

City of San Antonio



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2015 DEC -3 PM 2:41

AGENDA Animal Care Services Advisory Board

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

6:30 PM

4710 State Hwy 151

A MEETING OF THE SAN ANTONIO ANIMAL CARE SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD WILL BE HELD IN THE ANIMAL CARE SERVICES FACILITY, 4710 STATE HIGHWAY 151, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78227 ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015 AT 6:30 P.M., TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:

At any time during the Animal Care Services Advisory Board Meeting, the Board may meet in Executive Session regarding any of the matters posted below in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act (Attorney-client, Personnel, Security, Real Estate) under Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

Call to Order

1. Approval of Minutes from October 21, 2015

Director's Report

Performance measures for Animal Care Services pertaining to field, live release, shelter, clinic operations, and education and outreach - presented by Kathy Davis

Individual Items for Consideration

2. Discussion and possible vote regarding amendments to the Animal Care Services Advisory Board By-Laws - presented by Rita Braeutigam
3. Report regarding cat issues in the community - presented by Virginia Brown
4. Continuing Education for Animal Care Services Advisory Board members regarding Grants received by Animal Care Services - presented by Kathy Davis

5. Report regarding the inspections of Animal Care Services facility Hwy 151, Brackenridge facility, and the ACS Stray Kennels facility at Animal Defense League - presented by Rita Braeutigam
6. Animal Care Services Advisory Board Special Committee report regarding future Spay/Neuter efforts in the community - presented by Rita Braeutigam

Citizens to be Heard

Determination of Next Meeting Date

Adjournment

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT: This meeting site is wheelchair accessible. Parking is available. Auxiliary Aids and Services are available upon request (Interpreters for the Deaf must be requested forty-eight [48] hours prior to the meeting). For Assistance, Call (210) 207-7268 Voice/TTY.

Esta reunión es accesible a personas incapacitadas. Se hará disponible el estacionamiento. Equipo y servicios adicionales (interpretes para los sordos) se harán disponibles si se pide con cuarenta y ocho (48) horas de anticipación a la reunión. Para asistencia llame al (210)207-7268 por voz/servicio de TTY.

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ANIMAL CARE SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

Annual Worksession Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2015, 6:30 p.m.
4710 State Highway 151, Annex Training Rooms 1 & 2
San Antonio, TX 78284

ACS Board Members: Rita Braeutigam-Chair, Mona Thaxton-Vice Chair, Karen Speer-Secretary, Bill White, Sallie Scott, Roderick Sanchez², Virginia Brown, Shannon Espy, Christian Anderson² and Cynthia Martinez

Ex-Officio Members: Kathy Davis, Maria Villagomez, and Roger Pollock

Staff Liaison: Maria Kieke

I. Call to Order

Rita Braeutigam, Board Chair welcomed all present and introduced Heber Lefgren, Assistant to the Director who read a statement to the Board regarding protocol for citizens to be heard.

Ms. Braeutigam convened the meeting at 6:36 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes from August 21, 2015

Mona Thaxton motioned to approve August 21, 2015 minutes seconded by Sallie Scott. Motion passed.

III. Director's Report

Kathy Davis presented performance measures for Animal Care Services pertaining to field, live release, shelter, clinic operations, and education and outreach. Full report handouts were provided to Board members.

IV. Discussion regarding Animal Care Services Advisory Board By-Laws Changes

Bill White conferred with other Board members regarding suggestions and possible changes to the ACS Board By-Laws. Mr. White will be forwarding the Board By-Laws to all Board members to review. The Board will resume discussion at the next Board meeting.

V. Discussion and possible vote regarding the creation of an Indigent Fund Program at Animal Care Services

Vincent Medley made a presentation regarding an Indigent Fund Program created with money from fines assessed by the Animal Court System. Board members were in full approval of the program. Program implementation will begin in February 2016. Full report handouts were provided to Board members.

VI. Continuing Education for Animal Care Services Advisory Board members regarding the ACS Community Cat Program Update

Kathy Davis provided an update to the Board regarding the successful transition of the Best Friends Community Cat Program to ACS on April 2015. To date, ACS has performed more than 1,700 surgeries with a goal of 4,000 surgeries in FY2016. Full report handouts were provided to Board members.

