



CITY OF NORMAN, OK ANIMAL WELFARE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

Animal Welfare Center, 3428 South Jenkins Ave, Conference Room,
Norman, OK 73072

Monday, March 11, 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 405-366-5424, Relay Service: 711. To better serve you, five (5) business days' advance notice is preferred.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Co-Chairperson Mark Howery

Co-Chairperson Rebecca Bean

Committee Member Kim Fairbanks

Committee Member Dr. Rod Hall

Committee Member Sandy Moore-Furneaux

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY MINUTES

Sandy Moore-Furneaux made a motion to approve the minutes. Rod Hall seconded. The motion passed.

MONTHLY STATISTICS AND UPDATES

Shelter Supervisor Ashley Battiest went over the statistics for January and February. The shelter remained full of large breed dogs through the winter months, a trend that started last year and continued this year. The cat adoption and intake rooms did see a dip in numbers, which is usual for this time of year. This allowed for all of the cats waiting to be surrendered at the time to be brought into the shelter. Adoptions were up in January and February compared to last year. In January, NAW had a 93.8% live release rate; February had a 91.4% live release rate.

There was a discussion about the number of animals being spayed/neutered through Norman Animal Welfare. In January Dr. Tyler did 104 shelter animal spay/neuters, 16 TNRs, and 35 Best Friends of Pets program or owned animals. In February, she spayed/neutered 123 shelter animals, 30 TNR, and 27 owned animals.

Dr. Tyler spoke about the funding Best Friends of Pets receives from the city to provide spay/neuters to low income families. By performing the surgeries at the shelter, she can help make those dollars stretch further. Dr. Tyler spoke about the outreach she and her RVT are doing at the end of this month with the unhoused community. They will be holding a vaccination clinic, as well as spreading the word about the spay/neuter services they are offering.

Jeanne Snider was not present to offer any updates on the ordinance changes. Shelter Manager Kellee Robertson briefly discussed an incident involving an exotic animal being kept in the city limits of Norman. This animal, a coatimundi, is not listed as illegal to own per our ordinance, although she did advise the owners that the ordinance language would be changing, and it would be illegal to own here in Norman. The owners are working on relocating the Coati.

There was a discussion about the exotic animal ordinance and about adding an enforcement component as well as wording that requires an owner to apply for a permit so that listing all the animals would not be necessary.

HANDS HELPING PAWS' ANIMAL WELFARE EXPO

Kim Fairbanks said they have 238 animals signed up for spay/neuter surgery or the vaccination portion of the event on March 23rd. She discussed some of the logistics for the event this year and confirmed that shelter staff will be offering a foster class this year on Sunday, March 24.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

Mark Howery passed out the letter of support that he had prepared regarding the budget items being requested.

Dr. Tyler said that currently TNR services are offered on Monday and Thursday. The shelter will try opening that up to any morning except Wednesday. Shelter vet staff are very motivated to spay/neuter as many animals as possible this year.


Kim Fairbanks offered to reach out to her tenants at the airport if the shelter is needing any specific animals flown out of state for an adopter or receiving rescue.

CALL FOR MAY AGENDA ITEMS

Topics for next meeting: updates on the Hands Helping Paws event, ordinance changes, and the budget items for approval.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Rod Hall made a motion to adjourn. Sandy Moore-Furneaux seconded. The motion passed.

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