

Animal Shelter Advisory Committee

May 8, 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 6:06 p.m. 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: Dr. Nina Cloud, Liz Duarte, Larry Brunt, Sandra Pellegrini.

Public present: Marcia Margherio, Barbara Candelaria.

2. Discussion on the approval of ASAC March 13 2013 minutes. Committee members were asked if there were any question or revisions, no corrections were requested for March 13, 2013 minutes. Julie Rutledge requested her name to be removed from the list of members of the public present at the April 2013 meeting.

Motion made by Betty Hoover and seconded by Julie Rutledge to accept the March 13, 2013 minutes as is.

Ayes: Roger Freund, Patricia Gonzalez, Betty Hoover, Linda Krasowski, Robert Melson, Janice Nutt, Julie Rutledge, Regina Wagner.

Nays: None.

3. Discussion and action on Subcommittees objectives.

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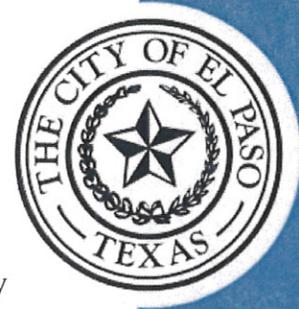
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The option of adding County representation on ASAC was discussed. Committee members advised that City Council needs to approve County representation at ASAC and since this request had been previously submitted, committee members agreed to wait for an update on the status of this request to be provided by Kurt Fenstermacher. Robert Melson advised he could visit with County authorities.

Motion: No action taken.

4. Discussion and action on Sub-committees' reports:
 - a. Free Roaming Cats chairperson Regina Wagner advised that relocation of cats continues and teams have been created in order to be able to provide a faster response to citizens' requests for help. An official tracking sheet for this program is in use and has been distributed to colony managers; a list of all colony managers is being compiled. Sun City cats has created a resources directory on their website and launched a Facebook page to share news and information with the community. Ms. Wagner expressed her gratitude to local veterinarians for their assistance with spay and neuter efforts, she advised 62 pets have gone through the TNR program and advised that cats that have been previously processed through the TNR program, or that have been adopted are not included on this number. Sun City Cats has successfully relocated more than 20 cats. Sun City Cats has been working on a plan to allow colony managers to fundraise in order to provide assistance to low-income individuals. Communication with local sanctuaries has improved and the group is seeking to reach out to other sanctuaries throughout the nation that specialize in care of animals with special needs. Ms. Wagner requested all animal welfare groups to continue to distribute Sun City Cats phone number and website address. Currently lobbying for Free-Roaming cats through the pro-animal legislation. Betty Hoover requested for Ms. Wagner to provide a copy of her report to all committee members prior to the day of the meeting in order to allow everyone to read it before the meeting.

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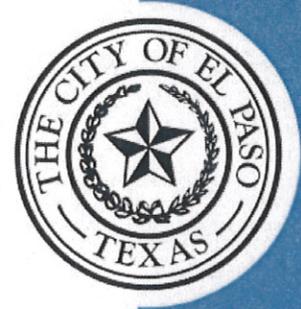
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Dr. Freund suggested reviewing Title VII to submit request for changes to current ordinance.

Motion: No action taken.

- b. Public Education and Outreach chairperson Patricia Gonzalez requested information on methods to enable her to get funds for advertisement and advised that she had previously touched basis regarding this issue with Kurt Fenstermacher. Dr. Freund advised that the sub-committee should seek individuals or organizations to sponsor them, recruit volunteers, organize fundraising events, etc. Barbara Candelaria questioned if the City could help to pay for advertisement on TV stations other than City Channel to reach out to a larger audience. Dr. Freund recommended making the public aware of real issues through the use of printed materials and outreach programs.

Motion: No action taken

- c. Pet Foster Program chairperson Janice Nutt requested insight on what responsibilities her job as a Foster Liaison entailed. Dr. Cloud provided information about the application process to become a volunteer with the City of El Paso, and advised that the process is the same for all applicants. Regina Wagner advised that the original idea was to create a network of foster volunteers to decrease the number of animals impounded at the shelter. Larry Brunt advised that the City's Pet Foster program continues to focus on zip code 79907. Bob Melson requested Environmental Services Department to launch more public education programs and increase advertisements. Dr. Roger Freund recognized the efforts made by Animal Services and Sun City Cats.

