



Signed minutes

CITY OF NORMAN, OK
ANIMAL WELFARE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

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

Wednesday, January 08, 2025 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 call 405-366-5424, Relay Service: 711. To better serve you, five (5) business days' advance notice is preferred.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Co-Chairperson Becca Bean

Co-Chairperson Mark Howery

Kim Fairbanks

Dr. Rod Hall

Assistant City Attorney Jeanne Snider

Shelter Manager Kellee Robertson

Shelter Supervisor Ashley Battiest

ABSENT

Kristy Wicker

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER MINUTES

Dr. Rod Hall made a motion to accept the November minutes, seconded by Kim Fairbanks. The motion passed.

MONTHLY STATISTICS AND UPDATES

Shelter Supervisor Battiest went over the November and December shelter statistics. 111 dogs and 82 cats came in as strays, doubling the previous November's cat stray intake. Staff were strategic about bringing in owner surrenders because of staff vacations, sickness, and holidays. Adoptions were slightly down in November, but notably 12 cats were reclaimed through microchips. There were 29 animals sent on a November Dog is My Copilot flight. The November live release rate was 95.7%

In December 110 stray dogs and 45 stray cats came into the shelter. Staff brought in 27 owner surrendered dogs and 41 owner surrender cats. Adoptions were up in December for dogs. Norman Animal Welfare had a 92.2 % live release rate in December.

The shelter capacity at the time was full on the dog side, staff emptied out an entire intake dog room for the new flooring and kennel installation.

Jeanne Snider gave an update that the ordinance changes has gone before the city council in a study session. City council members had no problems with any of the changes and the next step will be for the ordinance changes to be presented to the council in a public meeting.

Dr. Amy Tyler gave an overview of the recent SNIP. Staff went to a few community events where they were able to help citizens sign up for the service. They did over 700 surgeries for low income families in 2024.

Shelter manager Robertson spoke about some of the outreach events that were attended by staff in November and December. Holiday Hounds was an event hosted by Norman Animal Welfare to promote microchipping, nail trimmings, and free adoptions and kept the shelter open until 7:30PM to make it easier for people to attend. There were two Twilight Markets that were attended in November and December as well.

Norman Animal Welfare has a newly hired animal welfare technician, and two more that are in the process of being hired. The second vet assistant position was also filled.

Becca Bean brought up asking for a raise for the Animal Welfare Tech position to help keep the new staff. Kellee Robertson said that she had already completed the paperwork to raise the Animal Welfare Tech position from an A27 to A29. It would still need to be approved during the budget process.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Potential Use of Donation Account Funds to Purchase Reinforced Humane Traps

Kim Fairbanks asked if Norman Animal Welfare would purchase a more reinforced trap for a dog that has been staying close to the highway and has broken out of two Tomahawk traps. There was a recommendation for gravity door traps that might work better for this situation, and for Norman Animal Welfare to have on hand for future difficult to catch dogs. She also spoke about another option that is called a Missy trap. This type of trap is set up like a kennel with sensors on the doors that would be closed after the dog entered.

2. Continued Discussion of Emergency Planning

Mark Howery reminded everyone that there was an emergency preparedness working meeting on January 22nd at 11:30 AM at the shelter.

CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS & MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

Mark Howery brought up having another cookout for volunteer appreciation week this year. Kellee Robertson said that the shelter could hold another cookout in April. Volunteer Appreciation week is April 20th-26.

Becca Bean spoke about the volunteer of the year award and having the call for nominations start earlier in the year. Jeanne Snider said that we could ask for nominations earlier and begin in February.

There was a brief discussion about data and our annual statistics. Becca Bean recommended this as an agenda item for the meeting in March.

ADJOURNMENT



