



El Paso Animal Services

MAYOR
Oscar Leaser

Animal Shelter Advisory Committee Minutes August 11, 2021

CITY COUNCIL

District 1
Peter Svarzbein

District 2
Alexsandra Annello

District 3
Cassandra Hernandez

District 4
Joe Molinar

District 5
Isabel Salcido

District 6
Claudia L. Rodriguez

District 7
Henry Rivera

District 8
Cissy Lizarraga

1. Call to Order- Establish Quorum

A meeting of the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee was held virtually by Chair Alexsandra Annello at 6:05 PM.

| Board Members | Present | Absent |
|------------------------|---------|--------|
| Regina Wagner | X | |
| Celeste Varela | X | |
| Sandra DiFrancesco | X | |
| Mary Kay Rosenkranz | X | |
| Karen Polanco | X | |
| Barbara Candelaria | X | |
| Gina Gagen | X | |
| Elvira Stephanie Frias | X | |
| Patricia Y. Riley | X | |
| Loretta Hyde | X | |
| Alexandra Annello | X | |

Animal Services staff present: Ramon Herrera, Maribel Karisch, Michele Anderson, Adan Parra and Esty Molina

CITY MANAGER
Tommy Gonzalez

2. Approval of Minutes

Discussion and action on approval of minutes for July 14, 2021

Sandra DiFrancesco motioned to accept the July 14, 2021; Dr. Gina Gagen seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed and motion passed unanimously.

3. Reports-Support the City of El Paso's Initiative to Reach and Sustain a 90% or Greater Live-Release Rate by 2020.

A. Chair Report

Alexsandra Annello introduced and welcomed Loretta Hyde to the ASAC.

Ramon Herrera – Interim Director

El Paso Animal Services | 5001 Fred Wilson | El Paso, TX 79906

O: (915) 212-7297 | Email: EPAS@elpasotexas.gov



DELIVERING EXCEPTIONAL SERVICES



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B. El Paso Animal Services July update and statistics

Ramon Herrera explained that the Animal Services Strategic Plan was passed in 2017 and will be revisited at the end of this year. The intake by age for July was 1,399 which mostly included kittens, young cats and adult dogs, compared to the July 2020 intake was 876 which was due to covid operational changes. The outcome was 1,424 compared to 715 in 2020. Although adoptions are still not at the rate they were prior to covid, Animal Services will continue to make every effort to reach that same rate in the coming months. Animal Services also needs the community's help by either fostering, adopting and volunteering to make it possible. The top two reasons for euthanasia in July were infectious with 79 and 41 for trauma. The LRR was 84.89% in spite of the challenges with the neonates and young cats without moms. There were 780 fosters in July, Ramon thanked them for their life saving efforts. He also wants to encourage the community to leave kittens with mom, or they can bring them to the shelter when they are of age to get spayed or neutered. The Fiscal Year LRR was 87.11% and the Animals Shelter Count was 84.89% compared to 90.10% in 2020. Ramon gave an overview of the services provided by the Community and Pet Support Program (CAPS) and the progress it has made: In July 575 found reports were created, 234 community (RTO) return-to-owner were made and the community RTO rate was at 39%. He also went over the life-saving progress Animal Services has made since 2015; table is included. The intake process was adjusted on July 21, 2021 to allow stray drop-offs/pickups without appointment after community concerns. So far, since the process change, there's been 228 no appointment intakes from the 1,021 total intakes. Animal Services has several upcoming activities/events starting on August 12 through September 18; a list is included.

Loretta Hyde inquired about the location where the TNR clinics will take place. Ramon explained that the clinics would take place at the Socorro clinic and to coordinate with Sun City Cats on the details. He also added that surgeries for community cats are appointment based and are performed at the shelter.

C. El Paso County Animal Welfare Department July update

Lauralei Combs gave an update for the county's end of fiscal year. For this fiscal year, there were 233 spays and 205 neuters, 543 rabies and 978 wellness vaccinations administered. They also had 1,995 pets microchipped and registered and 316 free community services. They still have three free spay/neuter clinics in August and the community can reach out at spayneuter@epcounty.com for clinic information.

4. Call to the public

Barbara Valencio

Loretta Arredondo

Ramon Herrera – Interim Director

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Katie Holt

Ron Comeau

Letty Benitez

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5. Main Agenda

A. Engage ASAC members on best practices in Animal Health and Welfare

A1. Discussion and action on draft of ASAC By-laws

Celeste Varela went over the recommended changes prepared by the By-laws subcommittee. The final draft will be presented at next month's meeting for approval.

A2. Discussion and action on revisions to ASAC strategic plan

Sandra DiFrancesco motioned to postponed item A2 for next month's meeting; Dr. Patricia Riley seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

6. Future Agenda Item

Strategic Plan subcommittee

Presentation on the HASS program

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7: 52PM

Dr. Patricia Riley motioned to adjourn; Karen Polanco seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

Prepared by: Maribel Karisch

Approved by A.S.A.C. Chairman

Ramon Herrera – Interim Director

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DELIVERING EXCEPTIONAL SERVICES

El Paso Animal Services – Lifesaving Progress

El Paso – The Results!

| YEAR | LIVE RELEASE | % LIVE RELEASE | IMPOUNDS/INTAKE |
|----------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 2015 | 9,850 | 34% | 28,972 |
| 2016 | 14,312 | 55% | 26,538 |
| 2017 | 19,205 | 75% | 26,726 |
| 2018 | 21,870 | 84% | 27,338 |
| 2019 | 21,985 | 86% | 26,859 |
| 2020 | 10,785 | 86% | 12,488 |
| 2021 YTD | 6,904 | 86% | 8,898 |



Upcoming Activities/Events

| | |
|--|---------|
| El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Pet Pantry | Aug 12 |
| Foster Open House | Aug 14 |
| Sun City TNR Clinic | Aug 14 |
| Rescue Flight to Canada (sponsored by BISSELL Pet Foundation) | Aug 15 |
| Dogs On the Run Event Offsite Adoptions/Microchips | Aug 15 |
| Dog is My CoPilot Rescue Flight | Aug 18 |
| Vaccination/Microchip Clinic | Aug 21 |
| Clear the Shelters Adoption Event | Aug 28 |
| Sun City TNR Clinic | Aug 28 |
| Dog is My CoPilot Rescue Flight | Sept 3 |
| Dog is My CoPilot Rescue Flight | Sept 16 |
| Clear the Shelters Adoption Event | Sept 18 |



<https://bit.ly/3fVi2W6>