

**Animal Shelter Advisory Committee**  
**March 13, 2013**  
**Minutes**

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 6:11 by Dr. Roger Freund, Chairperson.

Board Member A.S.A.C.	Present	Absent
Dr. Roger Freund	X	
Patricia Gonzalez	X	
Betty Hoover	X	
Linda Krasowski	X	
Rep. Ann Morgan-Lilly		X
Robert Melson	X	
Janice Nutt		X
Julie Rutledge	X	
Eddie Sandoval	X	
Regina Wagner		X

Environmental Services Department staff present: Kurt Fenstermacher, Dr. Nina Cloud, Sandra Pellegrini, Larry Brunt, Liz Duarte, Bernie Page.

Public Present: Marcia Margherio.

2. Discussion on approval of ASAC February 13, 2013 minutes.

Committee members were asked if there were any questions or revisions, no corrections were requested for February 13, 2013 minutes.

**Motion made by Dr. Roger Freund and seconded by Julie Rutledge to accept the February 13, 2013 minutes as is.**

**Ayes:** Roger Freund, Patricia Gonzalez, Betty Hoover, Linda Krasowski, Robert Melson, Julie Rutledge.

**Nays:** None.

3. Discussion and action on Sub-committees objectives and membership status

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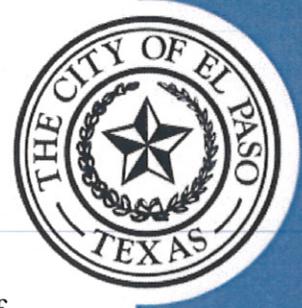
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Julie Rutledge requested to review membership and updates to be provided to ASAC. The reports provided should be focused on their objectives. Dr. Roger Freund requested a discussion on the objectives of the sub-committees to be added to the April 2013 agenda and to review past ASAC meeting minutes to update information.

**Motion: No action taken.**

4. Discussion and action on Sub-committees' reports:

- a. Free Roaming Cats Chairperson Regina Wagner was not present at this meeting, no report was provided at this meeting.

**Motion: No action taken.**

- b. Public Education and Outreach Chairperson Patricia Gonzalez did not provide a report at this meeting. Marcia Margherio questioned if sub-committees would be combined; Dr. Freund advised that the Public Education and Outreach, and Responsible Pet Ownership would be combined and requested a correction to be made on the membership report provided at this meeting to reflect this information. Marcia Margherio mentioned the request made for a spay and neutering public service announcement previously made and mentioned some of the benefits found on a survey on the benefits, adequate procedures, and proper format to launch outreach programs and announcements. Ms. Margherio mentioned the importance of pediatric spay and neuter programs and the need to keep the community informed. Julie Rutledge and Patricia Gonzalez advised of that some of the results on studies are contradicting. Dr. Freund advised that the objective of publisher should be taken into consideration.

**Motion: No action taken.**

- c. Pet Foster Program

Larry Brunt advised of that volunteer opportunities are open for this program through the City and that there is no current need for additional foster volunteers at the time

**Motion: No action taken.**

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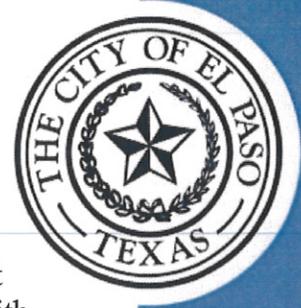
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- d. Inter-governmental Relations Chairperson Bob Melson reported that he made contact with Ft. Bliss and extended an invitation to meet with them but at the time of this meeting he had not received a response. Mr. Melson mentioned that he also tried to contact Socorro City Manager staff and is planning to contact other authorities as well.

**Motion: No action taken.**

- e. Responsible Pet Ownership – This subcommittee is part of the Public Education and Outreach Subcommittee.

**Motion: No action taken.**

- f. Housing, Sanitation and Handling of Animals Chairperson Linda Krasowski did not provide a report at this meeting, and advised that she had not had opportunity to schedule a follow-up walk in of the Animal Services Shelter facility. Committee members did agree that a follow-up inspection would be beneficial.

**Motion: No action taken.**

5. Discussion on findings of Adoption Stats Reports. Dr. Roger Freund discussed the reports sent last week to ASAC committee members. According to a study shown on the reports, the national average limit amount spend on spay and neuter services at a veterinarian's office is \$147.00. Betty Hoover asked if information on average cost in El Paso area was available. Dr. Freund responded that pricing is based on different factors and fluctuates from one veterinarian clinic to another. Dr. Freund mentioned that a low-cost spay and neuter clinic would be beneficial for the public and that education is important as a starting point. Dr. Freund mentioned that there is no need to wait on a low-cost spay and neuter clinic to be established. Linda Krasowski inquired on data availability for El Paso, Dr. Freund advised there is none and that studies as the ones presented on these reports are mostly conducted by universities, research labs, etc.

