

# CITY OF NORMAN, OK ANIMAL WELFARE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

Animal Welfare Center, 3428 South Jenkins Ave, Conference Room, Norman, OK 73072 Monday, January 08, 2024 at 6:00 PM

## **MINUTES**

It is the policy of the City of Norman that no person or groups of persons shall on the grounds of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, place of birth, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial status, marital status, including marriage to a person of the same sex, disability, relation, or genetic information, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination in employment activities or in all programs, services, or activities administered by the City, its recipients, sub-recipients, and contractors. In the event of any comments, complaints, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, and auxiliary aids and services regarding accessibility or inclusion, please contact the ADA Technician at 405-366-5446, Relay Service: 711. To better serve you, five (5) business days' advance notice is preferred.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Co-Chairperson Rebecca Bean

Committee Member Kim Fairbanks

Committee Member Dr. Rod Hall

Committee Member Kristy Wicker

## **APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER MINUTES**

Dr. Rod Hall made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Kristy Wicker seconded. The motion passed.

#### **MONTHLY STATISTICS AND UPDATES**

Shelter Supervisor Ashley Battiest went over the shelter statistics for November and December. The shelter was still operating at capacity for dogs, and had an unusually large number of stray cats coming into the shelter in the winter; in December the shelter saw 77 cats come in as strays versus 32 stray cats the previous year. The live release rate for November was 89%, and in December it was 93.4%.

Shelter Manager Kellee Robertson spoke about an upcoming spring event in the works called Midnight Muttness. The shelter will stay open until midnight with food trucks and other activities to encourage adoptions.

Kellee spoke about the Mission Microchip having a good response. The program was developed to encourage pet microchipping in the Norman community.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. Presentation of the Animal Welfare and Conservation Work of WildCare

WildCare gave their presentation on the work WildCare does for the Norman community and all of Oklahoma. Dr. Abbott spoke about the types of diseases that they are seeing in the wild animals brought to the sanctuary. Some of these diseases can cross species and would be an issue for citizens' domestic pets.

2. Continued Discussion of Potential Ordinance Modifications and Committee Status

Jeanne Snider suggested a working group for the ordinance wording changes. There was a brief discussion about the enforceability of exotic animal ordinances and possibly requiring a permit for any animal that is not a domestic pet.

Jeanne Snider also mentioned that the Animal Welfare Oversight Committee has not been formalized yet.

3. Discussion of Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Needs and Preparation of a Recommendation Letter to City Council

Manager Kellee Robertson said that she would be requesting an additional Registered Veterinary Technician, an increase to the food and medical budget, an additional line item in the budget to begin covering large scale kennel replacements, and a foster coordinator.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

4. Hands Helping Paws' Animal Welfare Expo, March 2024

Kim Fairbanks said that she is still in the process of inventorying the supplies they have left from last year's spay/neuter event.

## MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS & CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS

The group discussed having a special meeting on February 12th to vote on sending letters of approval to city council.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Kristy Wicker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40PM. Dr. Rod Hall seconded. The meeting adjourned.

Mark Howery