

**CITY OF COSTA MESA**  
**MEETING OF THE ANIMAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**April 18, 2018; 5:30 P.M.**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** The Animal Services Committee meeting was called to order by Parks and Community Services Director Justin Martin at 5:33 p.m. on April 18, 2018 at City Hall, 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, California.

Roll Call

**Present:** Committee members Marilyn Brooks, Harriet Brown, Jay Litvak, Dana Lavin, Christie McDaniel, Becca Walls, and alternate members Linda Kwoun and Angela Minjares

**Absent:** Committee member Tracy Hughes

**Staff Present:** Justin Martin, Parks & Community Services Director; Tracy Habiger, Recreation Coordinator; McKenna Ewing, Recreation Leader IV

**Council Liaisons:** Mayor Sandy Genis, Council member John Stephens

- 2. Approval of the February 21, 2018 Meeting Minutes:** Committee member Walls moves to approve the minutes/Seconded by Committee member Brown.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Committee members Brooks, Brown, Litvak, Lavin, and Walls

Nays: none

Abstain: Committee member McDaniel

Absent: Committee member Hughes

Motion Carried: 5-0-1-1

- 3. Approval of the March 21, 2018 Meeting Minutes:** Committee member McDaniel moves to approve the minutes/Seconded by Committee member Lavin.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Committee members Brooks, Brown, Litvak, Lavin, McDaniel, and Walls

Nays: none

Absent: Committee member Hughes

Motion Carried: 6-0-1

#### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Speaker, spoke on the purpose of the committee since he questioned whether the current shelter operation was short or long-term.

Mr. Justin Martin stated that the purpose of the committee was to research options for a long term animal shelter and that the current operation was short-term.

Mr. Martin closed Public Comments.

## 5. PRESENTATION

### Current Statistics of Impounded and Adoptable Animals

Ms. Tracy Habiger presented.

Committee member Brown proposed having written guidelines to determine feral cats and inquired about the euthanasia numbers.

Committee member Walls asked for the committee to look at the overall numbers and praised City staff and Priceless Pet Rescue for the live-release rate.

Council member Stephens commented on the complexity of defining the euthanasia rate.

Committee member Walls also inquired about the cost of the euthanasia vials distributed to Animal Control and who determines when to euthanize animals in the field.

Mr. Martin stated City staff would inquire with Animal Control and provide feedback to the committee.

## 6. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Committee Appointments Confirmation

#### Revote

Mr. Martin reconfirmed the committee appointments due to a procedural error in the initial vote during the previous meeting.

**MOTION/SECOND:** Committee member McDaniel moves to approve Committee member Hughes as Vice Chairperson /Seconded by Committee member Brown.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Committee members Brooks, Brown, Litvak, Lavin, McDaniel, and Walls

Nays: none

Absent: Committee member Hughes

Motion Carried: 6-0-1

**MOTION/SECOND:** Committee member Lavin moves to approve the Sub-Committee Working Groups/Seconded by Committee member McDaniel.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Committee members Brooks, Brown, Litvak, Lavin, McDaniel, and Walls

Nays: none

Absent: Committee member Hughes

Motion Carried: 6-0-1

### B. Sub-Committee Reports

### 1. Animal Advocacy Update

Committee members Brooks and Brown presented a comprehensive contact list of rescue groups and clinics in Southern California.

### 2. Animal Adoption Promotions Update

Alternate committee member Kwoun and committee members Brown and McDaniel spoke about potential social media enhancements, building relationships with businesses and rescues, and promoting the City's adoptable animals with detailed stories and videos.

### 3. Animal Volunteerism Update

Alternate committee member Minjares and committee members Lavin and Walls described the involvement of specialized volunteer teams, building partnerships with non-profits, and educating the public on overall animal care and wellness.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

### A. Spring Bark Bash

Ms. McKenna Ewing presented.

Lisa Price of Priceless Pet Rescue stated that she would send flyers and possibly a volunteer to the event.

Mr. Martin suggested a board with pictures to advertise the adoptable animals.

Committee member Walls recommended a volunteer sign-up sheet to gain interest from the public.

Mayor Genis proposed advertising the types of volunteer opportunities.

Committee member Lavin spoke about providing giveaways.

Chairman Litvak suggested for the committee to compile a list of local veterinarians and services.

## **8. COMMITTEE/COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:**

Chairman Litvak commented on canine influenza, safety of animals, touring the OC Animal Care shelter, and thanked the committee for their research within the sub-committees.

Council member Stephens asked how the committee could help reduce the level of illegal fireworks and the concerns for animal safety.

Mayor Genis remarked on the connection of vector control and protecting animals from heartworms and other diseases.

Alternate committee member Kwoun asked a question regarding animal abuse.

Alternate committee member Minjares stated that the committee is doing well and moving in the right direction.

Committee member Brooks told the committee to keep up the good work.

Committee member Brown expressed her pleasure with the committee.

Committee member Walls voiced her gratitude for the work being accomplished.

Committee member Lavin commented on domestic abuse involving animals and places to board animals belonging to victims.

#### **9. STAFF COMMENTS:**

Ms. Ewing commented on how well the collaboration between the committee members is proceeding.

Ms. Habiger thanked the sub-committees for their continual feedback and commented on the importance of working together as a group.

Mr. Martin spoke about future plans for a Bark Park Sub-Committee, a dog licensing presentation, and an update from Animal Control.

#### **10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Martin at 7:25 p.m.

**The Next Meeting of the Animal Services Committee  
is on Wednesday, May 16, 2018**