VII. Report regarding cat issues in the Community

Virginia Brown provided an informational report to the Board about citizens having problems with cats in their community and not being aware of the cat programs available in San Antonio. She suggested for ACS to revamp the website to provide not only educational information about other agencies free spay/neuter programs but list the names of the agencies in one place. By providing this type of information will help direct people to the proper service providers and reduce the overpopulation of cats during cat season.

VIII. Report regarding the status of the Animal Care Services Advisory Board Spay/Neuter Special Committee

The Board provided clarification that an Ad Hoc Committee requires three people and due to just having two people the Board is calling the created committee "Spay/Neuter Special Committee".

² Indicates not present at Board Meeting

IX. Report regarding the inspections of Animal Care Services facility HWY 151, Brackenridge facility, and the ACS Stray Kennels facility at Animal Defense League

Sallie Scott presented the inspection report of the 151 facility. Rita Braeutigam presented the ACS Stray Kennels at Animal Defense League. Full report handouts were provided to Board members.

X. Citizens to be Heard

1. Gavin Nichols
2. John Bachman

XI. Next meeting

The next ACS Advisory Board meeting was scheduled for December 9, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

XII. Adjournment

Karen Speer motioned to adjourn seconded by Cynthia Martinez. The meeting adjourned at 8:36p.m.



City of San Antonio Animal Care Services Department Director's Report



December 9, 2015

On the heels of a historic Fiscal Year 2015, ACS kicked off Fiscal Year 2016 continuing in the right direction. ACS has maintained a Live Release rate of 85% for the first 2 months of this fiscal year for all pets – **and over 91% for healthy/treatable pets**. I am consistently amazed by the remarkable work of our energetic and committed staff, volunteers, and community partners.

I am pleased to present the department's FY 2015 Annual Report highlighting the amazing year we had. The following are a few of the high-level updates over the past couple months.

EDUCATION & OUTREACH TEAM: Our Education & Outreach Team have hit the ground running over the last 6-8 weeks since their formation. The team of 5 is spear-headed by our Public Relations & Outreach Manager and includes 3 Education Staff Members and 1 Administrative Management Analyst. The team is working heavily in District 2 and 5 through block-walking efforts as part of the highly successful CNSI grassroots program, signing up residents for free spay/neuter surgeries in the 78237 zip code, a grant funded zip code, providing free microchip MANIA clinics to residents all around town, and talking to our residents about responsible pet ownership, importance of spay/neuter, leash...not loose and various programs and services offered by ACS. I'm excited about their progress in such a short amount of time and look forward to seeing the fruits of their efforts throughout the year.

CRUELTY INVESTIGATIONS UPDATE: The following are a few updates on some of the more recent high-profile cruelty cases in San Antonio:

- In August 2014, Gary Kennedy was arrested for beating a young Sharpei-mix dog to death with a piece of metal rebar. Kennedy has been in jail since his arrest over a year ago. We expect to go to trial after the first of the year.
- In late July 2015, Rosie the Pit Bull was doused with corrosive acid that blinded her, ate away at her ears, and left her scarred for life. The defendant, Ignacio Sanchez, was arrested in late August 2015 and still remains in jail on a \$30,000 bond. A court hearing has been scheduled for the beginning of February 2016. Rosie's story went viral and with great medical treatment, has regain most of her vision and is doing great in protective care.
- In September 2015, at least two stray dogs were targeted with a large knife or machete. The case is still ongoing and being investigated, but no charges are currently pending. Unfortunately, the complainant waited nearly 2 weeks after the initial incident to report the animal cruelty, hindering potential physical evidence collection. Additionally, part of the investigation has uncovered a large amount of stolen goods that the San Antonio Police Department is now investigating.
- In early November 2015, ACS confiscated 57 cats. Graphic images of the conditions the cats were living in circulated via our local media. D'Ann Trethan surrendered all 57 cats to ACS and has agreed to pay \$3,500 towards the City's cost of caring for the cats. We have identified owners of 4 of the cats (1 through a microchip and 3 from an owned cat colony); these 4 felines are now back with their owners. We are in the process of seeking placement

for the remaining cats. They do have moderate medical issues including infestation of ear mites, urine scalding on their paws, and calicivirus (lesions in the mouth).

