



**Mayor**  
Oscar Leoser

**City Council**

*District 1*  
Peter Svarzbein

*District 2*  
Larry Romero

*District 3*  
Emma Acosta

*District 4*  
Carl L. Robinson

*District 5*  
Dr. Michiel R. Noe

*District 6*  
Claudia Ordaz

*District 7*  
Lily Limón

*District 8*  
Cortney C. Niland

**City Manager**  
Tommy Gonzalez

**Animal Shelter Advisory Committee**

**Minutes**  
**July 8, 2015**

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

Board Member A.S.A.C.	Present	Absent
Peggy Edman	X	
Dr. Guy Johnsen	X	
Patricia Gonzalez	X	
Betty Hoover	X	
Linda Krasowski	X	
Marcia Margherio	X	
Robert Melson	X	
Rep. Ann Morgan-Lilly		X
Regina Wagner	X	
Barbara Candelaria	X	

Environmental Services staff present: Ellen Smyth, Maribel Karisch

Public present: List of attendees available upon request.

2. Discussion and action on the approval of the ASAC June 10, 2015 minutes.

Committee members were asked if there were any questions or revisions.

**Motion made by Betty Hoover and seconded by Peggy Edman to accept the June 10, 2015 minutes.**

**Ayes: Robert Melson, Linda Krasowski, Barabara Candelaria, Marcia Margherio, Peggy Edman, Betty Hoover, Regina Wagner, Patricia Gonzalez, Dr. Guy Johnsen**

**Nays: None**

Ellen A. Smyth – Director  
7968 San Paulo Dr. | El Paso, Texas 79907 | (915) 212-6000  
www.elpasotexas.gov

*“Delivering Outstanding Services”*

**3. Call to Public**

**a. Member of the public**

None

**Motion: No action taken**

**4. Reports of officers, boards, and standing committees**

**a. ASAC PowerPoint Presentation-Three Year Plan**

The Presentation was tabled. Motion passed.

**Motion: Motion was made by Betty Hoover and seconded by Dr. Guy Johnsen; since no one from the city's managers office could attend the presentation was tabled until next month's meeting so that the appropriate individuals can be here.**

**Ayes: Regina Wagner, Betty Hoover, Linda Krasowski, Robert Melson, Dr. Guy Johnsen, Peggy Edman, Marcia Margherio, Barbara Candelaria, Patricia Gonzalez**

**Nays: None**

**5. Reports of Special (select and ad hoc) committees**

**a. Free Roaming Cats**

Regina Wagner mentioned that cats' lives continue to be saved due to communication lines between Sun City Cats, Animal Services and Animal Services Code Compliance. Sun City Cats are in the process of finalizing a *Best Practices-Community Cat Colony Care* brochure. They are recommending having the brochures distributed by the Animal Services Code Compliance Officers during nuisance calls. The brochures will also be available to the public at the Animal Shelter, veterinary clinics, animal rescues, libraries, businesses and on the Sun City Cats website-suncitycats.org. Sun City Cats is also offering guidance to the Animal Services counselor Meryem Martinez with cat related issues. Regina Wagner added that in their website, under *resources*, is a list of organizations and links to different sites that provide solutions to cat issues. She expressed that there are still many friendly cats that are abandoned and living amongst

the feral cat population. These abandoned cats are friendly, declawed and not street smart. The public needs to stop abandoning their cats and become responsible pet owners she added. Sun City Cats is excited that a National Organization from Washington D.C. of their importance is considering coming to El Paso to promote TNR. Alley Cats Allies promotes policies for cats in communities all over America. In the event that Alley Cats Allies accepts the invitation, they would like to give a brief presentation to City Council, Ellen Smyth, Dr. Christensen, Elda Rodriguez and anyone else that is available. If Alley Cats Allies comes to El Paso, it will either be in August or September and this will be a huge milestone.

**Motion: No Action Taken**

**b. Public Education, Outreach and Responsible Ownership**

Barbara Candelaria mentioned that the Pet Safety Posters were a success. Betty Hoover expressed that for two days before and on 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Channel 7 reported on pet safety TIPS during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday.

**Motion: No Action Taken**

**6. Unfinished business and general orders**

**a. Lower Valley Spay/Neuter Clinic**

Ellen explained that the Grand Opening for the Spay/Neuter Clinic will be on August 15, 2015. There will be balloons, punch and cookies. The clinic will be offering low cost vaccinations, license and microchip in lieu of surgeries. It will be for the first 250 animals. Ellen added that Animal Services is still in the works on hiring a vet.

**Motion: No Action Taken**

**b. Animal Services Monthly Operations Report**

Ellen Smyth explained that Dr. Christensen's report was attached and whether the committee had any questions. No questions.

**Motion: No Action Taken**

**c. Animal Services Statistics**

Ellen Smyth mentioned that IT had hired a project manager and has been looking into *Freeware* that Robert Melson had suggested plus other vendors. He has visited the shelter and talked to staff. He will be determining on what type of shelter software is needed to provide the appropriate reports as requested from ASAC. Ellen explained that statistics are reported for TNR every month to PetSmart and Animal Services reports the number of animal returned to owners, transfers (adoptions, rescue partner and fosters) and euthanasia to the city manager's office. The City Manager has approved five new positions for the shelter adoptions and TNR program for Fiscal Year 2016. Dr. Guy Johnsen inquired about whether there is any concern in the City Mangers Office about the number of euthanasia. He expressed that if they are not concerned, then what kind of chance does ASAC has in their presentations in getting the message across. What is it that they need to hear to solve the problems and if the problem is being communicated to the city manager, he added.

**Motion: No action taken**

**7. Adjournment**

Motion was made by Dr. Guy Johnsen and Seconded by Betty Hoover to adjourn at 7:00 p.m.

Prepared by: Maribel Karisch

Approved by A.S.A.C. Chairman

