



ANIMAL CARE SERVICES CITIZENS ADVISORY

MINUTES

April 24, 2007

ATTENDANCE

Members

Pat Wilcox (excused absence)
Lety Sanchez, DVM
Moe Ortiz
Molly Kenneth
Ashle Crocker
Eugene Lukehart

Staff

Donna Wicky
Hector Cazares

Public

Rick Johnson, SPCA
Dia Goode
Jennifer Doll
Barbara Liberty
Rosalee Allison

*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.*

CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order at the New City Hall conference room – 915 "I" Street, Room CH 1217, Sacramento, California, at 6:05 p.m. by Molly Kenneth.

1. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF 3/27/07

Motion to approve the minutes of 3/27/07 made by Moe Ortiz, seconded by Eugene Lukehart. MSP by unanimous vote.

Staff Reports

2. Discuss and Agree with Donation to SSPCA for City's Spay/Neuter Outreach Effort

Hector reiterated that spay/neuter is very important and announced that Rick Johnson, director of Sacramento SPCA, is opening a "high volume" spay/neuter clinic. Grand opening is scheduled for May 5, 2007. Hector said that under new

ordinance the unaltered pet licensing fees are increasing – the shelter wants to use the funds to help provide spay/neuter for pets of low income families. Shelter will help SPCA by giving \$20,000 to the spay/neuter fund. In turn, SPCA will give the City shelter animals priority for spay and neuter. With the new SPCA arrangement the animals can go to SPCA during the shelter vet's absences and the shelter can reduce the reliance on hiring private veterinarians.

Rick explained that "high volume" spay and neuter clinic reflects the fact that the SPCA has become more efficient. The surgical unit has several surgery tables in a "suite," and the SPCA expects that 80 hours per week of veterinary work will be available at the clinic. This is an increase from 5,000 spay/neuters per year to approximately 10,000 per year. The ultimate goal is to spay/neuter as many animals as possible. The SPCA is excited that City is considering a partnership.

Following discussion, Hector Cazares requested that the committee consider donating \$20,000 to SPCA. He asked if the committee would agree with the donation. Molly Kenneth asked what happens down the road if the City can't continue to make donations – will the SPCA continue to assist City shelter with spays and neuters? Rick Johnson said the partnership is not dependent on continuing donations. In addition, Rick said the SPCA will account to the City for the donation money and will sell City licenses as part of this partnership. The committee members agreed to support the \$20,000 donation to the SSPCA. Dia Goode thanked Hector for his efforts.

Hector reported that the Animal Care Conference took place in Sacramento this week. The City shelter was commended by conference members that had visited the shelter earlier in the week.

3. Discuss Requirement for Filing "Conflict of Interest" Form

Donna reminded the Committee that all Committee members must complete and submit the conflict of interest form and turn in by April 30, 2007 to the City Clerk's office.

4. Review Committee Letter Supporting Additional Staffing and Increased Wages for Animal Care Services Personnel

Pat Wilcox drafted a letter for the Committee's review and comment. The Committee is directed to review the letter and send comments directly to Pat Wilcox. Pat Wilcox will revise and present final draft for committee review, and will copy committee members with all comments she receives.

A suggestion from a public attendee stated that the letter should address kennel staff; that she believed the draft letter doesn't address problems with kennel staff. Public member asked that the Committee research the issue and draft a letter that more directly deals with staffing.

Item continued to agenda next month as action item.

5. Update on Facilities and Shelter Events

Hector Cazares passed out an update on facilities and shelter events. Hector expressed his gratitude to Jennifer Doll for her work on helping to complete the cover over the play area.

Manager's Report:

- 1) Facilities/Equipment Update:
 - a) Benches and landscaping should be completed by springtime
 - b) Cattery: We're working on interior finishes including a diorama
 - c) We received an estimate of \$300,000 for the medical modulars
 - d) We purchased a tough shed for storage of volunteer "stuff"
- 2) The Board of Supervisors approved Animal Care & Regulation's spay/neuter ordinance on April 17th
- 3) Volunteer Hours Report for March 2007; a total of 3,509 hours. Go volunteers! Of the above hours 2,728 were hours volunteered by foster providers. Report attached.
- 4) Participated in Mayors MS walk with "Mutt Strut" last Sunday, April 22
- 5) On April 20th we participated in the Law Library "Yappy Hour" adoption event from 4-8pm. Lots of good exposure.
- 6) The two vacant positions on the Committee will be filled this week by the Mayor
- 7) New groomer "The Purr-fect Groomer" of W. Sacramento will be grooming our Pet of the Week every Monday; two a week
- 8) We will be meeting with SSPCA staff tomorrow to work out details for utilizing their high volume spay/neuter clinic
- 9) AB 1634, the statewide pet neutering bill cleared the Assembly Business & Professions Committee today.

Dia Goode, public attendee, asked for information regarding the following:

1. Update on the status of volunteer coordinator and chief AC position. Hector responded that interviews are completed, and the shelter will be selecting a new coordinator and new chief. The final decision, which will be made by the Dept. Director, Reina Schwartz, should be decided within the week.
2. Update on what the cages in cattery would be. Hector said that this issue had not yet been decided.

6. Training Update for Shelter Staff

Staff has been attending the CACDA conference this week. Approximately 7 animal control technicians, officers & other staff attended animal behavior training, cat marketing, enforcement & humane investigation training, etc. Veterinarian attended veterinary medicine & ethics classes. Donna reported that the training was very beneficial and the staff was very pleased to have attended the conference.

7. Public Comments – Matters Not on the Agenda

None

8. Committee Comments, Questions and Ideas

None

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.