

MEETING SUMMARY



BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Tuesday, February 8, 2011
10:00 AM



**Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Room 1060
Los Angeles, California 90012**

Melanie Ramsayer, President
Ruthanne Secunda, Vice-President
Tariq Khero
Terri Macellaro
Kathleen Riordan

mp3 Minutes are available at www.laanimalservices.com

Commissioners Ramsayer, Secunda, Macellaro and Riordan were in attendance.
Commissioner Khero and was absent.

Meeting started at 10:25 AM.

1. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Approval of Commission Minutes for January 11 and 25, 2011

Commissioner Ramsayer recommended approval of the minutes for the meeting of January 11, 2011, with the requested corrections. Commissioner Riordan seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

Commissioner Ramsayer recommended approval of the minutes for the meeting of January 25, 2011, with the requested corrections. Commissioner Riordan seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

B. Oral Report by the Commissioners on Meetings and Events Attended

Commissioner Ramsayer: Attended the Beverly Hills _____ at the West L.A. Shelter for and visited Animal Acres in Acton, CA/

Commissioner Secunda: Visited Animal Acres in Acton, CA.

Commissioner Riordan: None

Commissioner Macellaro: Ambassador volunteer meeting and visited the Harbor Shelter.

2. GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FOR BOARD ACTION

A. Agreements with Value Vet, Inc., and Dill Veterinary Hospital, to Provide As Needed Spay/Neuter Services

General Manager Barnette indicated this was vehicle that would enable the Department to pay outstanding invoices. Commissioner Riordan asked if this would be shelter spay and neuter services. The General Manager indicated it would be used for shelter services. Furthermore it has nothing to do with experience. Rather it is a method to pay for services. Commissioner Riordan asked about complaints. The General Manager indicated that the Department has a contract manager who can handle any complaint up to canceling a contract.

Public Comment:

None

Commissioner Riordan made a motion to approve the General Manager's recommendation as stated. Commissioner Ramsayer seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Tutorial and information regarding Commission's responsibilities in dealing with Administrative Appeals.

Assistant City Attorney Dov Lesel presented information responsibilities of the Commission when dealing with appeals to the administrative process. Mr. Lesel outlined the base on which the appeal is based. He commented on the legal basis and the due process requirements. Mr. Lesel cited the L.A. Municipal Code, Section 53.18.5 as the basis of the Commissions' authority to hear barking dog and dangerous animal appeals and sets out the procedures and grounds for the appeals.

Public Comment:

Phyllis Daugherty: Commented on the professionalism of the Department's staff and employees

Cathie Turner: Commented on the importance of the appeal process and the fact that the legislators rely on the appeals process when crafting legislation.

4. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

The General Manager reported on the following items:

- Revision of the Kennel Permit standards.
- The annual budget – closing shelters due to furlough.
- On January 27, attended the first board meeting of The Friends of LAAS.
- Attended a meeting with Councilman Koretz regarding stopping the sales of puppies in pet stores.
- On February 1, attended a meeting of the Volunteer Ambassadors.
- Attended a press conference regarding declaring February as Spay and Neuter month in L.A.
- Reported on the D-300 questions

5. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Dan Guss: Commented on open communication between the Department and outside groups. Sending information to the California Bar Association. Reported on unpermitted guard dogs in the 5400 block of Southwestern Ave. Filed a complaint with the City Council regarding city employee and hiring procedures.

Cathie Turner: Spoke on the activities of her group, Concerned Dog Owners of California. Asked for Commission support for pending legislation including placing box on state income tax forms for donation to animal welfare; Allow exemptions for ill dogs; and a licensing bill for underage puppies.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Ramsayer: Transfer of Animals and fund raising activities.

Commissioner Macellaro: City Attorney report on other Commissions

Commissioner Riordan: Tutorial of Roberts Rules of Order

7. MEETING ADJOURNED

Next Commission meeting is scheduled for 10:00 A.M., February 22, 2011, Los Angeles City Hall, Room 1060, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012.

Commissioner Ramsayer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Riordan seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

The meeting ended at 12:55 P.M.