

# Animal Advisory Commission Regular Meeting

## FINAL MINUTES

Meeting Date: May 10, 2018      Convened: 1:32 pm      Adjourned: 3:09 pm

**Members Present:**

Peter Brodsky, Chair  
Molly DeVoss  
Karen Kennedy  
Sandra Luhring  
Pat Rodriguez  
Ruth Steward  
Ryan McComber  
Stephen Edison  
Diane Bishop

**Members Absent:**

Kevin Gibbs  
Stephanie Timko  
Charlotte New  
Teresa Gubbins

**Briefing Presenters:**

Ed Jamison, Director  
Ryan Rogers, Asst. Director  
Ernie Lampkin, DAS Manager  
Ann Barnes, DAS Manager  
Micheal Burks, DAS Manager  
Vern Sawyer, DAS Interim Manager

**Staff Present:**

Bianca Johnson, Ann Barnes, Ed Jamison, Ryan Rogers, Kanesia Williams, and Bay Touch

**Guests:**

### AGENDA:

**1. Call to Order**

Presenter(s): Peter Brodsky

Information Only:

- Changes has been made to the commission. Judith Bennett has been replaced with Diane Bishop representing Councilwoman Greyson. Maeleska Fletes has resigned and Justine Walford has been appointed to represent District 4.

**2. Approval of January 29, 2018 Minutes**

**Action Taken Committee Recommendation(s):** A motion was made by Stephen Edison and second to approve by Pat Rodriguez.

**3. DAS Management Reports**

Presenter(s): Ed Jamison

Information Only:

- Defining Success in FY 2017-18
  - 19,500 dogs' intake by Field. April 1<sup>st</sup> total was 8,360 dog intakes
  - 82% Live Release Rate
- Public Safety
  - For the last quarter total dog intake is 6632

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- Dog Field intake is up 4208 compared to the same quarter last year of 3469.
- Loose and Loose Owned Bites at 149, similar to where they were in the second quarter of 2017
- Loose and Loose Owned dog calls to 311 has decreased. Our proactive calls have gone up 400% over the last couple years.
- Percentage of intake already S/N and Microchipped at 13% already altered and 23% already microchipped. The microchipping is going straight up as the number of animals are coming in.
- Quality of Animal Treatment
  - Live Release rate has increased to 83% versus 79% last year
  - The average length of stay is going down.
  - Starting percentage on the Heartworm Treatment is 17%. We have requested funding in our future budget to keep this program.
- Stakeholders
  - Citizen Survey should be released this summer
  - Adoption Survey, we are calling 30 days after asking a handful of questions on how the adoption went for them.
  - Top Rescue Partners, we are going to do away with MOU's because it didn't fit the way we are tagging animals now.
  - We have the new Kiosk for visitors that came to the shelter to adopt.
- Items in Motion
  - 24-hour Neonatal kitten care
  - Best Friend Animal Society provides Field Assessment and Volunteer Program Mentorship
- Visitor Stats
  - Top Zip Codes are where the shelter is and our highest intake area.
- Update of Intake Process
  - All animals will receive vaccinations, microchip, and evaluations.
  - Exceptions are immediately euthanized or are too fractious to handle.
- Neonatal Kitten Care
  - Identify the problem of 1,056 being euthanized. We have 4 incubators and started 24-hour coverage for baby kittens.
  - We have halved to euthanasia period from last year
- Remote Satellite Location
  - Decrease in response time and to alleviate parking issues at the main shelter.

The following were questions from the Commissioners with response:

- Mr. Brodsky: Why do you think the microchip numbers increasing?
  - Mr. Jamison: One is for the mandatory microchipping that we started about a year ago.
- Mr. Brodsky: Can you talk about some of the things that you are improving?
  - Mr. Jamison: Our training has changed drastically. We had about 30+ employees go down to Austin for Basic Training. As we are adding people, we are being sure that they know what they are doing and what our expectations are. As we are adding new

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programs, we are being sure that everyone is communicating with each other and they know who they are work with.

