

**Animal Shelter Advisory Committee & Animal Welfare Advisory Committee
Minutes
January 11, 2012**

1. A meeting of the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee combined with the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee was held at the Board Room of Animal Services and was called to order at 6:05 P.M.

Board Member A.S.A.C.	Present	Absent
Janice Nutt		X
Yoli Barbe	X	
Ira (Joe) Barbe	X	
Eddie Sandaval	X	
Rene Leon		X
Robert Melson	X	
Roger Freund		X
Patricia Gonzalez	X	
Ann Morgan-Lilly	X	
Dr. Bernie Page	X	
Betty Hoover	X	
Loretta Hyde	X	

Board Member A.W.A.C.	Present	Absent
Janice Nutt		X
Yoli Barbe	X	
Betty Hoover	X	
Loretta Hyde	X	
Roxanne Flores	X	
Linda Krasowski	X	
Yolanda Giner	X	
Charlie Hooten	X	
Steven Silver		X

Environmental Services Staff present: Eduardo de Castro, Larry Brunt, Ellen Smyth, Kurt Fenstermacher, Joe Minjarez, David Almonte and Trenda Rocha

Public present: Julianna Messner, Patricia Castro, Mary Bardouche, Virginia Hooten, Marcia Margherio, Ken Okada, Spring Okada, and John Conwell

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2. Approval of Animal Shelter Advisory Committee November 17th minutes

There was a short explanation of the two committees again by Ellen Smyth. The expected accomplishments and direction of flow.

Ms. Smyth mentioned that Betty Hoover needed to be added to the member list on the November minutes.

Motion made by Bob Melson and seconded by Dr. Bernie Page to accept the minutes with the corrections. Passed unanimously

Ayes: Yoli Barbe, Joe Barbe, Eddie Sandoval, Bob Melson, Patricia Gonzalez, Representative Ann Morgan-Lilly, Betty Hoover, and Loretta Hyde.

Nays: None

3. Approval of Combined ASAC & AWAC December 14th minutes

There were some corrections noted in the combined ASAC and AWAC December 14th minutes. Ms. Hoover corrected the spelling of some of the public names and Mr. Hooten corrected the motion on item 5 to read as: Motion made by Steven Silver and seconded by Janice Nutt to adopt the combining of AWAC and ASAC committees with no term limits and with 18 members.

Motion made by Betty Hoover and seconded by Loretta Hyde to accept the minutes with the corrections. Pass unanimously

Ayes: Yoli Barbe, Joe Barbe, Eddie Sandoval, Bob Melson, Patricia Gonzalez, Representative Ann Morgan-Lilly, Betty Hoover, Loretta Hyde, Roxanne Flores, Linda Krasowski, and Yolanda Giner.

Nays: None

4. Update on Revised Title 7 Ordinance to combine ASAC and AWAC

There was a short explanation of the involvement of the information presented in the revision of Title Seven on the combining of the two

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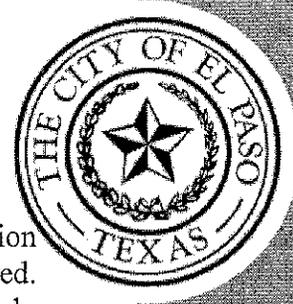
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committees and the term limits for the members. A lengthy discussion of the members on the why and why not of "term limits" followed. Ms. Smyth explained that if no term limits are applied then most likely the amendment would not pass in City Council. Ms. Smyth recommended a compromise, which would be that the members' term limit on the committee be tied directly to the City Representative that nominated them. Upon the City Representative leaving office the committee member will resign their position and notify the next incoming City Representative of their willingness to continue serving on the committee. The exception will be the State mandated members which are: a Veterinarian, a person whose duties include the daily operation of an animal shelter, a representative of an animal welfare organization and an elected official. Each City Representative will appoint two members and the Mayor will appoint the State mandated members; Veterinarian, Shelter representative and an elected official.

Motion made by Betty Hoover and seconded by Dr. Bernie Page to support the proposal for the 4 year term tied to your appointed City Representative's term and to resubmit to serve again or until another member is appointed. Also that each City Representative will appoint two members and the Mayor will appoint the State mandated members, which are a Veterinarian, Shelter representative and an elected official.

Ayes: Yoli Barbe, Joe Barbe, Eddie Sandoval, Bob Melson, Patricia Gonzalez, Representative Ann Morgan-Lilly, Betty Hoover, Loretta Hyde, Roxanne Flores, Linda Krasowski, and Yolanda Giner.

Nays: None

5. Discussion and action on breeders permits and litter permits

Roxanne Flores asked that the breeder permit be abolished due to the ineffectiveness of this permit to help drop the euthanasia rates at Animal Services. The committee members discussed at length the reasons they perceive that the numbers at Animal Services continue to be high. Dr. Bernie Page, Animal Services Veterinarian, reiterated that the first year of enforcing the breeder and litter permits will be high, but than will decrease as the years go by. Discussion continues with ways to solve this problem ranging from free spay and neutering to

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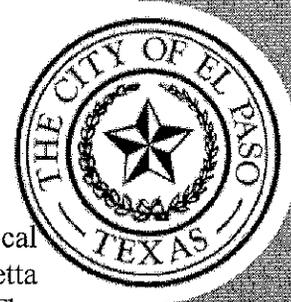
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extra education in the media and print and enforcement at our local dog Parks. The committee agrees. An alternative mentioned by Loretta Hyde is to forgive a litter permit if the mother is spayed. The committee agrees.

6. Discussion on foster program

There was discussion on what a good foster program should have and the various existing foster programs. Kurt Fenstermacher informed the committee that Animal Services is starting the ground work to build a Foster program. Loretta Hyde questions why Animal Services keeps Owner Surrendered animals for 24 hours and not immediately put them up for adoption? Mr. Brunt answered that it is to give the owner a chance to claim his or her animal.

7. Discussion on Animal services policies:

- a. Animal Services legal options to adopt out or release animals to rescue groups when an animal is turned in for euthanizing

Dr. Page explained that in the State of Texas animals are considered property. If a person turns an animal in, pays and signs that they wish their animal (property) to be euthanized then we follow the property owners request.

Action: Ms. Smyth will ask legal if Animal Services can refuse to euthanize a healthy pet when owner wants it to be euthanized.

- b. When a micro-chipped animal gets out for Animal Services to return the animal with no fee

It is requested that animals with a microchip that are found, by Animal Services officers, and have them try to take the animal back to the owner and not impound it. Larry Brunt, of Animal Services, explains that this is currently being done. The officers cannot return an animal to a number that is not the owner of the animal or not the person that originally put the number in the microchip data base.

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8. Call to Public

John Conwell asked the committee to look at Lost Pets of El Paso and other entities to see if the animal that Animal Services has picked up is on that website to help reunite the animal and owner.

Mary Bardouche would like for Cruelty response system to be added to next months agenda. She will do the research and present the information.

Ken Okada would like there to be a phrase on the form to say: give up for adoption; when surrendering an animal to Animals Services.

On Title Seven issues for next months agenda item, Loretta Hyde would like to have Good Samaritan.

9. Announcements

In closing remarks; Ellen Smyth reminds that the next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 8, 2012, at 6:00 pm at Animal Services in the meeting room.

10. Not having any additional needs of discussion the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Prepared by: Larry Brunt, Animal Services

Approved by: Charles Hooten
A.S.A.C. Chair

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