- In late November 2015, Bazinga, a one-year old mixed breed dog was set on fire. The fire was allegedly started by a minor. ACS is continuing to work with the San Antonio Fire Department Arson Unit to complete the investigation. We are close to filing the case and charges are pending. Bazinga is currently under treatment.
- In November 2015, Erving Hernandez was arrested and arraigned for beating a pregnant dog to death in October 2015 after the small dog, reportedly, urinated inside. Hernandez was not yet been formally indicted; we are waiting for the case to be presented to the Grand Jury.

The ACS Cruelty Investigations team and our Field Operations division seek out additional continuing education opportunities and utilize best practices and innovative investigative techniques to keep our pets safe and help bring cruel and/or neglectful pet owners to justice.

PETS FOR LIFE HAPPY TAIL: The Silva family has had Maximus since he was a puppy and was devastated when he escaped from their yard and was hit by a car leaving him paralyzed in the hind limbs. Mr. Silva did not know what to do with his adored dog that loved to go for walks and play at the dog park. He thought about euthanizing Maximus, but told us that he had so much life left in his eyes that there had to be something else that could be done. Mr. Silva talked to our vet here at the shelter who then referred Maximus to our Pet's for Life program as a qualified recipient. Pets for Life is a grassroots grant program funded through a partnership with PetSmart Charities, the Humane Society of the United States and Animal Care Services for residents in specially identified neighborhoods in SA.



PetSmart Charities, HSUS, and ACS were very eager to help this dog and family - the hunt for a wheelchair began. It took about 2 weeks for the wheelchair to come in. Right before

Thanksgiving, Mr. Silva and Maximus headed to the shelter to test out his new wheels and make sure everything was the right fit. When we saw Maximus, we could tell he was not very happy; he actually looked depressed and was a little grumpy. We began adjusting the harness and wheelchair to fit him and when we were finally done Mr. Silva walked about 2 feet away from Maximus and said "Come here, Max". Maximus looked at his owner and then realized that with the assistance of the wheelchair, he could move again. Maximus took off walking down the sidewalk!!!

The transformation in Maximus from the time that he got to the shelter to getting into the wheelchair and realizing that he could walk and run again was amazing!! He was holding his head high and appeared to be smiling. The Silva family expressed their deepest thanks to the Pets for Life Program for making this all happen. Thanks, PetSmart Charities and HSUS, for your continued, compassionate support.

STAFFING UPDATE: The department is delighted to announce several staffing updates.

- Matt Llewellyn has transitioned to become the department's Clinic Operations Manager on an interim basis. Matt has been with the department for 2 and a half years where he began in our Rescue/Foster Department. Matt then promoted to the Management Analyst position and, most recently, Senior Management Analyst where he works closely with the Clinic Operations and Field Operations divisions identifying process improvements and efficiencies.

- Jessica Cortes and Brittany Barnes both join Debbie DeGuzman and Nicole Chaffin in our now fully staff Rescue-Foster division. Jessica comes to us as a certified dog trainer and has several years of animal handling experience, including time at SeaWorld as well as at an animal hospital. Brittany has over 5 years working in an animal hospital as a Kennel Technician and Assistant Vet Tech. Both ladies have great customer service experience and are great additions to our team.
- Chelsea Arch has joined the team as our fourth Shelter Supervisor. Chelsea will oversee a team of Animal Care Attendants and Animal Care Specialists. Chelsea comes to ACS with over 8 years in the animal shelter industry, previously with the San Antonio Humane Society.
- Tabbitha Sanders and Olivia Quinones join ACS as Intake Coordinators. They will play integral roles in our new Enhanced Intake and Admissions Counseling Program. Tabbitha and Olivia join long-time ACS Animal Care Specialist, Eddie Gonzalez, working with citizens seeking to drop off strays or owner surrenders via over the counter intake. They will work to market these pets on our website for potential owner reclaim and work with our Live Release team to seek placement for these pets while spending part of their holding period in a caretaker's home, allowing us to maintain capacity within the shelter and still continue to get pets home or into any of our Live Release programs.

