

## **DETAIL NOTES FROM ANIMAL ADVISORY MEETING – October 24, 2007**

### **Opening**

The October meeting of the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee was called to order at 6:35 p.m. in Training Room A located at 1520 Avenue K, by Chairman Bolin.

### **Committee Members Present**

Chairman Roger Bolin, Eloisa Muzquiz, Jamey Cantrell, Dr. Karen Dubrow, and Amanda Earl were present. Dr. John Carver and Pylar Pinkston were absent.

### **Public Comments**

None

### **City Representatives Present**

Brian Collins, Director of Environmental Health, and Debbie New, Animal Services.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the July 2007 meeting were reviewed and approved.

### **Feral Friends Discussion**

Pamela Asturias from Feral Friends handed out a report on the status of the program. A few problems have been encountered with persons appearing to sabotage their efforts as well as one property owner not allowing cats to be trapped. Mr. Collins stated that it appeared the program has been a success but would like to extend it to January and have Feral Friends submit a report with outcomes, potentials and expectations at the January meeting.

### **Shelter Report**

Mr. Cantrell passed out the shelter report for the quarter as well as a comparison between the last fiscal year and this fiscal year. The overall number of animals has increased partly due to cat hoarding situations. The shelter had a 70% placement rate for the year which is good for a municipal shelter. Medical euthanasia rate was up due to an outbreak of parvo. More animals and overcrowding can contribute to a rise in medical issues, but the Plano shelter is still not typical of the average municipal shelter. Space euthanasia has also increased but could have been configured differently in past reports. The shelter will be the first existing shelter in Texas to get Leeds Certified. The committee would like the number of visitors to the shelter added to the shelter report.

Staffing: The department currently has one opening. The staff is young but training quickly and is “gung ho”. A good staff is in place but they need to get experience.

Shelter Addition: The City Council voted on the contract with an architect for the new shelter addition.

Waste Reduction: Ms Earl asked about the status of the compost program. The shelter is still composting materials but the composting of bodies is on hold. The ashes are composted.

### **Proposed Additions and Deletions of regulations to Chapter 4 Animal Regulations**

Mr. Cantrell gave Mr. Collins a rough draft last week. The regulations should be submitted to the Legal Department for review soon. Mr. Collins stated that Mr. Cantrell had done an awesome job but some of the items may be contiguous to the public. He would like the committee's input as well as the legal departments input. The draft should be ready for the committee to review before the next meeting. The draft will be sent electronically to the members. Mr. Collins would like the regulations to go before the City Council by spring and would like the committee members to sign off on them beforehand.

**Highlight of Public Events:** Mr. Cantrell passed out copies of upcoming events to the committee as well as press releases and past event highlights. He advised the members of upcoming events and stated that the department is trying to promote the shelter by letting the public know what services are offered and ways the public can help. Ideas of promoting future events were also discussed including using utility bill inserts.

**Recognition of Outgoing and Incoming Chair:** Mr. Bolin was thanked for his service as chair of the committee. Eloisa Muzquiz is the new chair and the new member is Sunny Lee Ruth. The vice chair will be elected at the next meeting.

### **Items for Future Agendas**

None

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Next Meeting/Adjourn**

Next regular meeting is scheduled for January, 2008. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45.

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_