



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Dedicated to Outstanding Customer Service for a Better Community

SERVICE SOLUTIONS SUCCESS



**Animal Shelter Advisory Committee
Minutes
December 11, 2013**

Mayor
Oscar Leeser

City Council

District 1
Ann Morgan Lilly

District 2
Larry Romero

District 3
Emma Acosta

District 4
Carl L. Robinson

District 5
Dr. Michiel R. Noe

District 6
Eddie Holguin Jr.

District 7
Lily Limón

District 8
Cortney C. Niland

City Manager
Joyce A. Wilson

1. A meeting of the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee was held at the Conference Room at the Animal Services Shelter and was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Dr. Roger Freund, Chairperson.

Board Member A.S.A.C.	Present	Absent
Margaret J. Edman	X	
Dr. Roger Freund	X	
Patricia Gonzalez	X	
Betty Hoover	X	
Linda Krasowski	X	
Marcia Margherio	X	
Robert Melson	X	
Rep. Ann Morgan-Lilly	X	
Janice Nutt		X
Regina Wagner	X	

Environmental Services staff present: Kurt Fenstermacher, Luis Rios, Elda R. Heffner, Rose Janice, Sandra Pellegrini.

Public present: List of attendees available upon request.

2. Discussion and action on the approval of ASAC November 13, 2013 minutes

Committee members were asked if there were any questions or revisions, no corrections were requested.

Motion made by Robert Melson and seconded by Marcia Margherio to accept the October 9, 2013 minutes as is.

Ayes: Margaret J. Edman, Roger Freund, Patricia Gonzalez, Betty Hoover, Linda Krasowski, Marcia Margherio, Robert Melson, Ann Morgan-Lilly, Regina Wagner.

Nays: None.

3. Discussion and action on Sub-committees' reports:
 - a. Free Roaming Cats Chairperson Regina Wagner provided a brief report of Sun City Cats' activities, which included the creation of a public service announcement. Ms. Wagner advised that Sun City Cats volunteers have been working on developing flyers to educate the public on TNR and humane capture. A video produced by Sun City Cats was presented at the meeting. Committee members asked questions about the functionality and construction of shelters for free-roaming cats, as well as activities and procedures followed by Sun City Cats volunteers. Ms. Wagner requested more straw donations for use on relocation cages. Ms. Wagner requested ASAC endorsement in support of their activities to address the free-roaming cats issue in a humane manner.

Motion: No action taken.

- b. Public Education, Outreach, and Responsible Pet Ownership Chairperson Patricia Gonzalez advised that pamphlets were handed to the public at the Thanksgiving parade. The content provided information on Sun City Cats activities and TNR programs. Ms. Gonzalez advised that she had communicated with Rose Janice from Animal Service to find out information on educational activities for schools, and suggested that it would be a good idea to allow citizens ride-along with Animal Services officers. Rose Janice provided information on the current ride-along program, which requires the person to be a

volunteer with the City of El Paso. Kurt Fenstermacher advised that Daniel Marin is currently the Public Information Officer for Environmental Services. Dr. Roger Freund mentioned that it had been previously suggested to distribute and display city posters containing animal city ordinances at different locations. Regina Wagner suggested playing public service announcements at veterinarian offices waiting areas. Patricia Gonzalez recommended information on animal contagious diseases to be distributed among the public. Linda Krasowski mentioned that the committee had already proposed a sign to be placed near or by a busy area to reach a larger audience and create a greater impact; ideas about content and format were shared among committee members. Linda Krasowski requested a discussion item on the status of the sign proposal to be added to next month's agenda.

Later at this meeting, Ms. Krasowski inquired about last month's proposal to invite city council members to tour the facility and asked how it would be accomplished.

Motion: No action taken.

4. Sample survey was provided by Regina Wagner to committee members for review and expressed that she would like to gather ideas for content and format. Ms. Wagner advised that she is interested in finding the reasons why pet owners relinquish their pets as a way to become proactive rather than reactive to the problem. Committee members discussed the format and content of the survey form presented by Ms. Wagner. Roger Freund and Betty Hoover suggested that a pet hotline may be helpful, Marcia Margherio advised that the major issue encountered by pet owners is lack of resources. Ms. Wagner advised she is interested in identifying the main issues influencing pet owners' decision to surrender their pets in order to help those who may need it. Kurt Fenstermacher spoke of positive change

experienced with Fort Bliss and a decrease on the number of animals impounded from that jurisdiction. Marcia Margherio inquired if a disclaimer is provided to people who surrender their pets to Animal Services and if information about other animal rescue groups is provided to pet owners.

Motion: No action taken.

5. Discussion on Animal Services Statistics

Dr. Freund mentioned the positive change indicated on the report due to a decrease on euthanizations and an increase on live-releases. Marcia Margherio had questions about the numbers provided on stats by Animal Services in the past two months.

Motion: No action taken.

6. Call to Public

- a. Barbara Candelaria advised that ^{RF} ~~cultural~~ issues affect pet owners' willingness to spay or neuter their pets and provided ideas for content to be displayed on signs and billboards.

7. Not having any more items of discussion the meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Prepared by: Sandra Pellegrini, Animal Services

Approved by: 
A.S.A.C. Chairperson