



**ANIMAL SHELTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PRAIRIE PAWS ADOPTION CENTER - 2222 W. WARRIOR TRAIL
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2022 AT 6:30 PM**

MINUTES

The meeting will be held at Prairie Paws Adoption Center, 2222 W. Warrior Trail, Grand Prairie, Texas.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Karen Tesmer at 6:41 p.m. with a quorum present.

1. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Madeline Monroe motioned to approve the minutes; Tracy Owen seconded. **Motion passed.**

AGENDA ITEMS

2. PPAC Improvement Projects

Lily Yap provided updates for central kennel renovation project. The project to upgrade our kennel doors and add kennel tops to our dog runs is complete, with the exception of a couple aesthetic tasks. Our next reconstruction project will be adding a drainage system to our quarantine area. Due to the rapidly rising costs of supplies and anticipation that this will only get worse with time, the original budget for the project will be supplemented by the donation fund.

3. Operations Updates

Abigail Principe discussed recent operation updates. TNR cats now have a 48-hour window to return to PPAC to address any medical issues directly related to sterilization. The shelter has a new directly contracted vet. The shelter will utilize this vet only when there are gaps in the regular schedule. Between the regularly used RSVP contract, direct contracting, and the contract with a low cost spay/neuter clinic, there are more contingency options for medical coverage than ever before. Previously, an absence from our regular veterinarian caused drastic halts in surgical operations, but these new options will provide more consistent support than ever before.

Abigail Principe also mentioned that we have a new Animal Services Officer starting at the end of this month. Our shelter team has put in place multiple enrichment programs. These programs not only help stimulate the dogs but also help staff gather more behavioral information to place them in the best homes.

4. Program Updates

Destinee Wright discussed recent program updates. Destinee was promoted to Operations Support Supervisor. The Program and Operations Support Departments have merged and are unofficially being called PrOps until department name is in place. Event season will begin at

the end of this month. Citizens should visit our website and/or follow the shelter on social media to stay up to date with our Waggin Wagon events.

Destinee also mentioned that pets over 40 pounds now have an adoption fee of \$40. Additionally, customers are now being given the option of a regular \$70 for young kittens/puppies or a reduced adoption fee if they opt to take the pet home without a visit. Since animals under 4 months are more susceptible to illness in a shelter environment, many additional safety precautions have to be taken to facilitate visits onsite. Getting to know their personalities at home promotes safer adoptions and allows staff to focus on tougher cases.

5. Habitual Offender Ordinance

Lily Yap reviewed prospective spay/neuter ordinance for repeat offenders. All board members in attendance unanimously voted to approve the ordinance with no additional notes to add. The ordinance will be reviewed at the next Public Safety Health and Environmental Committee. If approved, the ordinance will need to be approved by City Council to go into effect.

6. Animal Services Quarterly Report

Lily Yap discussed this quarters monthly numbers, explaining how Live Release rate is calculated and what can lead to a percentage in excess of 100. Advised that, although there is value in reviewing this trend over time, our organization places more emphasis on the individual cases and allow the number to follow.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Citizens may speak during Citizen Comments for up to five minutes on any item not on the agenda.

Jean Melton asked for process clarification on the 48 hours medical window for TNR cats. Destinee Wright stated cats that are having issues should contact the shelter if it is during Dispatch Hours, but contact her directly if it is closer to the weekend (Friday afternoon/Saturday morning).

Jean Melton inquired if we do adoptions for kittens under 8 weeks. Destinee stated the shelter has a Pre-K program in place and offer follow up vaccinations at the adopters discretion. We currently do not issue citations if the adopter chooses not to receive booster vaccines but still require sterilization.

Don Smarto asked if citations are accompanied by a fine. Lily Yap explained that citations typically result in a fine set by the court and can become warrants if not handled in a timely manner.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.



Lily Yap, Animal Services Division Manager