Motion: No action taken.

- d. Inter-governmental Relations chairperson did not provide a report at this meeting.

Motion: No action taken.

- e. Housing, Sanitation and Handling of Animals. Dr. Roger Freund announced that Linda Krasowski resigned from her position as

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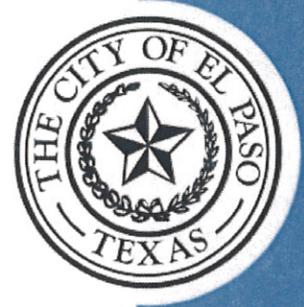
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chairperson. Linda Krasowski advised that she did not notice any serious violations at the shelter's kennel areas at the time she conducted facility inspections and that in her opinion, kennels seemed to be clean and well kept; Ms. Krasowski did not see the need for a sub-committee to oversee Shelter operations. Dr. Roger Freund advised that everyone should report to the Animal Services personnel any issues they notice in order for them to be addressed. Representative Lilly cited an example of an unconfirmed report made to City Council regarding dead animals and unsanitary conditions.

Motion made to request the dissolution of the Housing, Sanitation and Handling of Animals Subcommittee.

Ayes: Roger Freund, Patricia Gonzalez, Betty Hoover, Linda Krasowski, Ann Morgan Lilly, Robert Melson, Janice Nutt, Julie Rutledge, Regina Wagner.

Nays: None.

5. Discussion and action on Animal Services 5-Year Plan.
Dr. Cloud offered to email the PowerPoint presentation to ASAC members, and advised that the outside kennel areas will undergo renovations to level the floors in order to allow proper drainage. Dr. Cloud talked about plans to expand facilities and operations, purchasing of new equipment for surgery suite, renovations to the lobby area, purchase of new cages and new trucks. Dr. Cloud advised that field operations personnel had been relocated to a new location at Hondo Pass and that they were now under Code Compliance. Dr. Cloud provided shelter extended hours: 9 am to 7 pm Monday thru Friday, 9 am to 5 pm Saturdays and 12 pm to 5 pm on Sundays. Other items in the five-year plan included increasing the number of rescue partners and volunteers, presentations at local school, working on more rescue partners, grant applications, and opening a low cost spay and neuter clinic, new policies and procedures being implemented to improve the Shelter's performance, and the implementation of an emergency evacuation plan.

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Motion: No action taken.

6. Discussion and action on contact with shelters regarding their requirements under Chapter 823 of the Texas Health and Safety Code. Julie Rutledge called foster-based shelters to inquire about their knowledge and compliance with State and Local requirements and found that some were not aware they needed a state inspection. Ms. Rutledge spoke to Dr. Waldrup about rescues that may not have their own facility but if they can utilize a boarding facility, to keep the animals. Dr. Freund mentioned that this would be an acceptable practice if both parties are in agreement and space is available. Discussion regarding inspection requirements for boarding and kenneling facilities was shared among committee members. It was concluded that groups should be educated on State and Local requirements.

Motion: No action taken.

7. Discussion on status report of Socorro Rd. facility
Larry Brunt advised the status of this building, which will function as a satellite low-cost spay and neuter clinic. Clinic infrastructure is in progress, utilities are in working condition and it will take between 60 and 120 days for the facility to be ready to be opened. Larry Brunt advised that prices are projected to be in \$70.00 range and will include all vaccines, registration, surgery, microchip, and other testing.

Motion: No action taken.

8. Discussion on Animal Services statistics. Betty Hoover spoke about the reports provided showing the number of adoptions and transfer of animals to rescue groups. Committee members inquired the status of rescue partner permit applications and compared euthanasia numbers on year to date

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report. An update on the status of registrations entered into the system was provided.

Motion: No action taken.

9. Call to Public

Dr. Nina Cloud advised this would be the last ASAC meeting she would attend since her employment with the City would end on June 1, 2013.

Motion: No action taken.

10. No having any more items of discussion the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 pm.

Prepared by: Sandra Pellegrini, Animal Services

Approved by:


A.S.A.C. Chairperson

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