



ANIMAL CARE SERVICES CITIZENS ADVISORY

MINUTES

June 28, 2005

ATTENDANCE

Members

Pat Wilcox
Debra Armstrong
Mary Bruck
Moe Ortiz
Molly Kenneth

Absent

Dr. Ken Pawlowski

Staff

Hector Cazares
Katherine Vos
Donna Wicky

Note: MSP is used in the minutes as an abbreviation to indicate Moved, Seconded and Passed. MSF is used in the minutes as an abbreviation to indicate Moved, Seconded and Failed.

I. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order at Café Bernardo – 2726 Capitol Avenue, Meeting Room, Sacramento, California, June 28, 2005, 6:40 p.m. by Chair, Pat Wilcox. Pat Wilcox announced that Renee Webster-Hawkins resigned from the committee due to new familial responsibilities.

II. APPROVE MINUTES OF 5/31/2005

Motion to approve the minutes of 5/31/05 was made by Mary Bruck, seconded by Debra Armstrong. Because they are new members and were not involved in prior discussions regarding the content of the minutes, Moe Ortiz and Molly Kenneth abstained. Ayes: Mary Bruck, Debra Armstrong, Pat Wilcox. Motion passed.

III. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Marge Carpenter and Julia Wilson, members of the public, were present. Marge Carpenter stated her disappointment that the cattery project was not approved, especially in view of the City's recent positive economic outlook. Shelter manager, Hector Cazares, stated that during the mid-year budget process he will renew the

request for additional funding and approval for the cattery project and for additional shelter positions not approved in this budget cycle. Hector also mentioned that he will request that the Shelter's cattery project be included in a City-wide capital improvement projects' bond measure that may be scheduled for hearing in August 2005. The Shelter's building improvement fund contains approximately \$700,000 which can be utilized for the cattery.

IV. DISCUSSION: REVIEW OUTSTANDING ISSUES CONCERNING SUBCOMMITTEE'S SUMMARY OF THE HSUS REPORT

On June 14, 2005, the subcommittee's response to the HSUS report was placed on City Council's agenda with the manger's response and request for closure to the HSUS report recommendations. A budget item to move funds to the Shelter's capital improvement fund for the cattery project was also included in the presentation. Although Council approved the budget item, the response to the HSUS report recommendations was pulled from the agenda and will be re-addressed by Councilmember Sheedy. A new hearing date for this item has not been scheduled at this time.

Debra Armstrong indicated that she wanted to allow members the opportunity to address City Council regarding their contributions to the HSUS report recommendations and the Shelter's response to the recommendations. Hector stated that he will inform the committee members of the new hearing date once it is determined.

Molly Kenneth requested a copy of the subcommittee's report regarding the Shelter's response to the HSUS report recommendations. Donna Wicky will distribute copies of the Council report to all Advisory Committee members. Additionally, Donna will revise the membership contact list and distribute to all committee members.

V. DISCUSSION: SHELTER STATISTICS FORMAT

Donna Wicky distributed copies of Shelter statistics that were compiled and reformatted to include charts and graphs. Discussion ensued regarding the new statistical format and information contained therein, i.e., criteria utilized for behavior stats, standardization of colors in charts and graphs. Donna will revise the color scheme as requested and resubmit the forms to committee members. Pat Wilcox and Mary Bruck suggested submitting these newly formatted reports to the committee on a quarterly basis. Overall, the committee members indicated they were pleased with the new format. The statistics for FY 2004-05 will be included in the August 2005 committee meeting.

Mary asked if the number of cats that enter the shelter healthy and then become sick within a short turnaround time could be specified. At this time, the animal database does not contain parameters for this criterion as it is not always discernible if an animal is harboring an illness upon intake.

Pat Wilcox, Mary Bruck and Molly Kenneth requested copies of our behavioral assessment protocols and adoption criteria. Kathy Vos responded that she will be developing these procedures and will distribute when they are completed. Kathy Vos indicated that the Shelter has used Val Masters for training staff in behavior assessment practices and evaluations. Currently, the behavior assessment tests are used to indicate which animals are not adoptable (for example, animals that display aggression). Kathy Vos will be formulating an adoption and behavior assessment process this upcoming year.

Mary Bruck asked if, currently, staff is provided with behavior assessment training for cats. Kathy Vos responded that although staff has not been trained in this area, she is reviewing criteria to determine use of the designation "feral" for cats. Moe Ortiz asked if she could be included in upcoming staff training; Kathy Vos stated she could not include her at this time.

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Division Manager's Report – Hector Cazares provided an informational report on current and future shelter projects.

1. Facilities/Equipment Update:

- a) The City Council approved moving the \$507,000 Hayden reimbursement money to our GA 12 Capital Project fund, which includes the new cattery project.
- b) Gates are being replaced (with lighter material).

2. It appears that we will exceed our projected licensing revenue by a whopping \$50,000!

3. Community Outreach Activities:

Please see attached report from Shannon Asquith, our Volunteer & Special Events Coordinator.

4. Volunteer hours report for May 2005: Total volunteer hours were 1,307; of that number, total foster hours were 696.

5. Our staff collected over \$4,200 in license and adoption revenue last Friday – a new record for one day.

6. The 3 new positions we requested in the budget were denied.

7. We hired a new Typist Clerk II named Rory Hartkemeyer.

8. Pit Bull legislation issue – Hector discussed the recent introduction of breed specific legislation by Jackie Spier.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hector presented information regarding the PetsMart Rescue Waggin' project. The selection criteria used by the organization appears to be very rigorous and may not provide as much benefit to our Shelter as presented in the initial project stages. The organization is looking for "adoptable" dogs, and the Shelter's preponderance of pit bull and pit bull mixes are not considered as "adoptable" as other breeds. Hector will monitor the project to determine the benefit to the Shelter.

VIII. SET FUTURE AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda for the next regular meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, July 26, 2005, was made by Pat Wilcox, seconded by Mary Bruck. MSP by unanimous vote.

Agenda items: 1) Discussion: Review Outstanding Issues Concerning Subcommittee's Summary of the HSUS Report; 2) Discussion: Animal Behavior Evaluation Protocols (Dogs and Cats) and 3) Information Items: (A.) Division Manager's Report

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Mary Bruck presented a motion to adjourn, seconded by Moe Ortiz. MSP by unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.