations among the ethnic and cultural groups within the community.
3. Interpreting social changes and providing more effective channels of communication between and among all groups within our community.

Further, Mayor Frank Curran in his letter of January 15, 1965, addressed jointly to the President, Zoological Society of San Diego and to the Chairman, San Diego Chapter, CORE officially requested that the Citizens Interracial Committee make known to both of you its concern in the matter under question and make available to both of you our services by convening a meeting between CORE and the Zoological Society of San Diego in the immedi-

ate future.

In keeping with the objectives outlined above and the Mayor's request of this agency, we reassert our position that:

1. CIC is concerned primarily with the handling of such issues in a manner most conducive to continued good community relations between and among all segments involved in community affairs.
2. CIC is not in the position to judge the validity or lack of validity of the allegations made or positions taken by either side; nor would CIC make such a judgment even if we were in possession of all the facts and figures. Such is not the proper role and function of this agency as related to this particular matter.

Rather, our role is to attempt to create an atmosphere in which CORE and the Zoo might in an objective and peaceful fashion settle such differences, that may exist, in a manner acceptable and satisfactory to you both.

And, here, allow us to again emphasize, failure to effect open communication between communities within our city will leave no alternative in working out differences which from time to time inevitable exist, except that of some form of physical demonstration with its many disruptive features to everyone.

Thus, in order to implement these objectives, we suggest the following program of action:

1. That representatives of CORE and the Zoo meet with CIC to determine and define the issues involved.
2. That this first meeting take place with only official representatives, so designated, from CORE and the Zoological Society, and the CIC.
3. That all meetings be attended by only these officially designated respectively for and by CORE, the Zoological Society and CIC.
4. That all meetings be unpublicized until an agreement with reference to the basic issues is at least reached; the time of this publicity, if any, and its content be agreed upon in advance by both CORE and the Zoological Society.
5. That all other ground rules of procedure and method of continuing these meetings be worked out in the initial meeting, and on an on-going basis as an outgrowth of each conference itself.
6. That willingness and agreement to initiate the program herein outlined with an acceptance of one of the dates listed below for the first meeting, be communicated to CIC in writing and expressing any concern not covered herein by the date of February 5, 1965.

Suggested dates for first meeting:

February 11	4:00 P.M.
February 16	4:00 P.M.
February 18	4:00 P.M.

Your immediate consideration is anticipated.

Sincerely yours,

David H. Thompson

David H. Thompson, President
CITIZENS INTERRACIAL COMMITTEE

DHT:gf

cc: CORE

cc: Kim Moore