

Animal Services Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
August 8, 2019 12:00 Noon

In Attendance:

Commissioner Stephen Holmes, Galveston County
Curtis Klages, DVM, DAFLAM, UBOH
James Osteen, City of La Marque
Kirk Jackson, City of La Marque
Jonathon Givens, DVM
Able Garza, City of Texas City
Nick Finan, City of Texas City
Fard Abdullah, City of Hitchcock
Mayor Gale, City of Kemah
Lark Tedesco, Animal Welfare
Cynthia Kelley, Animal Welfare
Monique Ryans, Daily Operator of an Animal Shelter
Amber Adams, Daily Operator of an Animal Shelter
Karen Hearing, City of Tiki Island

Absent:

Mayor Konyha, City of Bayou Vista

GCHD Staff:

Kathy Barroso, Chief Executive Officer
Andrea Cortinas, Chief Financial Officer
Kenna Pruitt, Budget & Grant Manager
Paula Compton, Financial Services Manager
Marissa Worsham, Staff Accountant
Dina Driskill, JD, Contract Analyst
Caroline McKenna, Rescue/Adoption Coordinator
Randy Valcin, Director of Public Health Surveillance Programs
Amanda Wolff, Executive Office Coordinator/Assistant to CEO

Guest:

Yvonne Downs and Michelle Allee

Consent Agenda

Mr. Osteen, Chair, asked the Committee to approve the consent agenda items one through three. Ms. Tedesco made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Dr. Klages seconded. The Committee unanimously approved consent agenda items one through three.

Item #4 Animal Services Manager Report

Amber Adams, Director of Animal Services, presented the management report to the Committee.

Item #5 Discussion Regarding the Next Animal Services Strategic Plan Schedule

Amber Adams, Director of Animal Services, asked the Committee how they would like to develop the next Animal Services Strategic Plan. Ms. Adams suggested forming a subcommittee to develop the new plan similar to how the current 5-year plan was created. Commissioner Holmes requested that an update on the current 5-year plan be given to the Committee at the next ASAC meeting and after the update then the Committee can decide how

they would like to move forward on developing the next plan. Mr. Osteen tabled this item until November and no action was taken.

Item #6 Consider for Approval June 2019 Financial Report

Andrea Cortinas, Chief Financial Officer, presented the June 2019 financial report to the Committee. A motion to accept the financial report as presented was made by Mayor Gale and seconded by Commissioner Holmes. The Committee unanimously approved the financial report.

Item #7 Update on FY20 Animal Services Budget

Kathy Barroso, Chief Executive Officer, advised the Committee that the United Board of Health approved the FY20 Animal Services budget and it has been presented and submitted to Commissioner Court and the Cities within the Interlocal for approval.

Item #8 Consider for Approval the Creation of a 501(c)(3) to be Presented to the United Board of Health

Andrea Cortinas, Chief Financial Officer, proposed to the Committee a creation of a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization to benefit the Animal Resource Center. Ms. Cortinas advised the Committee of the benefits a 501(c)(3) which includes a possible increase in the amount of general donations since donations would now be tax deductible, we would be allowed to pursue more grant funding opportunities, and it would fulfill the interlocal agreement provision of proactively seeking alternative funding streams. A motion to present this proposal to the United Board of Health was made by Ms. Tedesco and was seconded by Commissioner Holmes. The Committee unanimously approved the motion.

Item #9 Consider for Approval Proposed Changes to the Galveston County Animal Services Policy

Amber Adams, Director of Animal Services, advised the Committee that the Animal Services Policy had one recommended change regarding requirements for the owners of dogs that have been declared dangerous. A motion to approve changing the 15th day to the 30th day on page 16 of the policy was made by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Mr. Garza. The Committee unanimously approved. The policy will now go to the United Board of Health for the three-step approval process.

Item #10 Update on the Texas A&M Veterinary Emergency Team (VET) Animal Disaster Emergency Preparedness Program

Amber Adams, Director of Animal Services, updated the Committee on the next steps from the A&M Veterinary Emergency Team (VET) Animal Disaster Emergency Preparedness Program. VET would like to set a meeting for late September early October with key stake holders including members of the Animal Services Advisory Committee. Ms. Adams asked if any Committee members would like to be apart of that meeting and Dr. Klages said he would like to participate.

Item #11 Comparative Data Summary (FY2019-2018) (Intake and Dispositions)

Kathy Barroso, Chief Executive Officer presented the comparative data summary 2019-2018 (intake and disposition).

Item #12 Update from Animal Services Advisory Committee Members

Updates were given by the Animal Service Advisory Committee members. Mr. Osteen requested that Amber Adams explore pricing on collars and tags that would include the phone

number of the pet owner and could be provided to all adopted animals to help reunite animals when they are lost.

Item #13 Public Comments

Yvonne Dows addressed the Committee by expressing her happiness that a 501 (c)(3) is being explored for the Animal Resource Center.

James Oster
Chair

S P/H
Secretary/Treasurer

11-07-2019
Date

11/7/19
Date