

CLARK COUNTY ANIMAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Paradise Community Center
4775 McLeod Drive, Town Board Conference Room
Las Vegas, Nevada 89121
November 20, 2007
6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: BIGGERSTAFF, JAN (JB)
SANJAY, VERMA (VS)
SONDEJ, KEN (KS)
POOLER, TOM (TP)
YOUNG, BILLIE (BY)

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m.

2. Approval of agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made and seconded.

3. Approval of September 18, 2007 Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded.

4. Approval of Application for Spay/Neuter Funds

3 applications, HCW, SOS and LVVHS – Motion to approve was made and seconded.

5. Report by Animal Foundation regarding low cost adoptions to Seniors and Low Income Citizens

DARRIN LANDRUM (DL), Director of Operations for AFI, pets discounted \$50. As for going back to \$13, e-mail said it allowed for flexible pricing to no money or increased prices. AFI works with seniors as much as we can. BY asked for examples on how they work with them. DL - If any individual is over 65, they are discounted \$50. Low income we ask what can we do to help. Pricing is not black and white, everything is workable. Fees instead of \$150 have charged \$75, \$80. VS – senior discount what is that? JB – how many pets have you placed with seniors last six month? DL – probably 40. As far as affecting adoption rates, 4 months prior March, April, May, June they have gone up. BY sounds like program is increasing adoptions. Seniors (VS) does it say on the website that they get a reduced price. DL - website is horrible. KS – increase in animals put out to rescue. DL - we give them same opportunity we give the public, not just undesirable animals. We treat like an adoption; one more out of the shelter that has a chance of a home.

TP does this answer the question. KS - yes it answers my questions. Dr. Glassman was concerned and is not satisfied. BY will you be here for public comment. Dr. Glassman is a past board member and can offer a lot of history.

6. Report on proposed amendment to Title 10.24.030 to regulate unsterilized dogs and cats

impounded at the animal shelter –

DAVE MARCH (DM) it is at DA. We have not yet gotten a response yet

7. Report on proposed amendment to Title 10.30.115 to regulate sales of unsterilized dogs and cats by Retailers and Pet Fanciers

DM – nothing has been done on that one. BY will these carry over for update? DM only items you place on agenda will be carried. DM this committee voted down a less stringent version of this bill. TP are we just on a hold on this situation? First code will not come back to Committee. After DA approval Item 6 will go to BCC. If DA has a problem, it will come back to Committee. TP can we ask for an update. DM you can ask and we will let you know. TP let's have it on again next meeting for an update.

JB is there a reason nothing has been done. DM based on initial code being less restrictive and amount of money that went into business impact statement requirement, we felt coming back with a more stringent code at this time is not the best course of action.

8. Information-sharing by Committee Members

JB - women's prison has a dog rehabilitation program for the inmates. KS -that is HCW. JB - I was impressed on cooperation that they have. BY reminds me of something I have been working on with the corrections system and wild horse-gentling program. One in Warm Springs prison has made some great strides in plans of a program at the Jean prison. Several meetings taken place in last 60 days with heads of correction system, BLM and non profits and monies from land sales are being designated to build the facility and operate a wild horse gentling program to promote adoption of wild horses in So. NV. This has been extremely successful in other areas and there is a demand for horses that have been gentled. TP- while I was at AFI as director I had 3 people come in with certificates from the HCW program he has put in. BY proven those folks who go through animal interaction program have a lower recidivism rate. They learn things they missed growing up in how to recognize what their actions cause and has been successful for animals and people. Wonderful program. KS - ARP had a program with Nellis AFB that was discontinued. Did not have tools to move on to another prison facility. Number of dogs had gone through with ARP. VS thought given to satellite adoption. AFI is huge with the number of pets, not many of them end up in adoption, a lot put down. Is there any probability to set up adoption places like Humane Society or SPCA in Pet Smart or Petcos in conjunction with AFI?

TP they had 2 satellite centers but turned out not to be financially viable. If someone donated space it might work. DL we are currently having meetings with Petco and PetSmart to have different adoption events 7 days a week. We are trying to go that route. VS lost his cat a couple of months ago, went every 2 days too look for cat. Staff was very nice, very humane, reception area, has logs and books for pets brought in that indicated dead animal brought in but it was not kept up to date, lots of info but there was no coordination. It added to the frustration, as the front desk staff had no clue what these books are. People come in looking. It is very confusing. In back, staff is managing care for pets, refreshing from a year ago. Front line staff has no clear direction. Not coordinated. How can they better coordinate? DL we have hired 2 coordinators to come in and go through marking with arrows to show go here and go there. I will look at books first thing tomorrow and make sure they are kept up to date. VS – if you have a notice board saying if you lose pet this is how it is done. AC brings in and then this happens. Very confusing. Was pet scanned for microchip? Doesn't reflect on website whether pet had a chip or not. We ended up adopting another cat.