ONLINE DONATIONS: As part of the complete website overhaul and re-design earlier this year, ACS is proud to announce that we can officially accept online donations! All donations made to the department through the online portal are unrestricted and go into the general donation fund for ACS to help pets in our care. Since implementation, ACS has already received nearly \$1,500 in online donations with very minimal advertising. The “donate” link is now in multiple prominent locations on the website including in the main navigation, on the home page, and in the “how you can you help” section.





City of San Antonio Animal Care Services Department Director's Report



OCTOBER 2015 - NOVEMBER 2015

ENHANCED ENFORCEMENT

Performance Indicators	FY 15 Actual	FY 16 Target	FY 15 YTD Actual	FY 16 YTD Target	FY 16 YTD Actual	Oct. Total	Nov. Total
Call-for-Service Requests (Overall)	102,855	100,000	16,246	15,795	16,360	8,733	7,627
<i>Citizen-Initiated</i>	74,563	74,000	12,391	12,252	11,996	6,324	5,672
<i>ACS-Initiated</i>	29,282	26,000	3,855	3,543	4,364	2,409	1,955
Impoundments (Overall)	29,727	30,000	4,820	4,922	4,887	2,578	2,309
<i>Dogs</i>	22,869	23,100	3,950	3,790	3,920	2,032	1,888
<i>Cats</i>	6,858	6,900	870	1,130	967	546	421
Impoundments (Field)	18,263	17,600	2,792	2,738	3,304	1,701	1,603
Return-to-Owners (Field)	1,892	2,150	259	349	492	254	238
Citations/Warnings Issued	7,136	6,500	1,059	965	1,606	794	812
Aggr./Dang. Dog Designations*	57		N/A		N/A		
Serious Bodily Injury Cases**	20		N/A		N/A		
Cruelty Cases Filed**	83		N/A		N/A		

IMPROVED CONTROL OF STRAY POPULATION

Performance Indicators	FY 15 Actual	FY 16 Target	FY 15 YTD Actual	FY 16 YTD Target	FY 16 YTD Actual	Oct. Total	Nov. Total
Surgeries Performed (Overall)	14,658	14,500	2,243	2,219	2,907	1,468	1,439
<i>ACS</i>	12,949	10,500	2,243	1,552	2,102	1,019	1,083
<i>Community Cat Program</i>	1,709	4,000	N/A	667	805	449	356
Surgeries Performed by Partners	13,458	11,875	1,805	1,772	1,714 ^o	1,220 ^o	494 ^o
Deceased Dog/Cat Pick-Up	22,796		4,200		2,032 ^o	2,032	N/A ^o

INCREASED LIVE RELEASE

Performance Indicators	FY 15 Actual	FY 16 Target	FY 15 YTD Actual	FY 16 YTD Target	FY 16 YTD Actual	Oct. Total	Nov. Total
Live Release Rate	85%	85%	82%	82%	85%	84%	85%
Adoptions	6,673	6,800	1,148	1,170	1,128	505	623
Rescues	13,257	13,850	2,050	2,142	1,949	1,119	830
Return-to-Owners (Overall)	3,668	3,900	587	624	813	406	407
Trap-Neuter>Returns	937	950	171	173	117	56	61
Pets Fostered	1,403	1,000	1,188	847	991	154	76
Volunteer Hours	14,095	15,000	2,162	2,301	3,026	1,549	1,477

ADMINISTRATION/OTHER

Performance Indicators	FY 15 Actual	FY 16 Target	FY 15 YTD Actual	FY 16 YTD Target	FY 16 YTD Actual	Oct. Total	Nov. Total
FY 2016 Budget ⁺	\$11.87 M	\$12.53 M		\$1.98 M	\$1.84 M		
Media Interactions	888	650		108	149	56	93

⁺This statistic represents cases that have actually been deemed and designated as aggressive/dangerous and presented quarterly.

^{**}This statistic represents cases that have been investigated, packaged, and delivered to the prosecutor for potential prosecution and presented quarterly

^o Information pending from Partners.