

Pima County Animal Care Advisory Committee
Minutes
August 25, 2016
3950 S. Country Club Road
Tucson, Arizona 85714

Draft

1. Call to Order

Health Department Director Francisco García, M.D. called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

• Attendance

Present:

Tamara Barrick
Dan Eckstrom
Barry Gillaspie
Christy Holliger
Pat Hubbard
Jose Ocano (Non-Voting)
Erin O'Donnell
Gail Smith
Andrew Squire

Absent:

Suzanne Droubie
Meredith Hay
Rhonda Pina

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Eckstrom led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Introduction of Committee Members

Dr. García spoke in appreciation of the out-going Advisory Committee and referred to the new Committee as a new set of eyes and opinions. Each member present briefly shared his or her background and vantage point on animal welfare.

4. A Decade of Progress - Transformation of Pima Animal Care Center Over the Past Decade

Committee member and PACC Operations Manager Jose Ocano went over a PowerPoint presentation, titled A Decade of Progress: Celebrating the Transformation of PACC. (Included in the record) The presentation detailed the step-by-step progress of PACC from a house and kill shelter with a peak intake of 28,000 animals and a live release rate of only 39 percent, through the strategic decisions, changes and positions hired that progressed PACC to an intake of 20,000; a live release rate of 90 percent; and a new facility on the way.

5. Establishing Committee By-Laws and Review Existing By-Laws

Dr. García provided the Committee with a copy of the outgoing Committee's by-laws and a staff draft example of potential new by-laws. The new Committee needs to craft new by-laws. The by-laws can

address such items as Committee officers, meeting schedules, calls to the audience. Dr. García suggested a group of four Committee members work with Health Department Deputy Director Marcy Flanagan to draft by-laws to be brought back to the Committee. In response to a question he also indicated the proposed by-laws will be reviewed by the County Attorney's Office. Mr. Gillaspie, Mr. Squire, Ms. Hubbard and Dr. Smith volunteered to work with Ms. Flanagan to draft the by-laws.

6. Discussion of Officers for the Committee

Dr. García said the Committee needs to decide what officers it needs and what length of terms the Committee wants for the officers. Committee members' lengths of terms also need to be selected.

7. Discussion of Committee Meeting Schedule

Dr. García talked about how the Committee could have a regular schedule with certain standing agenda items coming up on a defined schedule and other topical items coming up as they arise. There were some requests for regular statistical reports; discussion about getting the meetings back at the Animal Care Center after the construction is completed; and a suggestion to rotate the meetings into other venues / jurisdictions to reach out more to the community. Dr. García pointed out that meeting frequency, time of day and location is all up to the Committee and could be expressed in the new by-laws. Through general discussion and consensus it was established that the next Committee meeting will be on September 15th at 5:30 pm, at the Abrams building, in agreement, at least for now, with the third Thursday of each month schedule which had been in place.

8. Call to the Audience

There were two speakers from the audience, Marcie Velen and Jane Schwerin.

Ms. Velen from No Kill Pima County first welcomed the new Committee members. She said that being a no-kill shelter can be defined in many ways, but to her it is saving all the save-able animals. She said being no-kill is hard to fully achieve and hard to maintain. Ms. Velen also called for good data to know how the center is doing in relation to no-kill and where more effort needs to be placed. She predicted an influx once the new shelter opens, saying people will be more comfortable leaving animals, and called for staff to be proactive and prepare for this influx. She put in a word to keep the call to the audience as part of the meetings and said evenings are more convenient for the public to attend the Committee meetings.

Ms. Schwerin spoke about the tie-out laws. She referred to Pima County Code 6.04.130, which states in part, "An animal is deemed to be in distress and subject to removal and impoundment if it is on a tie-out." She also referred to Tucson City Code Section 4-11, which states in part, "An animal is deemed to be in distress if it is on a tie-out." She contended the law defines animals on tie-outs are in distress; this is law not opinion and there is no need for a behaviorist to be involved.

9. Summation of Action Items and Proposal of Future Agenda Items

Dr. García summarized the meeting.

Action items included:

- Mr. Schlueter will send out copies of the PowerPoint presentation to the Committee.
- The four Committee volunteers will work with Ms. Flanagan to craft by-laws. Mr. Schlueter will send the names and contact information to Ms. Flanagan. Draft by-laws will be brought back to the Committee.
- The Committee needs to decide on its officers.
- The next meeting will be September 15th.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm.

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