



**ANIMAL ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
APPROVED September 9, 2019**

The Animal Advisory Commission convened in a regular meeting on Monday, August 12, 2019, at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second St., Boards and Commissions Room 1101, Austin.

Chair David Lundstedt called the Commission Meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Commission Members in Attendance: David Lundstedt, Lisa Mitchell, Katie Jarl, Palmer Neuhaus, Craig Nazor, Edward Flores, Isabel Mier, Dr. Jon Brandes, Andrea Schwarz, Monica Frenden, Nancy Nemer, and Ryan Clinton.

Commission Members Absent: District 4 Vacant

Staff in Attendance: Kimberly McNeeley, Jason Garza, and Belinda Hare

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Clinton moved to approve the June 10, 2019, minutes; Commissioner Nazor seconded the motion. All commissioners present voted to approve, 9 – 0, including Commissioners Lundstedt, Jarl, Neuhaus, Nazor, Mier, Brandes, Schwartz, Nemer and Clinton. Commissioners Flores and Mitchell arrived after the vote; Commissioner Frenden arrived during Staff Briefings. District 4 is Vacant.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

The first 10 speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

- Sandra Muller, Shelter Standards
- Leslie Padilla, Companion Animal Protection Act (CAPA)
- David “Scott” Page, Overcrowding versus Orange Dot Dogs

3. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- a. Chief Animal Services Officer Report
 - o June/July 2019 Animal Services Report
 - o June/July 2019 Austin Animal Center Report
 - o Update on Hiring of New Chief Animal Services Office
 - o Update on Outstanding Recommendations: Declawing Cats, CAPA, and Animal Training

4. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Update, Discussion and Possible Action on the Wildlife Funding Workgroup
No action taken.
- b. Update, Discussion and Possible Action on Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 823, Animal Shelters
Citizen Speaker: Leslie Padilla
Commissioner Nazor moved and Commissioner Dr. Brandes seconded a proposal to obtain legal opinion regarding the jurisdiction of the Animal Advisory Commission in regard to Chapter 823. The motion passed, 8-0, with Commissioners Lundstedt, Jarl, Neuhaus, Dr. Brandes, Mier, Flores and Andrea Schwartz voting for the proposal. Commissioners Clinton, Mitchell, Frenden and Nemer abstained.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Update, Discussion and Possible Action on Commissioners' Roles and Responsibilities. Chair David Lundstedt shared a handout, "Commission Member Responsibilities."
No action taken.
- b. Update, Discussion and Possible Action on Community Solutions to Reduce Shelter Intake.
Commissioner Schwartz moved that the commission create a workgroup to seek community solutions to reduce shelter intake. Commissioner Mier seconded the motion which passed unanimously, 12-0, with all Commissioners present voting for the proposal.
- c. Update, Discussion and Possible Action on the Increase in Cats Euthanized or That Died in Care.
No action taken.
- d. Update, Discussion and Possible Action on Potential Violations of City Code of Ordinance, §3-1-25, Disposition of an Impounded Animal.
No action taken
- e. Update, Discussion and Possible Action on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) that Impact the Live Release Rate.
Commissioner Neuhaus moved to have an update during the monthly Staff Briefings on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) that have been changed and the expected impact on the 95 percent Life Release Rate. Commissioner Clinton seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously with all commissioners present voting for the proposal, 12-0.

- f. Update, Discussion and Possible Action on Calculation and Reporting on the Live Release Rate (LLR) and Additional Transparency Requirements.
Commissioner Clinton stated that City Council Offices asked him to report back as soon as possible to bring forward proposed code revisions at this meeting.
- § 3-1-27 – Reporting by Animal Center
Commissioner Clinton proposed accepting the revisions as presented in handout. Commission Neuhaus seconded the motion which passed 10-0, with Commissioners Clinton, Mitchell, Jarl, Neuhaus, Nazor, Dr. Brandes, Nemer, Flores, Schwartz and Frenden voting to approve. Chair Lundstedt and Commissioner Mier abstained.
- g. Update, Discussion and Possible Action regarding Commissioners Expressing Personal Points of View on Media.
No action taken.
- h. Update, Discussion and Possible Action on Mechanisms to Achieve or Maintain Lifesaving at Austin Animal Center.
- § 3-1-43 – Fee Waivers
Commissioner Clinton proposed accepting the revisions as presented in handout. Commissioner Mitchell seconded which passed 10-0, with Commissioners Clinton, Mitchell, Jarl, Neuhaus, Nazor, Dr. Brandes, Nemer, Flores, Schwartz and Frenden voting to approve. Chair Lundstedt and Commissioner Mier abstained.
 - § 3-1-21 – Impound Facilities
Commissioner Clinton proposed accepting the revisions as presented in handout. Commission Neuhaus seconded the motion which passed 10-0, with Commissioners Clinton, Mitchell, Jarl, Neuhaus, Nazor, Dr. Brandes, Nemer, Flores, Schwartz and Frenden voting to approve. Chair Lundstedt and Commissioner Mier abstained.
 - § 3-1-29 – Sterilization
Commissioner Clinton proposed accepting the revisions as presented in handout. Commission Jarl seconded the motion which passed 10-0, with Commissioners Clinton, Mitchell, Jarl, Neuhaus, Nazor, Dr. Brandes, Nemer, Flores, Schwartz and Frenden voting to approve. Chair Lundstedt and Commissioner Mier abstained.
 - § 2-1-102 – Animal Advisory Commission
Commissioner Clinton proposed accepting the revisions as presented in handout. Commission Neuhaus seconded the motion which passed 9-0, with Commissioners Clinton, Mitchell, Jarl, Neuhaus, Nazor, Dr. Brandes, Nemer, Flores and Frenden voting to approve. Chair Lundstedt, Commissioner Mier and Commissioner Schwartz abstained.
 - Austin Animal Advisory Commission, Recommended Targets for Reporting Categories.
Commissioner Neuhaus proposed working on clarifying the wording of the handout and then submitting to City Council the Recommended Targets for Reporting Categories. Commissioner Clinton seconded the motion. Commissioners Lundstedt, Jarl, Nazor, Mier, Dr. Brandes and Schwartz voted against the motion; Commissioners Clinton, Neuhaus Frenden, Nemer, Flores and Mitchell voted for the proposal. The motion failed.

Commissioner Clinton moved to create a workgroup for putting together Recommended Targets for Reporting Categories, and Commissioner Neuhaus seconded. The motion passed, 12-0, with all Commissioners present voting to approve.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Update, Discussion and Possible Action on Commissioners' Roles and Responsibilities.
- b. Update, Discussion and Possible Action on Chapter 823

7. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Chair Lundstedt adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m. without objection.