



CITY OF NORMAN, OK ANIMAL WELFARE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

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

Monday, November 13, 2023 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, retaliation, 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 Kristy Wicker

Committee Member Sandy Moore-Furneaux

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE AND OCTOBER MINUTES

Sandy Moore-Furneaux made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Dr. Rod Hall seconded. The motion passed.

MONTHLY STATISTICS AND UPDATES

Shelter Supervisor Ashley Battiest spoke about October's shelter numbers. The shelter was still over capacity for both dogs and cats. Norman Animal Welfare saw fewer animals coming into the shelter in the month of October, but adoptions were also down significantly compared to the previous year. Norman Animal Welfare had a 91% live release rate for the month of October. There were close to 350 animals on the October owner surrender list waiting to be brought into the shelter.

Shelter Manager Kellee Robertson spoke about the Dog is My Co-Pilot October flight. Thirty-six dogs/puppies were flown to a receiving rescue in Oregon. Eleven of those were from

Norman Animal Welfare, and the others were from a local rescue. The flights will resume in April of next year; Dog is My Co-pilot doesn't fly during the winter months.

Shelter Manager Kellee Robertson said that funds have been approved to use from the shelter's donation money to purchase an X-ray machine for the shelter. She and Dr. Tyler are currently receiving quotes from different companies.

Kellee spoke about the adoption events staff have been attending, as well as the pop-up adoption events that the shelter's new adoption coordinator has been promoting. She has been very busy, and there are many more events planned for the fall and winter.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Discussion of Potential Ordinance Modifications

Jeanne Snider began talking about some of the animal ordinances that need some language updated.

There was a discussion about adding language to the animal cruelty ordinance so that it mirrors state law, striking out the city pet license requirement, and looking at the definitions of exotic animals or perhaps listing the animals allowed in city limits. There was also a discussion about adding language so that abandonment applies to all animals and not just cats and dogs.

Manager Robertson brought up adding language similar to the exotic animals ordinance for seizing dangerous animals as well.

There was a discussion about adding ducks to the chicken ordinance. However, Dr. Tyler spoke about some of the conditions necessary to own a duck. Those requirements would need to be looked at in depth.

There was a discussion afterward that these minor changes would go to an ordinance review board within city council first and then an open meeting to the public for their input.

2. Discussion of the Process for Establishing the AWOC as a Permanent Committee

Jeanne Snider spoke briefly about the history of the Animal Welfare Oversight Committee. She stated that it is not a codified board and has been acting past its authority for quite some time.

There has been a draft made for the AWOC to codify its purpose and to establish term limits for its members like other city boards and commissions.

ACTION ITEMS

3. Review of Volunteer of the Year Award Nominations

Rod Hall made a motion to award Cindy Wanner the Volunteer of the Year Award. Sandy Moore-Furneaux seconded. The motion passed.

Jeanne Snider said that the next available city council meeting to recognize the award would be held December 12th.

4. Set Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2024

The schedule of meetings for 2024 was discussed. Sandy Moore-Furneaux moved to have meetings on the second Monday of January, March, May, July, and September, and one on November 18 to avoid Veteran's Day. Dr. Hall seconded. The motion passed.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS & CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS

Russel Rice spoke about the Caravans program and the partnership that has developed between Norman Animal Welfare and Caravans to spay/neuter dogs for the unhoused community in Norman. He spoke about the need he sees for additional vet staff because of all the community outreach Dr. Tyler and Kelsey provide.

Kathleen Estes had suggestions for how-to videos. She commented that she had reached out to one of the rescues involved in the transports earlier that year.

Items for next meeting's agenda: Budget recommendations, HHP annual event, Dr. Abbott from WildCare as a speaker, and changes to the ordinances.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:46 PM Dr. Rod Hall made a motion to adjourn. Kristy Wicker seconded. The motion passed.



