

STANISLAUS ANIMAL SERVICES AGENCY

"SERVING YOUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER"

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ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES October 2, 2014

Regular Session

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Dominic Farinha

Roll Call:

Dave Cerutti, Modesto
Lyndi Love-Haning, Ceres

Dominic Farinha, Patterson
Edna Kincaid-Ramer, Waterford

Absent:

Sue Henderson, Stanislaus County

Unfilled Positions:

Representative from Hughson
Representative from the Veterinary Community

Staff in attendance:

Annette Patton, Executive Director Linda Ford, Confidential Asst.

Meeting Minutes

1. a. Public Comment – Tamra Helton, spoke about TNR, in Fox Grove where they started with 150 feral cats to be trapped, neutered and released. Tamra recently adopted out seven cats through the Feral Freedom program.
- b. Karen Mosser said National Feral Cat Day is October 16th and provided an invitation to The Kitty Tea Party. The tea party will be held on Saturday, October 18, 2014 from 2 to 4 pm at the Harvest Presbyterian Church located at 1813 Moffett in Ceres. Karen works with SASA's TNR program and said there have been comments that there are no kittens. Karen said if the shelter still has kittens they might think about allowing rescues to pick them up to get them adopted out. Karen's goal is a no kill shelter and said the TNR program is a true success. She would like to see some of the points from the Redemption program put to use.



Karen asked for a member of the Animal Advisory Committee to ride with them, as a field trip, so they can see where the issues are in our communities. Dominic reminded those in attendance that it may be possible for one member at a time to go on a field trip with the TNR group, and suggested anyone interested contact Karen directly.

c. Monica Barker introduced herself and said she is now with the Cat Network of Stanislaus, a newly formed TNR program. They hold a low cost spay/neuter clinic each Wednesday with SAVED and have provided 597 cats with spay/neuter surgeries this year. Visit their website at www.catnetworkofstanislaus.org.

2. Approved the Minutes of the August 7, 2014 Animal Services Advisory Committee Meeting. (Farinha/Cerutti - 4/0)
3. Acknowledged and welcomed two new members. Lyndi-Love Haning representing the City of Ceres and Edna Kincaid-Ramer representing the City of Waterford.
4. Staff presented information on SASA's first Adopt-A-Thon, the advertisement comes out next week. The event will be Saturday October 11, 2014 with adoptions from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Most festivities begin at 10:00 a.m. Included in the day will be Beer Belly BBQ with all their proceeds donated to Animal Services, ASCOT the Mascot, photo booth and K-9 demonstrations from Modesto and Ceres Police Departments. Adoptions will be \$25 off of any animal presenting the colors orange or brown.
5.
 - a. Staff Presented information on recent events at Animal Services which included the horses that were impounded and ultimately returned to their owner with all costs and fees recuperated.
 - b. The committee was asked if there was interest in changing the meetings from 12:30 p.m. to evening meetings. If so, it will take a change to the By-Laws.
 - c. The committee still needs a representative from the veterinary community and the City of Hughson.
 - d. SASA recently met with the Humane Society in regard to our TNR program. The TNR program has been going strong for over a year. With the extended warmer weather; cats started breeding sooner and have continued later this year.

- e. We had a number of programs over the past couple of months. In July, Paws for Patriots, this program provided seven additional adoptions. In August, Dog Days of Summer which gave us a 68% increase in adoptions over last year. In September, 9 Lives for \$9 where the last day of the program netted 21 adoptions for an overall increase of 83% in cat adoptions over last year.
- f. In regard to the available space next door, at 3643 Cornucopia Way, the RFP posted on August 11th with the mandatory meeting held on August 19th. Anyone interested must have attended the mandatory meeting, and four separate entities attended. The RFP deadline was September 19th. A panel will review the submission next week. The space must be used for an animal related business and rent is \$1500 a month.
- g. Our manager, Francine Gutierrez took a promotion and has moved to the Office of Emergency Services.
- h. Our Annual Report will be officially released at our next JPA Board Meeting on November 20th if you are interested in anything included in the report.
- i. Eagle Scouts often come to work projects. These projects are welcome and provide a great finished product. Each one has been asked to do cement work along the fence in the outside play areas and have been very successful SASA will continue to work with Eagle Scouts and their projects.
- j. The Stanislaus County Chief Executive Officer spent a day with Animal Services recently. Stan Risen took a detailed tour of the facility, seeing all the work behind the scenes and had a four hour ride along with one of our field officers.
- k. A recent meeting and cat walk in a Mobile Home Park in Waterford helped educate the public regarding the TNR program.
- l. Dog Dining in California becomes legal in January. This law will allow owners to bring their dogs to eat with them at any restaurant with patio dining. SASA will be working with an ad agency to see if we can promote the concept.
- m. SASA's TNR program has released over 3,000 cats. It takes two to three years to see big results, we are looking forward to lower cat intake, and we have already lowered euthanasia rates. If cats are returned to SASA after being released, they are not accepted, we advise it is a community cat. If there are issues on a particular property, we offer alternatives. For example CatStop, a sonar message that keeps cats off of a property. CatStop is motion activated. SASA has been getting noticed for our TNR program. We have recently been invited to the Leadership Summit in Nevada (later this month) to share information on our TNR program.

n. There will be no promotions in November. December we move into the 12 Strays of Christmas with KAT Country Radio.

o. Marketing our programs has been working. Anyone with ideas for a January program, please feel free to share. SASA is willing to do a story in Stanislaus News magazine.

6. Future Agenda items: Action items –
Amend the By-Laws to change meeting times and
add an At-Large member in place of a representative from Hughson.
7. Meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Next meeting will be held Thursday, November 6, 2014 at 6 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Stanislaus Animal Services Agency.

Note: Those unable to attend, please call Linda Ford @ 209-342-1742