



**ANIMAL ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, August 14, 2023
APPROVED September 11, 2023**

The Animal Advisory Commission convened for a regular meeting on Monday, August 14, 2023, Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second St., Room 1101, Austin, Texas.

Chair Ryan Clinton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., conducted a roll call and confirmed a quorum of Ten commissioners. Chair Rayan Clinton Vice Chair Larry Tucker and Commissioner Bea Dulzaides, Dr Paige Nilson, Whiney Holt, Sarah Huddleston, Dr. Amanda Bruce attended in person. Commissioners Lauren Loney, Lotta Smagula and Ann Linder attended virtually. Commissioners Nancy Nemer and Luis Herrera were absent. Commissioner Kristen Hassen was present at roll call and was on virtually part of the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS:

Tanya Payne, item 6,

Gail Rothe, item 6

Dana Hegar, item 6

Robet Corbin, Dog owner veterinarian cost

Dorothy Lopez Barnett, item 6

Claudia Hollern, loose dogs

Gary Perez Item, 6

Bill Bunch, Barton Spring Salamander

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **Chair Clinton asked for two corrections to the August 14, 2023, minutes: Chair Clinton said that on approval of the minutes from last meeting it has Commissioner Hassen as “being excluded” but what we had passed was being present but excluded. Chair Clinton said Commissioner Herrera asked that the agenda item “Discussion regarding long-stay dogs with Austin Animal Center, Austin Humane Society, and Austin Pets Alive!” be moved forward. Chair Clinton wants it to say moved forward to the next meeting or post pond, so it does not look like they passed it. Commissioner Dr. Paige Nilson moved to approve the corrected minutes from the August 14, 2023, Animal Advisory Commission meeting, and Commissioner Huddleston seconded the motion which passed unanimously with all 8 commissioners voting in favor, including Chair Clinton and Vice Chair Tucker Commissioners Smagula, Linder, Dulzaides, Loney, Holt and Bruce.**

STAFF BRIEFINGS

2. **Staff Briefing on FY 2023-2024 Animal Service Budget and Overview of July 2023, reports by Animal Services Office staff. Reports were provided in back-up documents. Don Bland, Chief Animal Services Officer presented.**
3. **Overview of Monthly Reports provided by Animal Services Office. Don Bland, Chief Animal Services Officer presented.**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

4. **Presentation of the Monthly Report by Austin Pet Alive! Report was provided in back-up documents. July 2023 Austin Pets Alive! report presented by Stephanie Bilbro Director of operations.**
5. **“Third Party Presentation on Austin Animal Center Data and Reporting provided by Commissioner Kristen Hassen.; Commissioner Hassen had left. Chair Clinton asked Commissioner Dulzaides if she wanted to present or post pond to next meeting. Commissioner Dulzaides postponed the item to the next regular meeting.**

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

6. **Discuss and Approve a Recommendation to City Council regarding the Zilker Park Vision Plan. Commissioner Dr. Nilson proposed moving up agenda item 6 Commissioner Bruce seconded the motion which passed Chair Clinton and Commissioner Dulzaides opposed. Commissioner Hassen did not vote. After discussion on the item, action was taken 901 chair Ryan abstained.**
7. **Discuss and Potential action setting date and time for Commission Retreat. Action taken Commissioners agreed to give up November 13, 2023, meeting and have a Commission retreat from 6-10 pm. Co-Chair Tucker moved to approve, and commissioner Linder seconded.**

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioners agreed to move forward to the next meeting agenda item 5 under Discussion Item. Agenda Item “Discussion on changes to City Code to implement a Finder to Foster within Animal Service.”

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Clinton adjourned the meeting without objection at 8:41 p.m.

The minutes were approved at the September 11, 2023, meeting on Commissioner Linder’s motion to approve with corrections, and Commissioner Herrera’s second on an 8 to 2 vote.

Linder moved to approve the corrected minutes from the September 11 meeting, and Commissioner Herrera seconded the motion which passed 8 to 2, with Commissioners Smagula, Holt, Huddleston, Herrera, Linder, Hassen, Nemer, and Dulzaides voting in favor. Chair Clinton and Commissioner Dr. Paige Nilson voted against. Vice Chair Larry Tucker, Commissioners Loney and Dr Bruce were absent.