- Mr. Edison: The percentage of animals that were coming in as unhealthy or untreatable was 17%, has that number change? If not, are we doing specific things to save animals that were deemed unhealthy/untreatable? Is that the best way to use our attention?
  - Mr. Rogers: The improvements historically and present can all get better. We are trying to improve the data. Yes, we will be addressing animals with health issues.
- Mr. Edison: You effectively have 100% LRR when excluding the unhealthy/untreatable, now this is the next rock to tackle?
  - Mr. Jamison: We don't ever want to hide the number, so that everyone understands. The medical piece is a huge part of it. We are trying to change the needle of those classifications.
- Mr. Brodsky: On the new policies for the rescue groups, how are those working? Are you seeing any impact on relationships or numbers? Are they working the way you want them to?
  - Mr. Jamison: There are groups that complain but it is working phenomenally. By targeting where we needed help and working together, we are now getting animals taken care of. We made those same changes for the EAC.
- Ms. Steward: We are having trouble with horses, goats, etc damaging vehicles, are those owners required to have their animals chipped?
  - Mr. Jamison: Microchipping is only for dogs and cats. We would like to hear more about livestock when we get to that piece of the ordinance and we can address what is happening.
- Ms. Bishop: It's great that you have Best Friends Animal Society involved, will that have some people here?
  - Mr. Jamison: No, they are not here but they always communicate with me on ideas knowing that I will take their advice.
- Ms. Rodriguez: Can you talk more about the construction of the trailer for the ringworm areas?
  - Mr. Jamison: It made sense to go this option so that Micheal team could care for them. He knows how to treat them, we just need a place to treat them.
- Ms. Kennedy: Regarding ringworms, if someone is fostering and it develops ringworm, will the animal go back to DAS?
  - Mr. Burks: We will treat them if the foster is willing to treat them in their home. Now, with the trailer it is an option to bring them back to treat them on site if that is needed.
- Ms. Bishop: What kind of medication to do give for ringworm?
  - Mr. Burks: It's on a patient by patient and doctor by doctor. Some with do oral or by skin.
- Mr. Brodsky: Are you going to market in other areas to be sure that everyone knows?
  - Mr. Rogers: 20% of our visitor come from two zip codes, there are 60 to 70 zip codes in Dallas. We did that without even trying.
- Ms. Rodriguez: Will the Kiosk be at EAC?
  - Mr. Jamison: Right now there is not, but we will.
  - Mr. Rogers: We have \$50k worth of treatments on hand.

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- Ms. Steward: What is microchipping? How do you know that my dog has gotten his shots? Do they have scanners on the truck?
  - Mr. Jamison: An electronic tag with all your information that is inserted into the back of the animal. We must see proof of vaccines. Yes.
- Mr. Brodsky: Can you define remote location? Will this be additional shelter space or just a place for your field team to launch from?
  - Mr. Jamison: It could be both, it started with parking. We don't have enough parking and we can build for parking. What staffs cannot be in this building and still function. The field is mostly in the community, they just come to the shelter to drop off the animals.
- Ms. Rodriguez: Where the 50% of calls come from is that including the Fair Park area?
  - Mr. Jamison: Yes.
- Mr. Brodsky: Have you been looking are locations? Are you trying to buy or rent?
  - Mr. Rogers: We have a meeting with the City Manager this afternoon about an area that we have identified.
- Mr. Edison: For the remote location, is it to decrease the time from driving to West to East Dallas?
  - Mr. Jamison: Their personal vehicles are parked at the main location. From there they do their detail and leave with a City vehicle.
- Mr. Edison: Are officers taking their trucks home?
  - Ms. Barnes: Officers are allowed to take their trucks home if they are on-call. We don't have enough vehicles for every officer.
- Mr. Edison: What type of facility do you need?
  - Mr. Jamison: When we started looking it was buildings or land that can potentially be used. For the use is vehicle storage and office space for our officers to work out of.

**4. Recommended Action to Revise**

Presenter(s): Ed Jamison

Information Only:

- Current Problem
  - Hold periods that impede live release rates such as dogs with microchips and puppies, kittens, and nursing mothers. As well as mandatory S/N.
- Present Analysis of the Issue
  - 11% possibility that a dog will be redeemed within a day in the shelter. After 6 days the percentage drops to 2%
  - Possible owner hold period in other cities such as San Antonio for 5 days, Houston and El Paso for 6 days
- Recommend Changes
  - 9.2% gain in kennel space to increase LRR by 2% will help save 600+ lives.

The following were questions from the Commissioners with response:

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- Ms. Kennedy: If the owner is out of town and the person that is caring for the dog does not know how to find the dog, would you surrender to the caregiver?
  - Mr. Jamison: We can verify by phone, but it's by case.
- Ms. Rodriguez: How soon are pet owners contacted when they are at the shelter?
  - Mr. Jamison: There is a chance that a mistake can happen such as a faulty scanner, the animals' behavior and we couldn't get the read. But we do everything that we can.
- Mr. Edison: If 43% of animals come in what percentage is identifiable?
  - Mr. Rogers: 16% or 17% are identifiable but a good 55% will not be redeemed by their owners.
- Mr. McComber: How long do you think this will go into effect?
  - Mr. Jamison: By this summer.

**Action Taken Committee Recommendation(s):** Ryan McComber motioned to approve ordinance, Kevin Gibbs second.

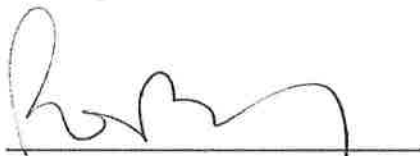
**5. Public Comments**

The following citizens stated their full name, address, and raised their concerns:

- No Comments

**6. Next Meeting**

- June 28, 2018



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**Peter Brodsky**  
Animal Advisory Commission Chair



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**Bianca Johnson**  
Board Coordinator