9. Comments by the General Public

MIKE CONNELL – Went to AFI and rescued Akita. It is a complete turn around down there, got walked through lost and found, nice and clean, no odors only saw one dog per holding area. Impressed even with cattery area. They looked healthy, not stressed. Was \$50 which I thought was reasonable for neutering, shots, microchips. I am a rescue. I think we get a break. Very impressed.

KAREN LAYNE – LVVHA compiles data from all jurisdictions and presents to CC AAC in November - 2006 calendar year data. Last year we gave 2005, we have localities talking about stats but this gives a regional view in the area. Impounds down slightly from last year. In CC down more substantially than they are in the city. Henderson stayed about same; NLV went up; BC down from last year. Impounds some decrease; it varies from localities. Look at dispositions in terms of what happens to impounds. Going out is RTO and adoption, gives sense of animals leaving shelter. 2006 about 20,000 were adopted or RTO'd. Clearly we still have a long way to go. About 45 percent of animals. Says we have an animal over population problem. Not enough homes. On the next sheet, most are dogs or cats and if you look at cats and dogs you will see impounds at about 25,000 up slightly from last year. Once again if you look at localities, way down in CC, believe attributed to manpower issue they had. Remember animals get into shelter by owners, public or animal control officers. If you don't have as many, the number coming in is down. LV slightly higher, NLV up by 500 and Henderson down over previous year. Cats were up by about 2000 higher number of cats versus dogs. Look at adoptions and rto for dogs vs. cats. Dogs have a 50 percent chance of rto or adopt, cats have about 18 percent change of rto or adoption. Animal overpopulation continues to be cats as opposed to dogs. We talk about this figure about 35,000 being put down in 2006; 10,000 dogs. We include DOP/euth over 18,825 for cats. Almost 21,000 put down.

ANN AMBORT – comment on 7. Suggests biggest problem breeders had was allowing fancier permit for anyone. Suggests you create a new permit, one that would go to anyone that has an unaltered puppy until a year old and at end of time get breeders permit or s/n. That would give names, addresses of where puppies are and you can follow up. Pet stores have problem with waiting a week. Perhaps they can fill out, give you a copy, person a copy and pet store. I have show dogs don't consider myself a breeder. I bred once and will probably never breed again. See the need to do something. Breeders do not have a problem with a different permit but didn't want people thinking they could get breeder permit and go ahead and say now I can breed.

MIKE CONNELL – can AAC request increase in staffing for ACO from BCC to the turn of 2 a year for the next 5 years. TP we can send a letter not a problem. When was last increase? DM – we have gotten 2 new officers. Officers still in training however all 14 on board. 2 currently training, 3 others in training but doing about 90 percent of work. MIKE - Fancier permit – am going to attempt to do a more information on what it is supposed to mean and submit for rewrite to ordinance.

BY – regarding more officers – didn't we come down to budgetary issues and been invited to go down to budget talks to give personal options on increases for AC. TP - yes we were. One person showed up. Dr. Glassman showed up year before last. Harold Vosko and Karen Layne showed up this year and each year we got one person. BY can we keep that in mind when it is coming so we can go? DM we will continue to let you know when we find out the budget hearing has been scheduled.

GINA GRIESON – thanks Karen Layne for compiling numbers would like to suggest a more uniform reporting procedure. LV doesn't have number. Maybe Darrin could talk to rest of groups they should be ready available on Lied website. Figure out a way to get better recording, more

transparency and thank CC for having that. DM can mention to NLV and CLV. We have no authority. CLV doesn't compile stats and don't track numbers. What the shelter can and cannot release would be between them and individual agencies. We put our numbers out there. Will mention to my counterparts but up to them. Not a lot we can do. TP will you ask them? TP where do you get info.

KAREN LAYNE gets info from localities, from CLV they come from Lied. Floyd gives me what he gets from Lied. Everyone on chameleon should not be difficult. Have to ask Floyd what term means and then go to Chris Robinson to see what it means. I look at history and if something out of whack, go back to locality and get them to address figures. Statistical effort. Euths they have 8 categories needs to be uniform manner but not easy, getting numbers from CLV, NLV Henderson not easy. On our website.

