

ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
January 7, 2016

Regular Session

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

Roll Call:

Dominic Farinha, Patterson
Kavishti Kokaram, DVM

Heather Goodnight, Waterford
Nina Ellison, Stanislaus County

Absent:

Hans C. Picinich, Hughson

Unfilled Positions:

Representative from City of Modesto
Representative from City of Ceres

Staff in attendance:

Annette Patton, Executive Director
Jewel Warr, Chief Executive Office

Linda Ford, Confidential Asst.

Dignitaries and Guests:

Jim DeMartini, Stanislaus County Supervisor

Meeting Minutes

1. Public Comment –

Karen Mosser requested an update on the status of the Trap/Neuter/Release program, an update on pending/upcoming grant funding, and volunteered to transport animals that will be spayed or neutered utilizing the Ceres Walmart grant money.

Dr. Kokaram asked about disease and TNR cats. Annette requested the item to be placed on an agenda.

Dominic Farinha read a letter from Augusta Farley in support of the U.C. Davis visit and the ideas shared. Augusta recently formed Westside Pet Awareness Partners who will be holding a Pet Awareness Expo in Patterson in April.

2. Approved the Minutes of November 5, 2015 - (Farinha/Goodnight - 4/0)

3. Elections for 2016 Chair and Vice Chair - Heather Goodnight accepted a nomination from Dr. Kokaram as Chair. (Kokaram/Farinha - 4/0)

Dr. Kokaram accepted a nomination from Heather Goodnight's as Vice Chair. (Goodnight/Farinha - 4/0)

4. Staff Presentation –SASA held an on-site meeting with Dr. Hurley, the shelter medicine veterinarian from U C Davis, with six of her veterinary staff on December 3rd. Dr. Hurley was asked to share cutting edge programs to reduce the population of Pit Bulls and Chihuahuas, our largest intake animals.

There are a number of grant opportunities to be used for spay/neuter programs, and SASA is applying for many. SASA also submitted three applications to SBT for IT solutions to streamline shelter, web and canvassing processes.

Cat City is up and running. Contentment Magazine has done an article which is coming out soon. We will do a press release to introduce Cat City to the Modesto Bee.

We are rotating our Adoption Center animals sooner. Rescue has been advised they may come and take animals as early as two weeks out at no cost. Our goal, keep highly adoptable animals in the forefront and increase the number of live animals leaving faster. This is a recommendation from U.C. Davis.

Our website and our main hallway will soon market "Coming Soon" or "Coming Tomorrow" in our adoption center.

SASA will be adding better signage for The Adoption Center.

Cats will be moved through the TNR surgery process quicker, keeping the cats healthier. TNR cats are being evaluated to expedite the length of stay at the shelter.

In the cat adoption area, Dr. Hurley suggested scratchers, beds and or blankets. All items will go with the cat when adopted. Dr. Hurley provided a website for ordering.

Dogs are being photographed at the time of evaluation.

Pit Bulls and Chihuahua conversations included reverse sweeps, or adopting back to the same neighborhood, after vaccinated and spayed or neutered. More discussions forthcoming.

Dog evaluations – Dogs are given a couple of chances to pass, with different dates and different staff. If they don't pass they are offered to rescue as long as

there is no aggressive behavior documented. Temperament Testing is documented.

Laurie Daily-Johnston spoke on item number 4. Laurie would like to be assured the reduced (two week) time frame will not increase euthanasia numbers. Annette said SASA will support what is best for shelter, animals and staff. All statistics are continuously monitored. 99% of the animals going into the Adoption Center leave SASA alive.

Laurie suggests that one e-mail be sent to all rescues with different topics of discussion such as hold times, owner surrender, rescue protocol and Evaluation information. SASA will look at removing dates from the kennel cards, as it may be misleading to the public and rescue.

5. Appoint Members to Education Sub Committee – Annette gave a brief overview of the requirement as stated in the By-Laws. The goal is to educate the community. The sub-committee can come up with the material and plan then present for approval. Heather Goodnight and Dr. Kokoram will lead the Sub-Committee.
6. Future Agenda Items – Heather will e-mail her Agenda items.
7. Meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, February 4, 2016 at 6 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Stanislaus Animal Services Agency.

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