

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SAN MARCOS

ANIMAL SHELTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Activity Center (Multi-Purpose Room)

501 E. Hopkins San Marcos TX 78666

January 9, 2019

Present:

Committee

Jeff Jorgensen, DVM

Kara Montiel

Deborah Jackson

Sgt. Bill Kuykendall

Briana Brecher

Steven Heath

Gail Sharp

Absent:

Patricia C. Shaffer

I&I call to Order and Attendance

With a quorum present, Jeff Jorgensen calls the Regular Meeting of the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee to order at 6:00 p.m.

III Citizen Comment

Kelly Arthur 1101 Franklin Drive San Marcos TX said she was one of the admins for the lost and found Facebook group and Next-Door. They have reunited 25 animals to their owners and our goal is to keep them out of the streets or Animal Shelter. They also share adoptable animals with social media. Have some concern about the Animal Shelter's adoption process and the time it takes to get the info to rescue groups. She also suggests they meet on a regular basis with shelter staff.

Chris DeBremaecker 1790 Pedernales Rd Johnson City, TX said there is a need for Vet Retention services. There are many grants and other assistance programs available through the Human Society and APA.

They can provide help to those who cannot afford basic services. This will be a safety net and will keep pets out of the Shelter.

Kelli Keenan 16203 Oxbow Tr. Buda, TX said she works with many rescue groups and out of state transfers. There is a big demand for Texas dogs in other states. Many people are looking for sad stories or animals with issues. She recommended that the shelter look into these possibilities.

Calene Summers 10308 Wagon Rd Austin, TX said Community Trap Neuter Return is the only effective way to control the community cat population. The areas that do TNR report lower intake rates.

Jennifer Hayes 600 Maybrow Dr. Buda, TX said we need to use social media even more because it's free and it reaches a lot of people. She also suggested we could do more adoption events in other areas of Hays County. She also suggested the Shelter could creatively promote "fun/happy" events at the shelter to bring in the public who are reluctant to come because they think shelters are 'sad' places.

Amanda Hargrave 119 Lake Glen San Marcos, TX said she fosters mostly for Lockhart and Seguin. She detailed a typical foster experience and explained how it helps the shelters and rescues. She encouraged the shelter to work more with rescue groups and implement a foster program.

Gabrielle Moore 1513 Marlton San Marcos, TX said suggested we could focus on our adoptions since only 20% of national adoptions come from local shelters. We also need longer hours, more off-site events and countywide publicity. Also, need an adoption counselor on site especially during peak hours. She is sure the No Kill equation will increase adoption rates. She also said she is a realtor and people moving into Hays county do not want to volunteer at a killing shelter.

Kate Shaw 1313 W San Antonio San Marcos, TX said that she was excited about the new program coordinator coming on board. She was encouraging the Implementation Committee to be the 'voice of the animals' as we move to reach the goal of 90% live outcome. She also offered to sponsor 3 board members to attend the upcoming APA conference in February.

Lizbeth Dobbins 2705 Leslie Lane San Marcos, TX said that there is no one single solution to achieve our goal, but rather it would be "a patchwork" of many different ideas and solutions. She says that she, along with others in the rescue business, are here to support in any way that they can.

IV. Consider of Approval of Minutes for January 9, 2019

Motion: Motion made by Steven Heath and seconded by Briana Brecher, the committee voted (8) to (0) in favor of the minutes.

V. Receive an update regarding the status of Animal Ordinance revision

Kara Montiel stated that the ordinances will most likely need further revisions due to the Implementation Plan.

VI. Receive an update regarding the FY19 Budget/Shelter Contracts

Kara Montiel stated that each of the three partners (Kyle, Buda and Hays County) have renewed their contracts at an increased rate. Details in a pamphlet format were given to each board member.

VII. Receive an update regarding shelter contract

Kara Montiel stated that this was just a duplicate of VI.

VIII. Receive an update DSHS Region 7 Zoonosis Control Annual Reports

Kara Montiel went over the DSHS Region 7 Zoonosis report and each board member was given a copy of the handout. Steven Heath went over specific rabies details for our shelter intake area.

IX. Discuss the Board Commissions City Code Changes-By Law Adoption

Kara Montiel handed out a draft of the ordinances and bylaws. There was a discussion led by Sgt. Bill Kuykendall to encourage each board member to review this before the next advisory meeting.

X. Discuss the Implementation Plan to reach 90% live outcome rate

Derry Ann explained that the city council has challenged us to come up with a five-year plan to reach a 90% live outcome at the SMRAS. A committee is being formed with various representatives from the community. The first milestone is to have a plan to present to the city council by June 2019.

XI. Discuss and consider the date and time of the next regular meeting

Wednesday at 6:00 pm on March 27, 2019, at the Activity Center Multi-Purpose Room

XII. Discuss and consider items to be discussed at the next meeting

1. Steven Heath wants to address some of the issues and concerns raised during the public comments
2. Follow up on the new by-laws; either approve or recommend changes
3. Board members who will serve on the new Implementation Committee may be able to give a report on the group's progress
4. Briana Brecher would like to share a study on the impact of cats on wildlife; she may bring a guest speaker
5. Follow up on a memorial for Mark Brinkley

XIII. Question and answer from the press and public. Each individual will be limited to 3 minutes max, limited to 10 speakers. Questions/Comments shall pertain to items on Agenda.

Anne Zabolio 1900 Fitzhugh Dripping Springs said she wanted to know if she is so far away, is there a way she could send a list of people she approves cats to pull from the Animal Shelter.

Jennifer Neil 114 Old Settlers San Marcos, TX asked for an update to revitalize the foster program.

Sheri Boyett 2631 Oak Haven San Marcos, TX would like to know about the implementation plan and what's being done. She says that lower cost spay/neuter programs are key to success. She would also like to see more emphasis on education in the community. She further says that the shelter web site could be much clearer.

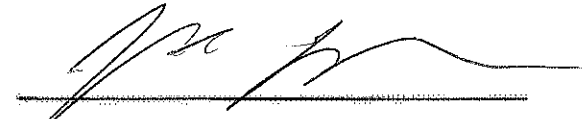
Cristen Andrews asked about being creative and finding cheaper ways to achieve our goals.

Pat Enyart Buda, TX asked about the specific process within the Sheriff's department and it was pointed out that was off topic.

Laura Hughes asked in the FY19 budget how much money was allocated to spay and neuter programs.

XIV. Adjourn

Motion made by Steven Heath and seconded by Deborah Jackson, the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee adjourned the regular session of the San Marcos Animal Shelter Committee at 7:19 p.m.



Chairman Jeff Jorgensen

Attest:

Mary C Medina