SHAWN MCAULEY (SM)– asking Committee to distinguish between feral dogs and cats and domestic dogs and cats. TP explain. SM - there are people out there trapping animals. Where I am, the person is targeting domestic cats. Understand not to be at large but it happens. Would like Title 10 to stipulate between what a domestic or feral animal is. As far as trapping, person trapping should make an effort to contact owner if animal is tagged. Trapper must clean cages on regular basis; county should train private trappers in capture of feral dogs and cats. TP – can you straighten this out with a couple of officers. TP- If officer picks up, they attempt to contact owner. If picked up more than once, they get cited so they are not getting cat back free every time happens. Property owners have rights. SM - If you have someone using filthy traps, officers should be able to speak to person, can't make do unless really bad. SM wants county to have more control over individuals trapping. Should not be used as bigotry toward specific animals. People empowered and get carried away. TP human nature and can't change that. SM – during summer animal should be kept cool and hydrated. KS - HOA involved what is your authority to go in and do something? DM first who owns trap, if owned by CC should be clean and in good working order. Regulating traps privately owned is impossible. In HOA if streets are private, owner requires signature from member of board to identify animals who don't live in private property. This applies to mobile home parks, streets. If a cat is on someone's private property, they are within their rights to have cat removed. SM the HOA is following the law with trapping animals, says cannot be outside property boundaries.

TP - At large means off property or out of control. SM - domestic cats as long as s/n should be allowed outside. Is from another state and not even aware of the law. TP - Cats have to be confined. They cause a lot of damage. Get in cars and can't get smell out. Urinate in flowerbeds; feces are high in phosphates and nitrates burn. You need to keep your animal contained to your property. SM – domestic cats should have more freedom.

JOAN BURNETTE - Went to Lied in Sept to register a cat I found. I had to use a lost form, and didn't have 3-hole punch. How much money did you give out? \$3,000 to SOS (TP), \$4,000 to LVVVHS, \$10,000 to HCW.

MYRA GLASSMAN– have a couple of questions she would like clarified. Darrin mentioned \$800 adoptions be seniors. The seniors I have sent to Lied have been told \$150 but since seniors they get \$50 off. Would like some clarification. My understanding is that unless animal is old or big adoption fee is \$150. Would like some clarification doesn't add up to 40 senior adoptions. Darrin my math might have been off I would be happy to compile list of adoptions and prices to present to the committee to show we have been working with public. BY would like that - another question. Do you have dedicated community outreach person or coordinator to better these programs? We do have that it is assigned to Terry Magiani. We sent out 128 animals and none came back to shelter. Outreach has been happening and on going and developing.

KAREN LAYNE – there is always a lag time of up to 2 months. We have gotten \$12,000 and have about \$900 if we didn't submit now we would have to wait until board meets again. Amount outstanding is not unreasonable. DM – little bit of money outstanding for each org but not a large amount.

ELIZABETH RUBIN – event participated with Best Friends. The presentation put forth was they would bring dogs from UT and invite shelters from valley to participate and presented to Pet Smart and PetSmart was going to take dogs from Shelter not adopted back to Best Friends. Last week their comment to PetSmart was you have ARP, they can take the dogs. We were surprised. PetSmart said no, we took 5 to 10 that were not taken. Best Friends took back 10 but any dog showing up at shelter that was Lied dog, Best Friends was not taking back to Utah. Have a rescue coordinator and community outreach and many animals that would be returned into system. They have been working with us to make space and find place to get into. Rescue groups participating more. The whole event of bringing Best Friends and bring in dogs from other states is not a good idea; something should be done about that. Media Partners for pets did something years ago. NLV and CC would bring dogs. Everyone knew they would go back to shelter. Dogs just have to cross the street to be transported, why can't we do a park event once a month instead of bringing someone in from out of state.

MIKE CONNELL – why are we bringing dogs down from UT? BY that is what she is saying. Mike - Utah should keep UT dogs.

GINA GRIESON – do you have anything to do with recommendations on contract County has with shelter. TP – no. GINA – we need to update it like how many days a dog is being held. Make clarifications.

ELIZABETH RUBIN – ARP if owner turns dog into AFI, at Dewey they signed a form saying I understand that animal has possibility of being euthed. Can county require person turning dog in sign a similar form? That DM would be a contractual item. DL doesn't have a problem with that.

10. Set date, time and agenda of next meeting

To be announced after new Committee selection by BCC.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.