

DETAIL NOTES FROM ANIMAL ADVISORY MEETING – April 25, 2007

Opening

The April meeting of the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee was called to order at 6:42 p.m. in the Building Inspections Training Room located at 1520 Avenue K, by Chairman Bolin.

Committee Members Present

Chairman Roger Bolin, Dr. Karen Dubrow, Pylar Pinkston, Dr. John Carver, Eloisa Muzquiz and Paula McCracken.

Public Comments

None

City Representatives Present

Brian Collins, Director of Environmental Health, Jamey Cantrell new Animal Services Manager and Debbie New, Animal Services.

Introduction of New Manager

Brian Collins introduced Jamey Cantrell the new Animal Services manager and thanked Paula McCracken for her service and announced her retirement.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the February, 2007 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Feral Friends Discussion

Feral Friends representatives handed out a sheet showing the TNR results. Less was trapped than at the start of the program. They will stop mass trapping and do some in pocket areas. Some area restaurants were leaving their dumpsters open and as a result, the cats are not hungry enough to go into the trap. Mr. Collins will have the Health Inspectors notify the restaurants to make sure the dumpsters are closed. Dr. Carver asked if they had trapped owned cats and they had. These cats are released back into the area in which they were trapped. He also asked if they scan for a microchip, and they do not presently but will begin doing so. The program will be reevaluated in September.

Shelter Report/New Incinerator

Ms. McCracken reviewed the statistics with the members and at the committee's request, the next report will indicate owned versus shelter euthanasia statistics. Dr. Dubrow asked for a complete breakdown of reasons for euthanasia. Ms. Pinkston asked if the current euthanasia policy would remain in affect. Mr. Cantrell stated that as an open door shelter, you can never say that you do not euthanize due to space. He has never had a set time at any shelter that he managed and staff will do all they can to get the animals a new home. Ms. McCracken suggested that having a mobile van would allow animals to be transported to events and would like the foster program to increase.

The incinerator is working well but a new freezer had to be purchased due to rats chewing on the wires.

Training of the officers was discussed and currently 4-5 positions are open. Mr. Collins stated that we are competing with other cities that may hire in at \$.50 more to start and if studies are available that show other cities pay scale, Human Resources can review this. Ms. McCracken stated Plano is unique in that the officers are trained in all areas and officers were upgraded to Officer I, II or III. The upgrades were in line with the market but the fact that the officers do not want to work in all areas may be part of the reason for the turnover. A Certified Euthanasia Class was held at the shelter and all but one officer attended. Basic Training for the new officers will be held in April. The shelter has not been able to participate as much in the TNR program due to staffing issues. She suggested some type of partnership with local veterinarians and Dr. Carver agreed. It was suggested that Mr. Cantrell a letter to veterinarians suggesting this possibility.

Proposed Additions and Deletions of regulations to Chapter 4 Animal Regulations

State Laws are changing and these may have to be incorporated in the proposed new regulations.

Response to Citizen from February meeting

Mr. Collins explained handout from the legal department.

Items for Future Agendas

None

Public Comment

None

Next Meeting/Adjourn

Next regular meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2007. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55.

Approved by: _____ Date: _____