



ANIMAL CARE SERVICES CITIZENS ADVISORY

MINUTES

April 29, 2008

ATTENDANCE

Members

Patricia Wilcox
Eugene Lukehart
Marge Carpenter
Molly Kenneth (6:10pm)
Bev Gonsalves
Lety Sanchez

Staff

Hector Cazares
Donna Wicky

Public

Mary Farris

Absent

Ashle Crocker (Excused)

*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 6:06 p.m. by chairperson, Pat Wilcox.

Committee members Ashle Crocker and Molly Kenneth were not present at roll call.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF 4/29/2008

Motion to approve the minutes of 4/29/08 was made by Marge Carpenter, seconded by Lety Sanchez. MSP by 6-0 vote.

STAFF REPORTS

2. Manager’s Report – Update on Facilities and Shelter Events

Hector Cazares passed out the manager’s report.

- Cattery is progressing very well. Next month, Hector will provide an update on the 2 new cat colonies that are being custom designed that will

optimally display cats. The two cat colony rooms are designed by a company that created various outdoor habitats at the City zoo, and will consist of a Rainforest Room and a Savanna Room, which will contain a "history of cats" educational component.

- Multipurpose room will contain special audio and video equipment that utilize modern technology, such as a ceiling drop-down screen, overhead projector and "smart-board" white board that allows notes to be printed directly from the board.
- The multipurpose room will be used for: dog training, employee training, public training, animal behavior assessment training, adoption counselor training and the ACS Citizens Advisory Committee meetings.
- Because of budget cuts, 3 Animal Care positions have been frozen: one Animal Care Technician, one Animal Control Officer and one Customer Service Specialist position.
- CSS Linda Courtemanche retired on April 11, 2008. This is one of the positions that has been "frozen" and will remain vacant for now.
- Dan Torres is temporarily replacing Ernie Molieri as Chief Animal Care Officer. Dan has scheduled several officer trainings over the next few months.
- Special thanks was extended to all those that helped during Dr. Warner's absence, including committee member, Lety Sanchez.
- Another \$2,000 was donated to the Regency Park Demolition Project to continue the support for the feral cats.
- The Sacramento Regional Area was a national finalist in the ASPCA "Mission Orange" project, but the selection of the three regional shelters chosen to participate in the program was made closer to the ASPCA headquarters based in the New York area.

Shelter Events:

- "Dogs on Parade" scheduled for Saturday, May 3, 2008 at Pioneer Park across from City Shelter.

Volunteer Hours:

- March volunteer hours consisted of 151 volunteers donating 3,776 hours of which 2,728 hours were donated by 51 volunteers for foster care for 88 animals.

3. Shelter Report – Shelter Statistics (Presented by Donna)

Donna Wicky passed out the City Shelter Statistical Comparison report

4. Committee Letter Regarding Budget Cuts

Since Animal Care Services had to freeze three positions, we as a committee wanted to make sure the Council & City manager's office understand that we are concerned that the budget cuts will affect the welfare of the animals in the long run and that is just not worth the risk. This is the wrong time of year to cut positions because of the cattery project and the kitten population explosion is in full swing. Motion was heard from Marge to allow Pat and Molly to forward a letter from the committee to the City Council to voice our concerns regarding the negative impact on personnel and managers, ultimately causing the animals to suffer. Motion was seconded by Bev. Motion passed 5-0.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS – MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None

6. COMMITTEE COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, AND IDEAS

Marge went to a conference offered by the Animal Rescue Foundation. An idea Marge has heard at various conferences she has attended, and that she strongly supports, is establishing an offsite adoption center as an extension of the Shelter, to allow the public who would not ordinarily visit the Shelter an opportunity to view & adopt Shelter animals.

9. SET FUTURE AGENDA

Agenda items: 1) Approval of Minutes; 2) Manager's Report; 3) Shelter Spay/Neuter; 4) Public Comments - Matters not on the Agenda; 5) Committee Comments, Questions and Ideas; 8) Set Future Agenda.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Lety made motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Marge. MSP by unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.