



**ANIMAL SHELTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PRAIRIE PAWS ADOPTION CENTER - 2222 W. WARRIOR TRAIL
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023 AT 6:30 PM**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Don Smarto at 6:36pm with a quorum present.

AGENDA ITEMS

The full agenda has been posted on the city's website, www.gptx.org, for those who may want to view this agenda in more detail. Citizens may speak for five minutes on any item on the agenda by completing and submitting a speaker card.

1. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Don Smarto moved to approve the minutes, Rayna Ross seconded. Motion passed.

2. Animal Services Quarterly Report

Destinee Wright explains the GPAS quarterly report for both May and August. In our last quarter there were less TNR intakes due to GPAS having to shut down TNR intakes for a week to create space for the volume of community cats coming in to receive services. GPAS also has numerous events for the quarter to come, two of them being the 3rd annual Chipmas, which is open to everyone, and the Fill Their Stockings Campaign.

3. Calendar Fundraiser

Don Smarto shares the idea he has been working on with GPAS to create a cat calendar for 2024. While doing so, Don shares a slideshow of the 24 images that were selected to create the calendar.

4. Operations Update – Animal Medical Assistance Program & Birthday Bash

Destinee Wright shares the new Animal Medical Assistance Program (AMAP), thought of by the GPAS Communication Specialist Thelma Zepeda. Destinee informs the committee of ideas for Grand Prairie residents to request assistance for medical emergencies regarding their animals. AMAP will be a resource for all Grand Prairie residents and will not be income based.

In September, GPAS celebrated their 20th year with a Birthday Bash which was great success. The Events Team received public recognition from Chief Scesney for all of their hard work and dedication in putting together a wonderful community event.

5. Microchipping Ordinance Update & Legislative Review

Aleecia Yesh, the new Field Supervisor for GPAS, was introduced. Supervisor Yesh explained the new Microchip Ordinance that goes into effect December 10th of 2023. Due to microchips

being required for both dogs and cats in Grand Prairie, GPAS will be doing microchips for free during regular business hours as well as every Saturday of November from 8am to 12noon on site. Non-Grand Prairie residents are welcome to microchip their animals for a fee of \$10. Animal microchips must stay current. If an animal is picked up without a microchip, or if the chip is not current, there will be a fine. As GPAS moves forward with the Microchip Ordinance, the “stray hold” for all animals in the faculty will be three business days. GPAS will waive the first impound fees for stray animals. Marlena Vincent suggested a microchip information pamphlet to help educate citizens about the new ordinance as well as the benefits to microchipping an animal.

Supervisor Yesh also informed the committee of the Legislative Review regarding agricultural laws in Texas. At this moment Animal Service Officers are not able to enforce agriculture laws unless it is a health hazard.

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.

Londa, a member of the GP Cat Crew, had numerous questions about the TNR process. She wanted to know if GPAS gave any medical treatment to injured community cats, if the microchip information of a community cat could be shared with a caregiver and if so how we confirmed who the caregiver was. If there was a new process for intaking TNR cats and why the wait has been so long to be assisted at Incoming Pets.

Marlena Vincent, a committee member, asked what should she do about multiple kittens showing up in her neighborhood.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 7:39pm.



Lily Yap, Animal Services Division Manager