**Motion: No action taken.**

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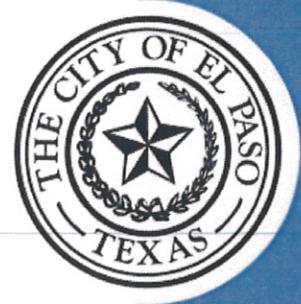
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6. Discussion on actions to be followed based on findings presented on Adoption Stats Reports

It was discussed that lower adoption numbers reflected the desire of the public to save money and that shelters help keep adoption numbers up since those wanting to adopt a shelter pet are able to save money. None or few returns of adopted animals were seen at shelters that offered free adoption services. Dr. Freund complimented local shelters for their effort to educate and re-unite animals with their owners.

**Motion: No action taken.**

7. Discussion and action on status of \$500,000.00 Spay and Neuter fund expenditure. Kurt Fenstermacher presented an itemized report of expenses to ASAC members and advised that the target number of animals to be spayed or neutered is 8,500 per year. Patricia Gonzalez suggested that advertisement should be considered to let the public know about this resource; Kurt Fenstermacher responded that advertising the clinic at the present time would be premature, but offered to keep ASAC informed of the progress through monthly status reports.

**Motion made by Linda Krasowski and seconded by Dr. Roger Freund to receive a monthly status report on the spay and neuter facility located at Socorro Rd. and to add this item to next month's agenda.**

**Ayes:** Roger Freund, Patricia Gonzalez, Betty Hoover, Linda Krasowski, Robert Melson, Julie Rutledge, Eddie Sandoval.

**Nays:** None.

8. Discussion on identifying which Animal Shelters fall under the purview of ASAC. Julie Rutledge requested to identify those shelters that are under the purview of ASAC, and questioned which shelters were foster-based. Marcia Margherio requested the shelter contact information list provided at this meeting to be revised and advised that new Hope Alliance is no longer in business, therefore, it should be removed from the list. Kurt Fenstermacher advised that rescue groups are responsible to provide accurate information at the time a permit application is submitted to Animal Services. Julie Rutledge offered to contact organizations listed in order to confirm their status as Animal Shelter, Rescue Partner, Animal

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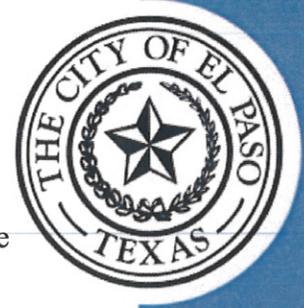
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Welfare Organization, etc. Patricia Gonzalez questioned if Shelters were aware of ASAC's capacity to overview and track their compliance with City and Ordinance.

**Motion: No action taken.**

9. Discussion and action on awareness of Title 7 requirements by local veterinarians. Julie Rutledge questioned the familiarity of local veterinarians with Title 7 requirements and mentioned that some members of the public have been advised of giving away dogs at a very young age. Ms. Rutledge questioned if any action can be taken by the City or ASAC to educate veterinarians. Linda Krasowski questioned if EPVMA should be in charge of education and compliance issues. Dr. Roger Freund advised that the responsibility to be updated with City and State requirements falls on individuals and not all veterinarians should be judged for the actions of a few individuals.

**Motion: No action taken.**

10. Discussion and action on Sub-committee Liaison Position. Patricia Gonzalez requested Dr. Cloud to be nominated to act as liaison; some committee members questioned the duties and responsibilities of the person filling this position. Kurt Fenstermacher advised that this action will help ease and improve communication, expedite requests, education, and other services between Animal Services and Shelters; and at the same time, it will help avoid duplication of services.

**Motion: No action taken.**

11. Discussion on Animal Services statistics

Animal Services and Humane Society stats were reviewed by Committee members. Betty Hoover questioned the low number of Animal Transfers reflected on the report and questioned if the numbers were due to Rescue groups pending permit applications.

**Motion: No action taken.**

12. Call to Public

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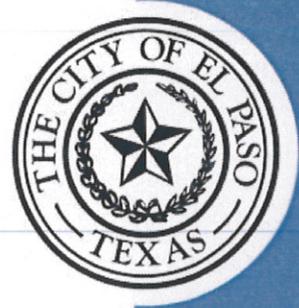
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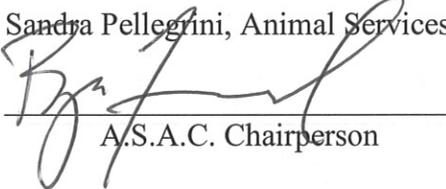


There were no items to discuss or requests made by members of the public.

**Motion: No action taken.**

13. Not having any more items of discussion the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Prepared by: Sandra Pellegrini, Animal Services

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

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**Environmental Services Department**

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