

JANUARY 5, 2021 MEETING MINUTES OF THE ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION

The Animal Services Advisory Commission (ASAC) of the City of Farmington session met through the virtual Zoom Platform session on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. Roll call was taken with attendance as follows:

Members Present: Karen Bayless, Chair; Corinne Wright, Chair Pro Tem;
John Roe; Kathy Hogan, SJ Animal League;

Members Absent: Cheryl Ragsdale, Karen Mills, and Priyanka Bhatia ;

PRCA Staff Present: Shaña Reeves, PRCA Director; Natalie Spruell, PRCA Assistant Director;
Stacie Voss, FRAS Welfare Director;
Gwen Johnson, PRCA Administrative Aide;

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Bayless called the ASAC meeting to order at 6:16 p.m. and asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 6 2020 meeting. After a brief discussion, an error in wording was brought to the board's attention and acknowledged. This will be corrected before a signature from the Chair; Ms. Bayless. Kathy Hogan made the motion to approve the amended minutes and Corrine Wright made the second. Upon vote, the minutes were approved unanimously.

New Business-

Drivers for the Animal shelters, transfer van was brought for discussion. Stacie the FRAS Welfare Director was asked by Ms. Bayless to give an update on the animal transfer program. Stacie explained that there are currently 17 volunteers to drive the transfer van. Only 6 of those, are willing to do overnight trips to the Denver Co. area. Our other 9 volunteers are willing to do day trip transfers. Stacie shared that we are desperate for people to volunteer for the overnight animal transfer trips. She went on to share that the shelter is not advertising, right now for more volunteers at this time, due to COVID and the restrictions that are in place. Mr. John Roe shared a Daily-Times article dated October 28, 2020 by Matt Hollingshead a concern that Aztec Shelter could use some help in transferring some animals, to lower the number of their animals from being euthanized. He suggested with the use of our van and drivers, we could help with that problem. After more discussion it was determined that unfortunately at this time, the Farmington Animal Shelter is not in the position to be able to help the Aztec Shelter. The concerns and matters brought to the table, were evaluated and it was decided that in the short term, we could help spread the word in hopes this would raise up some future volunteers for our community shelters. Stacie shared for the Farmington shelter we could start the process by reaching out to patrons as the opportunities rise, and encourage them to start the application of becoming a City volunteer and be drivers for the future; when COVID has settled down we can move forward with the process and accept more drivers. The conclusion was made to wait and re-address this topic. Once we get back to some kind of "normal" the challenge of recruiting more volunteers to help with overnight transfers could be re-addressed and it should be added back on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting. . It was also agreed upon that however the committee can help Stacie or as needs arise the committee needs to help however they can.

SHELTER REPORT, QUARTERLY –

Ms. Voss explained and reviewed the monthly Farmington Regional Animal Shelter report with the Commission and was proud to share encouraging words that the shelter was at an 86% live animal release rate. This is a huge accomplishment for the team. With low staff, and COVID, the shelter has been able to save a lot of animal's lives. The shelter has been able to give the patrons better quality time, with the scheduled appointments opposed to drop off and walk-ins. Stacie is very proud of her team. In- take is down, but adoptions are only down a bit. Transfers are down, due to the travel restrictions. Staffing is down, although with a staggered scheduled the staff is managing. Although there has been some staff feedback that the good communication has been somewhat affected by the new schedules, and the team does not get the hours they hoped for.

FARMINGTON REGIONAL ANIMAL SHELTER FOUNDATION-

Ms. Bayless, gave an update on partnering with the City, that one day a week for spay and neuter program, is going well. Stacy was asked to give an update, it was shared that the shelter is scheduled out to mid-February, and then will open up more application periods. Online application, went very well. It is very positive and encouraging that our community is wanting to utilize the program. The Foundation is happy to continue to help with this program.


SAN JUAN ANIMAL LEAGUE –


Ms. Hogan reported that the League has stayed busy with spay and neuters numbers being at 486 animals, this past year. The league is scheduled into the 8th or 9th of March. A lot of people seem more interested in the program. Shot clinics are not being offered right now. Drive thru clinics were looked at, but it just did not seem feasible. 2021 rabies tags, have a number on the back of them to register online, almost like you do with registering a chip as a means of tracing where an animal's home is.

There was no Commissioner business or concerns to address other than the reminder of the next meeting, which is Tuesday April 6th, 2021 at 6:00pm. Karen suggested that if all is well, with lower restrictions, and higher gathering numbers the location for the next meeting could maybe be at a park, with 6ft apart seating and masks.

ADJOURNMENT –

With no further discussion, Ms. Bayless called for motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45p.m. Kathy Hogan made a motion, Corrine Wright made the second. Upon vote, it was unanimous to adjourn.


Karen Bayless – Chairman ASAC
Administrative Aide


Gwen Johnson, PRCA