

SeaWorld Entertainment, Inc.  
Form 8-K  
February 21, 2017

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)

of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): February 21, 2017

SeaWorld Entertainment, Inc.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware                      001-35883    27-1220297  
(State or Other Jurisdiction (Commission (IRS Employer  
of Incorporation)              File Number) Identification No.)

9205 South Park Center Loop, Suite 400  
Orlando, Florida                      32819  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(Zip Code)

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Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code: (407) 226-5011

Not Applicable

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On February 21, 2017, in connection with a potential debt refinancing transaction, SeaWorld Entertainment, Inc. (the “Company”) issued a press release announcing certain preliminary estimated unaudited financial information for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016. The full text of the press release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference in this Item 2.02.

The information in this Current Report on Form 8-K and Exhibit 99.1 is being furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 of Form 8-K and shall not be deemed to be “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing made by the Company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit No. Description

99.1 Press Release of SeaWorld Entertainment, Inc., dated February 21, 2017.

Forward-Looking Statements

This Current Report on Form 8-K contains statements that are “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which are subject to the “safe harbor” created by those sections. The Company generally uses the words such as “might,” “will,” “may,” “should,” “estimates,” “expects,” “continues,” “contemplates,” “anticipates,” “projects,” “plans,” “predicts,” “intends,” “believes,” “forecasts,” “future,” “guidance,” “targeted,” “further,” “appropriate,” “preliminary” and various such words or similar expressions in this Current Report on Form 8-K to identify forward-looking statements. In particular, the Company has provided ranges, rather than specific amounts, for its preliminary results primarily because its financial closing procedures for the year ended December 31, 2016 are not yet complete. These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results and plans to differ materially from the forward looking statements contained in this report, including among others: a decline in discretionary consumer spending or consumer confidence; various factors beyond management’s control adversely affecting Company performance, attendance and guest spending at the Company’s theme parks, including the potential spread of contagious diseases; any risks affecting the markets in which the Company operates, such as natural disasters, severe weather and travel-related disruptions or incidents; the loss of key personnel, including members of the Company’s senior management team; increased labor costs and employee health and welfare benefits; complex federal and state regulations governing the treatment of animals, which can change, and claims and lawsuits by activist groups; incidents or adverse publicity concerning the Company’s theme parks; any adverse judgments or settlements resulting from legal proceedings; cyber security risks and the failure to maintain the integrity of internal or guest data; inability to protect the Company’s intellectual property or the infringement on intellectual property rights of others; risks associated with the Company’s cost optimization program, capital allocation plans, share repurchases and financing transactions; and other risks, uncertainties and factors set forth in the section entitled “Risk Factors” in the Company’s most recently available Annual Report on Form 10-K, as such risks, uncertainties and factors may be updated in the Company’s periodic filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). Except as required by law, the Company undertakes no obligation to update or revise forward-looking statements to reflect new information or events or circumstances that occur after the date of this report or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events or otherwise. Readers are advised to review the Company’s filings with the SEC (which are available from the SEC’s EDGAR database at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) and via the Company’s website at [www.seaworldentertainment.com](http://www.seaworldentertainment.com)).



Signatures

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

SEAWORLD ENTERTAINMENT, INC.

Date: February 21, 2017 By: /s/ G. Anthony (Tony) Taylor  
Name: G. Anthony (Tony) Taylor  
Title: Chief Legal Officer, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary