



ANIMAL SHELTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PRAIRIE PAWS ADOPTION CENTER - CONFERENCE ROOM, 2222 W.
WARRIOR TRAIL
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2021 AT 6:30 PM

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Lisa Turner called the meeting to order at 7:17pm with a quorum present.

1. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Tracy Owens moved to approve the minutes, Karen Tesmer seconded. **Motion passed.**

AGENDA ITEMS

2. PPAC Improvement Projects

Lily Yap discussed recent updates on capital improvement projects.

The external perimeter wall (that previously presented both aesthetic and safety issues) has been completely rebuilt. That project has concluded.

The central kennel renovation is near completion. Due to COVID impact on supply chain, certain parts were not available for shipment until this week. Expect those parts to be shipped and installed within the next few weeks.

Also discussed challenges with drainage project in our Quarantine areas. Initial estimate of cost at 75K, but official quote received recently was more than double that amount. Lisa Turner asked if it would be less expensive to demolish the entire area and redo it. Lily Yap explained that a huge element of any kennel renovation is ensuring it can be done in phases to minimize impact on operations, particularly in specific-use areas like this one. Full demolition would likely not allow for that.

Lily Yap provided update on Cattery Condo renovation project. A Grand Prairie couple is donating not only money, but their time and skill set to design, build and guide installation of this area. Waiting to hear back from contractor for specific timeline. Expect to have an unveiling event to recognize this new area in loving memory of the donors' cat, 5 O'Clock.

3. Operations Updates

Lily Yap discussed the most recent exotics case. Two exotic snakes were removed from the owner's home in North Grand Prairie. At this time the missing cobra has not been located.

Lily Yap discussed this kitten season's challenges with Panleuk, essentially the cat form of Parvo. Initially, the go-to response to ensure it did not spread was depopulation of the entire litter. Although many shelters handle Panleuk in this way, the number of lives lost, impact on

staff morale, and realization that this disease will continue to come in from our community led us to rethink our entire operations. Thanks to our contracted Veterinarian, Dr. Barger, we had a chance to design specific protocols for our shelter following a free onsite assessment from Dr. Roberts, a Panleuk operations expert at the University of Wisconsin. Since then, many kittens have 'graduated' from our ICU to find loving homes.

Lily Yap announced the hiring of our new Shelter Supervisor, Abigail Principe. She joins from SPCA of Texas. Her extensive experience with behavior and enrichment programs will support further structure in our operations, bringing us to new heights for special 'behavior' cases.

4. Program Updates

Destinee Wright discussed recent changes to the Programs Department, including new foster check-up schedule. The previous schedule was tedious and confusing. Simply designating dates and times based on last names as proved to be more efficient for both shelter staff and fosters.

Also highlighted recent Clear the Shelter event. Due to the pandemic, the event was spread across an entire week opposed to one single day as it was done in years prior to the pandemic. Vendors and donors were able to provide snacks to staff and volunteers. Our return rate (based on a 30 day window) was at an all time low! Very impressive.

Destinee Wright gave recognition to Eagle Scout Troop and Girl Scout Troop #6885 for our new donation bin and open little library that are both located outside of the shelter's front lobby.

5. Breeding Ordinance & Spay/Neuter Community Survey

Lily Yap proposed changes to the breeding ordinance. As with most new ordinances we found the need for improvement after the initial launch. We are looking to make changes to verbiage for violations and kennel club requirements. The ordinance currently states that a breeding permit can be revoked if the permit holder is *convicted* of two separate violations. That presents challenges due to the delay from the time citations are issued to the time they can be addressed in court. New verbiage will reference citation that have been issued allowing us to take immediate action to better serve citizens and animals. For kennel club requirements, we are looking to adjust the ordinance to specify AKC Kennel Club as the only acceptable kennel club.

Lisa Turner moved to vote on both proposed changes together. Both were unanimously approved by the board. Marsha Patykiewicz motioned to approve changes; Rayna Ross seconded. **Motion passed.**

Lily Yap discussed recent community survey regarding the value of creating a spay/neuter ordinance. There was a very positive response in terms of valuing spay/neuter with majority of the respondents in favor of spay/neuter requirement for repeat offenders. Although the survey received almost 400 responses from a wonderfully diverse range of our population, it still

comprises less than 2% of the population. Discussed possibility of conducting another survey. Anticipate having a prospective draft at next meeting.

6. Animal Services Quarterly Report

Lily Yap provided the Quarterly Report, explaining the calculation of live release and how that can lead to an excess of 100%. Emphasized that the statistic reflects the hard work of our staff and how they have pushed to expand life-saving efforts beyond what we've ever done before.

Additionally followed up with an inquiry from the last meeting regarding “other” animal intake outside of the fowl case. That number was 85.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Citizens may speak during Citizen Comments for up to five minutes on any item not on the agenda by completing and submitting a speaker card.

Marsha Patykiewicz asked if there was a fee associated with reclaiming an animal. Lily Yap responded that generally in the field the goal is to return the animal to the owner therefore a warning or citation is typically issued based a history, with a spirit of progressive enforcement. If an animal is impounded at the shelter then a reclaim fee is charged with discounts offered to those interested in sterilizing their pet.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

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Certification

In accordance with Chapter 551, Subchapter C of the Government Code, V.T.C.A, the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee agenda was prepared and posted Month XX, 2021.



Lily Yap, Animal Services Division Manager