

City of Costa Mesa
ANIMAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES: MARCH 23, 2022

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Animal Services Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Walls at 4:09pm on March 23, 2022 via Zoom webinar.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Chair Becca Walls, Committee Members Diana Gardiner, Angela Minjares, and Steve Parker

Absent: Vice Chair Jay Litvak, Committee Members Linda Kwoun, and Alternate Committee Member Andrea Pike

Liaison Present: Council Member Loren Gameros; Mayor John Stephens

Staff Present: Jessica Torrejon, Recreation Coordinator; Tracy Habiger, Assistant Recreation Supervisor; Jason Minter, Parks and Community Services Director

3. **PRESENTATION**

1. Animal Care Services Statistics

Ms. Torrejon presented the Animal Care Services monthly statistics for January and February 2022.

Council Member Liaison Gameros inquired about the number impounds.

4. **APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 26, 2022 MEETING MINUTES**

Chair Walls asked if the committee had any questions or comments before approving the minutes.

Ms. Fautua opened this item for public comment.

Seeing no hands raised, public comment was closed.

MOTION/SECOND: Committee Member Minjares motioned to approve the January 26, 2022 meeting minutes./Second by Committee Member Parker. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Chair Walls, Committee Members Parker, Gardiner, and Minjares.

Nays: None

Absent: Vice Chair Litvak, Committee Members Kwoun, and McKay

Motion Carries: 4-0

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Fautua opens this item for public comment.

Seeing no hands raised, Ms. Fautua closed Public Comments

6. **COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS, COMMENTS, AND SUGGESTIONS**

Chair Walls inquired about impound and surrender fees, the scheduled animal transfer, and emphasized the importance of Committee Member attendance.

7. LIAISONS & STAFF REPORTS

Ms. Torrejon updated the committee about impound fees, the Spring Bark Bash event on May 21, 2022, and the Animal Services Committee website.

Ms. Habiger informed the Committee that staff is working on updating the Animal Care Services FAQ page and asked the committee to email staff if they have any suggestions.

8. OLD BUSINESS

a) 2022 Goals

Ms. Torrejon presented the proposed Committee goals.

Parks and Community Services Director Jason Minter suggested for the committee to set measurable goals and to narrow them down and make them more specific.

General discussion ensued regarding proposed Committee goals.

The following goals resulted from the discussion:

1. Making recommendations regarding release of live animals within City Limits ordinances to City Council.
2. Produce public service announcements, in print and in video, related to the three-pronged partnership with Animal Control, Newport Center Animal Hospital, and Priceless Pet Rescue to strengthen public awareness and confidence of animal services. Strengthening relationship between public and Animal Control.
3. Promote and implement the Pet Financial Assistance Program by obtaining funds through Community partnerships, grants, and donations.
4. Educate the public on responsible pet ownership and care no less than six times per year and through avenues such as, special events, The Scoop, City events and provide ongoing resources regarding animal shelter and adoption services.
5. Review other City regulations for beekeeping.

Ms. Fautua opened this item for public comment.

Seeing no hands raised, public comment was closed.

MOTION/SECOND: Committee Member Gardiner moved to approve the Committee goals for 2022./Seconded by Committee Member Parker. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Chair Walls, Committee Members Parker, Gardiner, and Minjares.

Nays: None

Absent: Vice Chair Litvak, Committee Members Kwoun and McKay

Motion Carries: 4-0

b) Working Groups – Update

Ms. Torrejon mentioned that staff will begin meeting with the working groups bimonthly once the new members select their chosen group. Each group will complete an action plan as a guide to accomplish the Committee's goals.

Committee Member Minjares inquired about meeting more often to ensure the committee has a clear vision and preferring to receive the action plan before the meeting.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a) TNR Research – Trap, Neuter, Release

Ms. Torrejon recommended for the Committee to work collectively on the TNR (Trap, Neuter, Release) and live animal release ordinance items during Committee meetings. An action plan will be created to help delegate tasks to prepare their recommendation to City Council.

10. FINAL REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Council Member Gameros mentioned that the animal transfers need to be fixed and Newport Center Animal Hospital should be providing medical paperwork to Priceless Pet Rescue.

Chair Walls stated that behavioral records should also be disclosed on paperwork.

Committee Member Minjares agreed that documentation needs to be fixed.

Mayor John Stephens thanked the Committee for their service.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Walls adjourned the meeting at 5:07pm

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: May 25, 2022, 4:00 p.m., via Zoom Webinar

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the committee members regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection on the City's website at www.costamesaca.gov. In addition, such writings and documents may be posted, whenever possible, and as part of the agenda, on the City's website at www.costamesaca.gov. Please note that records submitted by the public will not be redacted in any way and will be posted online as submitted, including any personal contact information.